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4. De secretaris doet de volgende mededeling.

A short note on the pipunculid fauna of the Belgian dunes (Diptera, Pipunculidae)

by M. DE MEYER, P. GROOTAERT & G. HAGHEBAERT

During 1989, a part of the dunes near Lombardsijde was sampled with small white water traps. The main purpose of the experiment was to see if there exists differences in species composition in a gradient from young (yellow) dunes to older (grey) dunes more inland. Therefore a set of four white water traps were placed at ground level at five different sites.

1° The edge of the yellow dunes, facing the see with a short overgrowth of *Psammophila arenaria*: an open (few shade), hilly zone.
2° Grey dunes with a short vegetation of *Carex* sp., mosses, *Psammophila arenaria* and many other herbs. An open area without shade and low flattened dunes.
3° Dune slack with *Carex* sp., very short *Salix repens* and *Paranassia palustris*. A flat open area.
4° Small wood composed of *Populus alba*, *Sambucus nigra* and on the edge some *Hippophae rhamnoides*. A flat but covered and quite shady area. The soil covered with *Portulaca oleracea* in spring and short grasses in summer.
5° Bush with *Sambucus nigra*, *Carex* sp. and grasses. A flat and covered area with some shade.

Although water traps are usually not very effective for trapping Pipunculidae, a number of specimens were collected. The following species were found (with indication of the site they were found at):

- *Chalarus* sp. (not identified to species level since the genus is momentarily under revision): dune slack (3) & wood (4)
- *Pipunculus campestris* LATREILLE: bush (5)
- *Cephalops semifumosus* (KOWARZ): wood (4)
- *Cephalops ultimus* (BECKER): bush (4)
- *Eudorylas zermattensis* (BECKER): dune (2)
- *Tomosvaryella littoralis* (BECKER): dune edge (1) and dune (2)
- *Tomosvaryella sylvatica* (MEIGEN): dune edge (1)

Eudorylas zermattensis is recorded here for the first time from Belgium. Although the species was captured in a dune area, it is not a typical coastal species. As can be deduced from the name it was originally described from the Swiss Alps, and it is further reported from Denmark, France, Great Britain, Sweden (TANASIJTSHUK, 1988), Austria and Yugoslavia (LAUTERER, 1983). Only one female specimen was found but it can easily be differentiated from other *Eudorylas* species by the partly shining abdominal terga and thorax, and by the shape of the ovipositor which does not have a median groove along the base (see BANKOWSKA, 1973 and COE, 1966).

Tomosvaryella littoralis is a typical coastal species. It has already been found on the Belgian coast (DE MEYER & DE BRUYN, 1985) and is also reported from most of the neighbouring countries (TANASIJTSHUK, 1988). *T. littoralis* is the most common species found in the samples but it was only present in material from the dune ridge and the dunes close to the see.

Pipunculids are parasitoids of Auchenorrhyncha (Homoptera). European representatives of the genus *Tomosvaryella* seem to parasitize solely on Deltocephalinae (Cicadellidae) (see WALOFF & JERVIS, 1987). Dr. J. VAN STALLE kindly identified the Deltocephalinae that were found in the water traps at the dune edge (1) and the grey dunes (2):

- *Conosanus obsoletus* (KIRSCHBAUM)
- *Euscelis incisus* (KIRSCHBAUM)
- *Psammotettix confinis* (DAHLBOM)
- *Psammotettix pallidinervis* (DAHLBOM)
- *Doratura exilis* HORVATH

OSSIANNILSSON (1983) mentions all these species except the first one from dune areas and indicates the latter two as truly xerophilous. The former three species are already reported as hosts for pipunculids (WALOFF & JERVIS, 1987). It is possible that the host of *T. littoralis* is among these homopterans, but this can only be verified by rearing experiments.

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5. Au nom de M. P. LAYS, excusé, M. N. MAGIS donne un résumé de la communication suivante.

Plateumaris discolor (Panzer, 1795) in Japan (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Donaciinae)

by Pascal LAYS

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In his key of Japanese species of *Plateumaris*, KIMOTO (1983) who excludes the existence of *P. consimilis* (a species formerly reported as living in Japan) gives four species in the archipelago: *Plateumaris constricticolis* (JACOBY), *P. hirashimai* KIMOTO, *P. shirahatai* KIMOTO and *P. sericea* (L.).

After examination of Donaciinae coming from Japan: Mitsumori (alt.340 m), Omotegou, FMA, 29.V.1988, 3 males, 2 females, Y. KOMIYA leg., and usually identified, in Japan, as belonging to *Plateumaris sericea*, we can confirm the hypothesis of Prof. Y. KOMIYA (personal communication) who first attracted attention and thought that these specimens were in fact *Plateumaris discolor* (PANZER).

There are no fundamental morphological (external) differences between European and Japanese specimens of *P. discolor*. Concerning males's edeagus, there are also morphologically similar.

According to former and more recent litterature, *P. sericea* exhibits a wide Palaearctic distribution, from West Europe to Japan, whereas *P. discolor* was only recorded in Europe, with a subspecies, *lacordairei*, in iberian Peninsula (BOROWIEC, 1984).

Several remarks are essential:
1°- it seems that *P. sericea* does not exist in Japan;
2°- from that moment, what is the oriental limit of *P. sericea*'s geographical area in Eurasia?
3°- lastly, is it conceivable that *P. discolor* of which Eastern limit in Europe stops before Mount Ural, can reappear in Japan without any trace of its presence in continental Asia?

We can not exclude that Japanese specimens are already genetically, but not yet morphologically, isolated and should therefore be considered as a sibling species. Only breedings, crossings as well as a serious revision of material will give answers.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Professor Y. KOMIYA (Faculty of Medicine, University of Tokyo, Japan) who provides me Japanese Donaciinae.

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Recension/Recensie

R. PAULIAN, 1988. - *Biologie des Coléoptères*. Volume relié, XI + 719 pages, 208 figures, 12 planches de photographies en noir et blanc. Editions Lechevalier-Masson, Paris. 595 FF. ISBN: 2-7205-0523-4.

Les ouvrages de synthèse d'un groupe entomologique important, surtout publiés en français, sont rares. Aussi faut-il se féliciter de la publication de cette "Biologie des Coléoptères" par R. PAULIAN. Ce travail est un développement et une mise à jour arrêtée en 1985, de sa publication de 1943 "Les Coléoptères. Forme-Moeurs-Rôle" (396 pages, 164 figs, 14 pl., Payot éd.) et du chapitre qu'il a consacré avec R. JEANNEL aux Coléoptères dans le 9e volume du "Traité de Zoologie" de P. P. GRASSÉ, publié en 1949 (Masson éd., pp. 771-1077). Cette "Biologie des Coléoptères" est le pendant sinon la réplique en langue française de l'ouvrage de R. CROWSON "The Biology of Coleoptera" (1981, Academic Press, 302 pp.) qui laissait dans l'ombre certains aspects du vaste domaine envisagé.

Dans son avertissement au lecteur, l'auteur déclare "essayer de dresser un tableau d'ensemble de la biologie des Coléoptères, considérés ici comme l'un des éléments essentiels du peuplement de la Terre et la formation des écosystèmes". Il ajoute toutefois que sa présentation ne peut prétendre être exhaustive et que "Pour tout ce qui relève de l'anatomie et de la physiologie" il a "tenté de ne présenter que quelques exemples caractéristiques, permettant de comprendre les mécanismes à l'oeuvre dans la vie des Coléoptères et non de donner une vue détaillée des choses. Au contraire, lorsqu'il s'agit de la biologie" il s'est "efforcé de ne rien omettre ..... Mais dans ce domaine, plus encore que dans celui de la physiologie, bien des observations publiées ont échappé à" ses "lectures et auraient mérité cependant d'être prises en compte". PAULIAN lui-même déclare qu'il s'agissait de rédiger un "livre en somme impossible".

L'ouvrage comporte deux parties. La première est consacrée à l'organisation et au comportement des Coléoptères. Y sont successivement exposés des éléments de morphologie, le cadre moderne de la systématique de l'ordre adoptée par l'auteur qui reconnait 206 familles brièvement commentées et plusieurs chapitres sur la physiologie, l'anatomie et le comportement. Ils traitent des fonctions physiologi-