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Décès / Overlijden:

Nous avons le regret de devoir vous annoncer le décès du Docteur Maurice FONTAINE, membre de la société depuis 1935. Une minute de silence est observée en sa mémoire.

Correspondance / Briefwisseling:

La **IV^e Conférence Internationale Francophone d'Entomologie** se tiendra à Saint-Malo (Ille-et-Vilaine, France) du 5 au 9 juillet 1998.

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A collection of Diplopoda (Myriapoda) from Houthulst forest (western Flanders, Belgium)

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Introduction

From 1974 till 1980, the forest of Houthulst, situated in the west of Belgium between Roeselare, Diksmuide and Ieper, was intensively sampled by means of pitfall traps (sampling performed by L. VANHERCKE). The forest of Houthulst is one of the last larger woodland areas in the poorly forested province of western Flanders. The site is situated in U.T.M.-square DS94. Although the forested area around Houthulst comprised at least about 1800 ha in the 19th century, only 220 ha still exist. Details on the historical and geographical aspects of the forest complex can be found in FONTEYN (1980).

For different arthropod groups, the results of the sampling campaign were extensively published (e.g. ALDERWEIRELDT *et al.*, 1993). These studies show the considerable ecological value and importance of the forest (see also HERMY *et al.*, 1981). This contribution gives an overview of the diplopod taxocoenosis of the forest

Identification was mainly based on BLOWER (1985), DEMANGE (1981), and SCHUBART (1934). Nomenclature follows BLOWER (1985).

Results

The identification of the samples resulted in the list given in Table 1. In total 12 species were found.

Table 1. Diplopoda (males/females) sampled at Houthulst forest together with their status as deduced from pitfall yields.

species	status in Houthulst forest
GLOMERIDAE	
<i>Glomeris marginata</i>	fairly common
<i>Glomeris intermedia</i>	very rare
CRASPEDOSOMATIDAE	
<i>Craspedosoma rawlinsii</i>	common
CHORDEUMATIDAE	
<i>Chordeuma sylvestre</i>	abundant
<i>Melogona gallica</i>	rare
JULIDAE	
<i>Tachypodoiulus niger</i>	very common
<i>Ommatoiulus sabulosus</i>	fairly common in summer
<i>Julus scandinavicus</i>	abundant
<i>Leptoiulus belgicus</i>	fairly common in summer/autumn
<i>Cylindroiulus punctatus</i>	some in spring (*)
POLYDESMIDAE	
<i>Polydesmus angustus</i>	common
<i>Brachydesmus superus</i>	infrequent in traps

(*) some in spring in pitfall traps; presumably in dead wood in summer and maybe in soil during winter.

On the Belgian scale, all species collected in Houthulst can be considered as widespread, common or even very common. The record of *Glomeris intermedia* is interesting. It is the westernmost record in Belgium of a species having a mainly continental and southern distribution (Fig. 1). Besides this, *Leptoiulus belgicus* is, despite its name, widespread but not very common in Belgium (Fig. 2).

The status of every species in Houthulst forest itself is added in Table 1. This interpretation is deduced from pitfall results only and therefore to be interpreted with care. Soil and litter samples taken in February 1982, resulted in densities of 20 individuals/m² for *Craspedosoma rawlinsii* and 15 ind./m² for both *Melogona gallica* and *Brachydesmus superus* (KIME, 1992).

The diplopod diversity of Houthulst forest is not very high, especially when considering the high sampling intensity (pitfalls for several years) and the wide variety in habitat types. Another example for comparison: during a recent one year pitfall cycle at Ename forest (eastern Flanders), we discovered 16 species of Diplopoda and 9 species of Chilopoda (ALDERWEIRELDT, unpublished results). Ename forest is about 65 km more to the east of Houthulst. Comparisons with other deciduous forests in Belgium can be found in KIME (1992) and KIME & WAUTHY (1984).

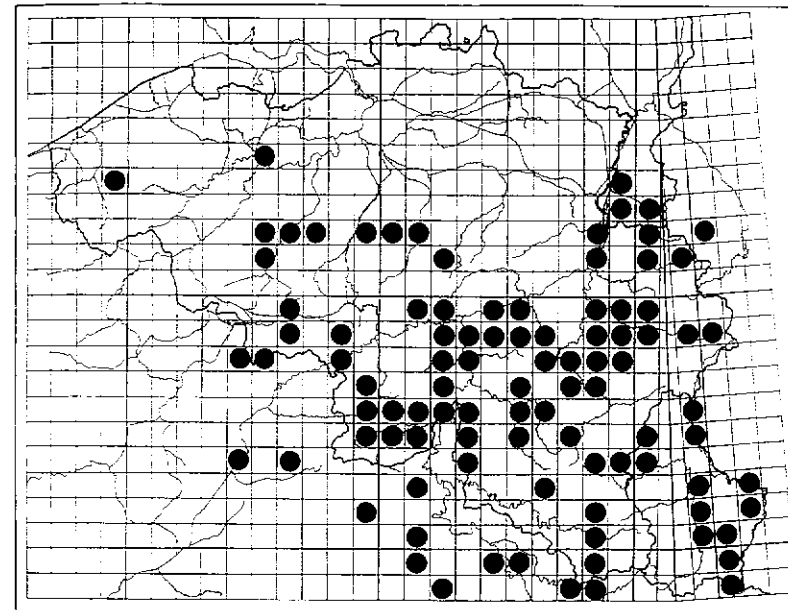


Fig. 1. Preliminary distribution map of *Glomeris intermedia* in Belgium. Arrow situates Houthulst forest.

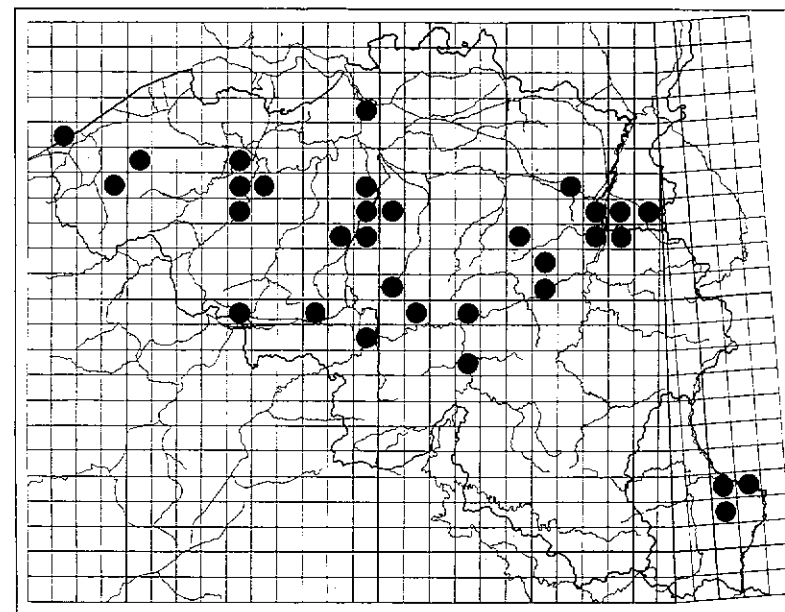


Fig. 2. Preliminary distribution map of *Leptoiulus belgicus* in Belgium. Arrow situates Houthulst forest.

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**Nouvelles occurrences de
Cremnops desertor (L., 1758)
(Hymenoptera: Braconidae) en Belgique**

par Yves BRAET

Dans les récoltes des étudiants de la Faculté des Sciences Agronomiques de Gembloux (FSAGx) et de l'Université de Mons-Hainaut (UMH) quatre mâles de *C. desertor* ont été répertoriés pour la première fois dans quatre carrés UTM (ES5221, ES9939, FS0030 et FR0885). Les localités de captures sont les suivantes: " Flobecq, 10.VIII.[19]95, Schirvel C. ", " B., Bruxelles, Haren, 2.VIII.1994, Dumortier Vincent ", " B., Auderghem, 5.VII.1993, Cebollero S. " (FSAGx) et de " (B) Hainaut Chatelineau, Goyettes, (information illisible), 26.VII.94 Servais " (UMH). De plus, Mlle Camille THIRION a pu observer plusieurs spécimens (une dizaine) de *C. desertor* une première fois, au cours du mois de juillet 1994, en fin d'après-midi, voletant à proximité d'une haie de feuillus se trouvant dans son jardin à Awirs, Gleixhe et une seconde fois, au cours du mois de juin 1995, au-dessus de la végétation bordant la Semois, dans le virage entre Herbeumont et Dohan. Ces captures et observations se situent dans la période du pic d'occurrences maximales (BRAET, 1995).

Référence

- BRAET, Y., 1995. - Occurrence of *Cremnops desertor* (L., 1758) (Hymenoptera: Braconidae, Agathidinae) in Belgium: preliminary results. *Bull. Anns Soc. r. belge Ent.* 131: 169-173.