

Vertical Distribution and Zoogeographical Characteristics of Cerambycidae (Coleoptera) Family in Bulgaria

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Abstract: A total of 265 species of Cerambycidae family have been reported from Bulgaria. With the exception of 6 probably wrongly identified and 8 unconfirmed old records, it could be accepted that at least 251 species have been established in 5 vegetation belts of the country. Most of the species have been found in the first vegetation belt. The number of cerambycid species decreases in the next vegetation belts and only 13 species have been reported above 2000 m a.s.l. Areas between 200 and 600 m a.s.l. are optimal for development of the highest number of cerambycids. The established species belong to 39 zoogeographical categories. The cerambycid fauna of Bulgaria could be divided into 2 groups: 1) species with Mediterranean type of distribution - more thermophilic and distributed mainly in the southern parts of the Palaearctic (66 species, or 26.3%) including endemics and 1 Subcosmopolitan of southern type; 2) species with Palaearctic and Eurosiberian type of distribution - more cold-resistant and widely distributed in the Palaearctic (185 species, or 73.7%) including Holarctic species and 2 Subcosmopolitans of northern type. The distribution of these groups is different in the separate vegetation belts and is influenced by food plants.

Key words: cerambycid fauna, vertical distribution, trophical plants, zoogeography, Bulgaria