COMMUNICATIONS

1. Notre secrétaire, M. C. VERSTRAETEN, lit la communication suivante, au nom de notre collègue, M. Robert BOSMANS, et de M. P. COTTENIS, empêchés :

Araignées rares ou nouvelles pour la faune belge des cultures.

Un certain nombre de pièges placés dans diverses cultures à Kieldrecht (O. Vl.) et à Warneton (Ht) ont permis notamment la capture d'araignées très intéressantes sur le plan faunistique.

Par moins de quatre nouvelles espèces viennent s'ajouter à la faune belge, tandis qu'une cinquième est citée pour la deuxième fois. Elles appartiennent toutes à la famille des Linyphiidae :

— *Jacksonella falconeri* (JACKSON) **Belg. n. sp.** : Warneton, champ de froment d'hiver, 1 ♀ le 12.VI.1974 ; champ d'escourgeon, 3 ♂ le 29. VI.1976.

— *Troxochrus cirrifrons* (CAMBRIDGE) **Belg. n. sp.** : Warneton, champ de froment d'hiver, 1 ♂ le 24.II.1977 ; Kieldrecht, champ de froment d'hiver, 1 ♂ le 30.IV.1976.

— *Milleriana inerrans* (CAMBRIDGE) **Belg. n. sp.** : Kieldrecht, champ de froment d'hiver, 1 ♂ le 21.VII.1974 ; champ de betteraves, 1 ♂ le 30.IV. 1976 ; champ de lin, 1 ♂ le 30.IV.1976.

— *Syedra gracilis* (MENGE) **Belg. n. sp.** : Kieldrecht, champ de froment d'hiver, 1 ♀ le 24.VI.1974.

— *Centromerus capucinus* (SIMON) : Warneton, champ de froment d'hiver, 1 ♂ le 25.I.1977.

Presque toutes ces espèces sont considérées comme rares dans les pays limitrophes ou n'y ont jamais été capturées. Leur habitat est d'ailleurs le plus souvent inconnu. Ceci montre que certaines espèces considérées comme rares, seraient plutôt des habitants des grandes cultures. Ces biotopes ont été généralement, jusqu'à présent, négligés au point de vue faunistique.

2. M. R. DELEDICQUE signale la rare capture de *Malachius aeneus* L. (Col. Melyridae) à Keerbergen (Brabant) le 28.V.1977.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE ARACHNO- AND ENTOMOFAUNA OF DIFFERENT WOODHABITATS*

PART II. INFLUENCE OF THE MICRORELIEF UPON EPEDAFIC COLEOPTERA

by L.L.A. BAERT** and J.P. MAELFAIT***

Abstract

The purpose of this survey is to find out if a difference in microrelief can have some influence upon the faunal composition and the catch-frequencies of epedafic Coleoptera. Therefore a woodplot consisting of alternated ridges and drains was investigated a whole year round (from 30 April 1972 until 26 April 1973).

I. Introduction

Only in exceptional cases a macrohabitat can be called homogeneous. Therefore it can be divided into a number of microhabitats, differing from each other in microclimatological circumstances (e.g. temperature and relative humidity) and structural features of the soil (e.g. type of litter and microrelief).

Microhabitats can thus be defined as parts of a general habitat (macrohabitat) which differ clearly from each other by distinct environmental factors. Our research aims to investigate what influence the difference in microhabitats (especially microrelief) can have on the composition of the fauna and the catchfrequencies of the epedafic Coleoptera. This study can be conceived as

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** Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen, Vautierstraat 31, 1040 Brussel.

*** Rijksuniversiteit Gent, Laboratorium voor Oecologie der Dieren, Zoögeografie en Natuurbehoud (Dir. Prof. Dr. J. HUBLE), K.L. Ledeganckstraat 35, 9000 Gent.

preliminary because of the limitations of the used method as seen in the previous paper (MAELFAIT & BAERT, 1975). Therefore we speak of the diversity and faunal composition of the pitfall captures and not those of the microhabitats.

II. Sampled microhabitats

A general description of the investigated macrohabitat « De Breedgrashouw » at Gontrode and the detailed description of the respective positions of the pitfalls within the microhabitats have already extensively been dealt with in an earlier paper (MAELFAIT & BAERT, 1975).

Since the studied woodplot consists of alternating series of ridges (mean width of the studied ridge : ± 5 m) and drains (mean width : ± 2 m), we can arbitrarely distinguish two microhabitats : (1) the ridge and (2) the drain. They differ from each other in :

a) The higher degree of humidity in the drain, resulting from the thick layer of litter and the partly submerging of the drain in winter and autumn.

b) The thick layer of litter (± 40 cm) in the drain, blown by the wind from the ridge. On the ridge there is no (on some places only a very thin) litter layer.

c) The difference in microrelief (the upper level of the litter layer within the drain lays ± 32 cm lower than the upper level on the ridge).

Both the used sample technic and a detailed description of the pro and contra of this method were also already published in a former paper (MAELFAIT & BAERT, 1975).

III. Results and discussion

Comparison of faunal composition and catchfrequencies between the pitfalls of the ridge and drain

a) *Results*

With the used pitfallmethod a total of 4,878 Coleoptera was caught. 2,850 on the ridge and 2,028 in the drain, distributed

TABLE I

List of species caught with pitfalls (6 upon the ridge and 6 within the drain)

	Numbers ridge	drain		Numbers ridge	drain
CARABIDAE					
Abax ater VILLERS	13	31	*Mycetoporus brunneus* (MARSH.)	53	6
Agonum assimile PAYK.	1	0	*Mycetoporus punctus* (GYLL.)	1	0
Agonum mülleri HBST.	1	3	*Mycetoporus splendidus* (GRAV.)	1	0
Amara familiaris DUFT.	1	0	*Ocypus ater* (GRAV.)	3	2
Agonum plebeja GYLL.	1	1	*Ocypus compressus* MARSH.	1	2
Agonum similata GYLL.	0	1	*Olophrum piceum* (GYLL.)	2	11
Anisodactylus binotatus F.	2	0	*Othius myrmecophilus* KIESW.	86	5
Asaphidion flavipes L.	1	1	*Othius punctulatus* (GOEZE)	2	1
Argutor strenuus PANZ.	0	1	*Oxypoda alternans* (GRAV.)	2	0
Badister bipustulatus F.	2	0	*Oxypoda exoleta* ER.	5	0
Bradycellus verbasci DUFT.	0	1	*Oxypoda lividipennis* MANNH.	101	44
Carabus purpurascens L.	1	2	*Oxypoda spectabilis* MÄRK.	1	3
Lagurus vernalis PANZ.	2	0	*Oxytelus complanatus* ER.	1	1
Leistus rufomarginatus DFT.	112	185	*Oxytelus rugosus* (GRAV.)	4	4
Leistus ferrugineus L.	0	1	*Oxytelus sculpturatus* GRAV.	8	6
Leistus rufescens F.	0	1	*Oxytelus tetracarinatus* (BLOCK.)	0	6
Lorocera pilicornis F.	7	11	*Platystethus cornutus* (GRAV.)	1	1
Metallina lampros HBST.	13	24	*Platystethus arenarius* (FOURC.)	0	1
Nebria brevicollis F.	1	17	*Philonthus fuscipennis* (MANNH.)	6	5
Notiophylus biguttatus F.	167	40	*Philonthus varius* (GYLLH.)	1	0
Notiophylus rufipes CURT.	78	26	*Philonthus splendens* (F.)	1	0
Peryphus tibialis DFT.	0	1	*Philonthus intermedius* (BOISD. LAC.)	0	1
Phyla obtusum SERV.	0	1	*Philonthus rotundicollis* (MÉNETR.)	0	1
Platysma vulgare L.	0	1	*Phloeocharis subtilissima* MANNH.	9	5
Philochtus guttula F.	1	0	*Proteinus brachypterus* F.	12	15
Stenolophus teutonus SCHRANCK	1	2	*Quedius fuliginosus* (GRAV.)	0	9
Steropus madidus F.	1	6	*Quedius fumatus* STEPH.	0	6
Trechus quadristriatus SCHRANCK	1	0	*Quedius lateralis* (GRAV.)	0	3
			Quedius longicornis KR.	0	2
STAPHYLINIDAE			*Quedius picipes* (MANNH.)	8	2
Acidota cruentata MANNH.	51	40	*Quedius tristis* (GRAV.)	1	0
Atheta sp. (aterrima GRAV.?)	1	0	*Stenus biguttatus* (L.)	1	0
Atheta sp. (debilis ER.?)	65	95	*Stenus bimaculatus* GYLL.	1	2
Atheta sp. (fungi GRAV.?)	1	0	*Stenus clavicornis* (SCOP.)	1	1
Atheta sp. (pygmaea (GRAV.) ?)	1	2	*Stenus fuscicornis* ER.	1	0
Atheta sp. (gagatina BAUDI?)	9	2	*Stenus morio* GRAV.	0	1
Atheta sp. (longicornis (GRAV.) ?)	0	1	*Stilicus subtilis* ER.	0	1
Autalia impressa (OLIV.)	16	10	*Syntomium aeneum* (MÜLL.)	156	68
Bolitobius trinotatus ER.	1	0	*Tachinus subterraneus* (L.)	1	4
Chilopora longitarsus (ER.)	0	1	*Tachinus rufipes* (DEG.)	0	1
Conosoma testaceum (F.)	6	7	*Tachyporus chrysomelinus* (L.)	16	6
Cratarea suturalis (MANNH.)	21	16	*Tachyporus hypnorum* (L.)	5	2
Falagria thoracica CURT.	4	3	*Xantholinus linearis* (OLIV.)	21	5
Geostiba circellaris (GRAV.)	8	1			
Habrocerus capillaricornis (GRAV.)	10	2	DYTISCIDAE		
Lathrimaeum atrocephalum (GYLL.)	156	203	*Agabus bipustulatus* (L.)	1	1
Lathrobium pallidum NORDM.	14	3	*Agabus guttatus* (PAYK.)	0	1
Lesteva sicula ER.	0	2	*Agabus striolatus* (GYLL.)	1	0
Lesteva longelytrata (GOEZE)	0	1	*Agabus sturmii* (GYLL.)	1	0
Micropeplus tesserula CURT.	25	23	*Hydroporus erythrocephalus* (L.)	72	24
Micropeplus porcatus (F.)	2	2	*Hydroporus obscurus* STURM.	6	2
Mycetoporus angularis MULS. REY	2	1	*Hydroporus planus* (F.)	3	2

	Numbers caught ridge	drain
PSELAPHIDAE		
Brachygluta fossulata (REICHB.)	139	89
Bythinus curtisi DENN.	2	1
Bythinus validus AUBÉ	0	3
Pselaphus heisei HBST.	1	1
SCYDMAENIDAE		
Cephennium thoracicum MÜLL. & KUNZE	31	10
Neuraphes elongatulus (MÜLL. & KUNZE)	244	183
CATOPIDAE		
Catops coracinus KELLN.	7	34
Catops morio (F.)	3	2
Catops nigricans (SPENCE)	6	12
Catops tristis (PANZ.)	11	17
Choleva cisteloides (FRÖL.)	0	4
Choleva sturmi BRIS.	0	1
Nargus velox (SPENCE)	152	179
Nargus wilkini (SPENCE)	367	128
Ptomophagus sericatus (CHAUD.)	0	1
Sciodrepoides watsoni (SPENCE)	26	17
SILPHIDAE		
Necrophorus vespilloides HBST.	1	0
ELATERIDAE		
Agriotes pallidulus ILL.	21	20
Agriotes sputator L.	1	0
Athous difformis LAC.	1	0
Athous haemorrhoidalis F.	4	0
Athous subfuscus MÜLL.	19	6
CHRYSOMELIDAE		
Chrysomela staphylea L.	0	1
Lema cyanella (L.)	0	1
Longitarsus juncicola FAUDR.	1	1
Longitarsus melanocephalus (DEG.)	1	0
Longitarsus parvulus (PAYK.)	13	13
CURCULIONIDAE		
Apion flavipes PAYK.	1	0
Apion virens HBST.	2	0
Banalobius salcivorus PAYK.	3	1
Caenopsis waltoni BOH.	1	0
Coeliodes dryados GMEL.	1	1
Coeliodes erythrocephalus GMEL.	0	2
Coetorrhynchus erysimi F.	1	1
Coetorrhynchus melanostictus MARSH.	2	0
Epipolaeus caliginosus F.	1	3
Liosoma deflexum PANZ.	2	2
Orchestes fagi L.	2	1
Otiorhynchus ligneus OL.	6	2
Otiorhynchus sp.	12	5
Polydrosus undatus F.	1	0
Rhinoncus bruchoides HBST.	0	1
Rhynchites cavifrons GYLL.	1	0
Stenocarus fuliginosus MARSH.	1	1
Strophosomus melanogrammus FORST.	7	3
Tropiphorus carinatus MÜLL.	0	1
EUCNEMIDAE		
Trixagus dermestoides L.	36	14
LIODIDAE		
Agathidium atrum (PAYK.)	0	1
Agathidium seminulum (L.)	4	5
Amphicyllis globus (F.)	5	20
Anisotoma humeralis (F.)	2	0
Anisotoma orbicularis (HBST.)	0	1
Liodes dubia (KUG.)	2	2
Liodes calcarata (ER.)	1	3
Liodes triepkei SCHM. (?)	0	4
LATHRIDIIDAE		
Enicmus transversus OLIV.	25	11
Corticoria crenulata GYLL.	3	2
Corticarina gibbosa (HBST.)	7	1
Lathridius nodifer WESTW.	1	0
HYDROPHILIDAE		
Anacaena globulus (PAYK.)	1	15
Anacaena limbata (F.)	0	1
Cercyon melanocephalus (L.)	0	1
Cryptopleurum minutum (F.)	1	0
Hydrobius fuscipes (L.)	8	3
Megasternum boletophagum (MARSH.)	30	33
Sphaeridium scarabaeoides L.	0	1
HYDRAENIDAE		
Helophorus aquaticus (L.)	0	1
Helophorus guttulus ssp. *brevipalpis* (BED.)	4	3
Helophorus asperatus REY	1	0
Helophorus flavipes (F.)	15	5
Ochtebius auriculatus REY	0	1
Ochtebius minimus (F.)	0	1
PHALACRIDAE		
Olibrus aeneus (F.)	3	0
Stilbus testaceus (PANZ)	1	1
COCCINELLIDAE		
Coccinella septempunctata L.	0	1
Propylaea quatuordecimpunctata (L.)	1	0
Thea vigintiduopunctata (L.)	0	3
PTILIDAE		
Acrotrichus intermedia (GILLM.)	54	17
Smicrus filicornis (FAIRM. & LABOULB.)	1	0

	Numbers caught ridge	drain
CRYPTOPHAGIDAE		
Atomaria sp. (*apicalis* ER. ?)	5	5
Atomaria sp. (*atricapilla* STEPH. ?)	6	8
Atomaria sp. (*fuscicollis* MANSH. ?)	5	10
Atomaria sp. (*linearis* STEPH. ?)	4	3
Atomaria sp. [*nigripennis* (PAYK.)?]	1	1
Cryptophagus setulosus (STRM.)	0	1
Grobbenia fimetarii (HBST.)	0	1
Ootypus globosus (WALTL.)	1	0
CANTHARIDAE		
Cantharis quadripunctata MÜLL.	0	1
Malthodes brevicollis PAYK.	4	2
NITIDULIDAE		
Carpophilus dimidiatus (F.)	0	1
Epuraea deleta STURM.	0	1
Epuraea sp. (*binotata* REITT. ?)	3	1
RHIZOPHAGIDAE		
Rhizophagus bipustulatus F.	1	1
Rhizophagus perforatus ER.	1	1
Rhizophagus ferrugineus (PAYK.)	1	0
ENDOMYCHIDAE		
Sphaerosoma pilosum (PANZ.)	4	7
ANOBIIDAE		
Stegobium paniceum (L.)	1	0
BYRRHIDAE		
Cytilus sericeus FORST.	1	1
Simplocaria semistriata F.	18	6
ASPIDIPHORIDAE		
Aspidiphorus orbiculatus (GYLL.)	3	0
IPIDAE		
Anisandrus dispar F.	68	31
Hylastes palliatus GYLL.	1	0
Taphorhynchus bicolor HBST.	17	14
Xyloterus domesticus L.	4	2
SCARABEIDAE		
Serica brunnea (L.)	1	1
SCAPHIDIIDAE		
Scaphidium quadrimaculatum OLIV.	2	0
Scaphosoma agaricinum L.	1	0
TENEBRIONIDAE		
Cylindronotus laevioctostriatus GOEZE	1	0
CLAMBIDAE		
Clambus armadillo DEG.	0	2
Total	2,850	2,082
	159	162 species

over a total of 209 species (table I). Trom these 159 species were caught on the ridge and 162 species in the drain, while 113 were in common between both microhabitats. 46 species were only caught on the ridge, although all these are represented by maximum 5 individuals. On the other hand 49 species were caught only in the drain with maximum 9 individuals pro species.

The nomenclature of the Carabidae is grounded on the « Catalogue des Coléoptères de Belgique - DERENNE E., 1957 », while the nomenclature of the other families is grounded on « Die Käfer Mitteleuropas Bd. 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9 - FREUDE H. ; HARDE K.W. and LOHSE G.A. ».

In a previous paper (MAELFAIT & BAERT, 1975) Catopidae and Silphidae were both listed as Silphidae, and Hydrophilidae and Hydraenidae as Hydrophilidae.

b) *Predominant activity of most caught species in one of the 2 microhabitats.*

A simple t-test was carried out (table II) to control if some species were, or not, significantly predominantly active in one of the two microhabitats. As significance level we took $P \leqslant 0.05$. Only the period of activity of the species concerned (first column of table II) was taken into account for this test. Within this period n indicates the number of 14 days catchfrequencies.

TABLE II

Performed t-test

Species	*Period of activity*	t	n	P	*Interpretation*
Leistus rufomarginatus	12/V/72-01/II/73	0.8286	20	0.5>P>0.4	not sign. for drain
Notiophilus rufipes	12/V/72-26/IV/73	3.1269	26	0.005>P>0.001	very sign. for ridge
Notiophilus biguttatus	12/V/72-26/IV/73	4.4571	26	0.001>P	very sign. for ridge
Mycetoporus brunneus	12/V/72-29/IX/72	2.6729	11	0.025>P>0.01	sign. for ridge
Othius myrmecophilus	12/V/72-26/IV/73	3.3638	26	0.005>P>0.001	very sign. for ridge
Lathrimaeum atrocephalum	12/V/72-26/IV/73	0.6661	26	P>0.5	not sign. for drain
Oxypoda lividipennis	27/IX/72-26/IV/73	1.4641	14	0.2>P>0.1	not sign. for ridge
Syntomium aeneum	12/V/72-26/IV/73	2.9879	26	0.005>P>0.001	very sign. for ridge
Hydroporus erythrocephalus	09/VI/72-15/IX/72	1.5567	8	0.4>P>0.2	not sign. for ridge
Brachygluta fossulata	12/V/72-26/IV/73	0.8916	26	0.4>P>0.2	not sign. for ridge
Nargus wilkini	12/V/72-26/IV/73	1.6038	26	0.2>P>0.1	not sign. for ridge
Acrotrichus intermedia	12/V/72-13/IX/72	3.0885	12	0.01>P>0.005	sign. for ridge

Only six of the 113 common species were significantly predominantly active on the ridge : *Notiophilus biguttatus* and *rufipes, Mycetoporus brunneus, Othius myrmecophilus, Syntomium aenum* and *Acrotrichus intermedia,* while not one species was significantly more active in the drain.

Greater facilits of moving for Coleoptera on the litterless ridge seems to be the most probable explanation for the higher catchfrequencies.

c) *Distribution of the species over catchfrequency - classes*

From table III it follows clearly that these habitats are characterised by a great number of species of which only some are caught abundantly.

d) *Catchdiversity*

The « species-richness » is almost equal for both habitats (ridge : 159 species ; drain : 162 species). The diversity of our

TABLE III

Distribution of the species over catchfrequency-classes

Catchfrequencies	*ridge* S	*ridge* %		*drain* S	*drain* %	
1- 5	104	66		114	70.5	
6- 10	16	10		13	8	
11- 15	8	5	89.4	9	5.7	94.3
16- 20	5	3		7	4.4	
21- 25	5	3		3	1.9	
26- 40	4	2.4		6	3.8	
41 100	8	5		4	2.5	
101-200	7	4.3		4	2.5	
200<	2	1.3		1	0.7	

S = *number of species*

total yearcatches of ridge and drain was calculated using several diversity indices (table IV). The *Shannon* index [H(S)] points to almost equal catch diversities for ridge and drain [H(159) = 5.27 and H(162) = 5.37 respectively]. Other diversity indices give similar results (table IV).

TABLE IV

Catchdiversities of ridge and drain

	ridge	*drain*
Diversity indices of Mc Intosh :		
$P = \frac{N - U}{N - \sqrt{N}}$ (indep. of N)	0.797	0.799
$Q = \frac{N - U}{N - \frac{N}{\sqrt{S}}}$ (eveness)	0.850	0.848
Simpson index :		
$D = 1 - \frac{\Sigma (N_s - 1) N_s}{N (N - 1)}$	0.953	0.953
Margaleff index :		
$D = \frac{S - 1}{\ln N}$	19.86	21.11
Shannon index : H(S)	H(159) = 5.27	H(162) = 5.37

e) *Comparison on family level*

The procentual portion (calculated on total numbers captured) of the most captured families (Staphylinidae, Catopidae, Carabidae, Scydmaenidae, Pselaphidae and Dystiscidae) is mostly identical in the two microhabitats (fig. 1).

The « species-richness » for each of these families is also mostly equal (table V).

TABLE V

Species-richness per family

Families	*ridge*	*drain*	*common*	*Families*	*ridge*	*drain*	*common*
Carabidae	20	21	13	Ptilidae	2	1	1
Staphylinidae	50	53	38	Coccinellidae	1	2	—
Dytiscidae	6	5	4	Cryptophagidae	6	7	5
Pselaphidae	3	4	3	Cantharidae	1	2	1
Scydmaenidae	2	2	2	Nitidulidae	1	3	1
Silphidae	1	—	—	Rhizophagidae	3	2	2
Catopidae	7	10	7	Endomychidae	1	1	1
Elateridae	5	2	2	Anobiidae	1	—	—
Chrysomelidae	3	4	2	Byrrhidae	2	2	2
Curculionidae	16	13	10	Aspidophoridae	1	—	—
Eucnemidae	1	1	1	Ipidae	4	3	3
Liodidae	5	7	5	Scaphidiidae	2	—	—
Lathridiidae	4	3	3	Scarabeidae	1	1	1
Hydrophilidae	4	6	3	Tenebrionidae	1	—	—
Hydraenidae	3	5	2	Clambidae	—	1	—
Phalacridae	2	1	1				

The Staphylinidae were far the most caught beetles in both habitats [most individuals ($\pm$ 32 %) and most species]. The Catopidae are represented by less species than the Carabidae, but were caught more numerous.

IV. Summary

From 30 April 1972 until 26 April 1973 two microhabitats were sampled with pitfall-traps to investigate if the difference in microrelief could influence the fauna-composition and catchfrequency.

The species composition did not reveal great differences between ridge and drain. The calculated diversity indices pointed to nearly equal catch-diversities.

The species, which were captured most frequently were found on the ridge as well in the drain, although they had in most cases a higher activity-density (abundancy) on the ridge. Six species were found predominantly active on the ridge (not a single one in the drain).

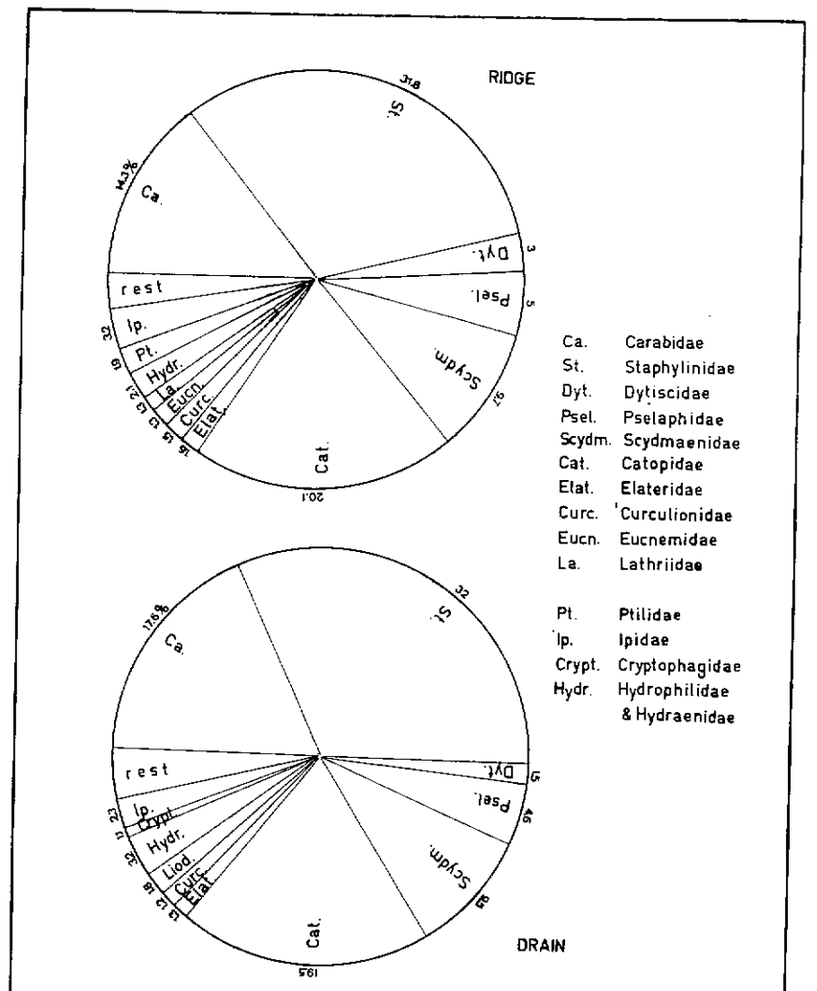

Fig. 1 CIRCLEDIAGRAMS

The pitfall-captures carried out in the two microhabitats are characterised by a great amount of species of which only some were caught in great numbers.

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SYNECOLOGICAL STUDY OF SURFACE-ACTIVE ARANEAE FROM WOOD- AND MEADOWHABITATS*

by H. VAN PRAET**

Abstract

Araneae were collected by pitfall trapping in wood- and meadowhabitats. A qualitative synecological comparison was made between Araneae captured in the studied habitats.

Introduction

Between 1971 and 1974 a number of biotopes around Ghent were sampled with pitfall-traps.

This paper offers a synecological approach of the surface-active Araneae-fauna using pitfall-data.

Habitats

Data were obtained for 5 habitats :

1. An oak-beech wood (the « Breedgrashouw », a part of the Aelmoeseneibos at Gontrode) was sampled between 1971 and 1974 (HOET, 1972 ; MAELFAIT, 1973 ; LAMPO, 1975). For a detailed description, see MAELFAIT & BAERT (1975).

2. A beech wood or « *Fagetum nudum* » biotope (the « Hutsepot » at Zwijnaarde) was sampled between 1972 and 1973 (BOSMANS, 1973). Detailed description, see MAELFAIT & BAERT (1975).

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** Laboratorium voor Oecologie der Dieren, Zoögeografie en Natuurbehoud (Prof. Dr. J. Hublé), K.L. Ledeganckstraat 35, B-9000 Gent.