

Section 02 - Talk

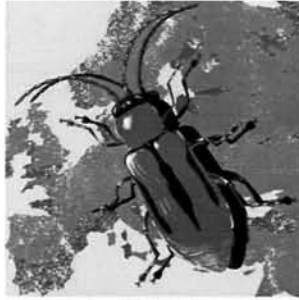
Forest retention of the spider fauna in Strict Forest Reserves in Hesse

T. Blick

Strict Forest Reserves are forest areas where forestry was stopped. The research in these “primeval forests of tomorrow” is an important fundament for nature-orientated forestry and nature conservation. The spider fauna of four reserves and their adjacent reference areas, where forestry is continued, has been examined so far. There was used a broad set of methods over two complete years (including winter).

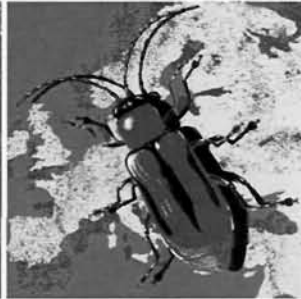
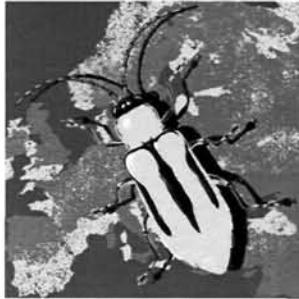
Most important for the spiders were pitfall traps (100 to 126 species) and trunk eclectors (105 to 151 species). In each reserve, including its reference area, a species number of 162 to 202 was recorded (in total 278 spider species, 40% of the spider species known from Hesse). 12,500 to 18,000 adult spiders were determined from each reserve. 19 species were new records for Hesse. The biodiversity of spiders in central European forests has been underestimated so far. The spider fauna is analysed concerning the favourite habitat of every species. Forest species dominate the spider fauna (as expected) with >90%, but also a remarkable amount of specialised open land spiders (3-7%) occurs. Other statistics will be presented in the talk.

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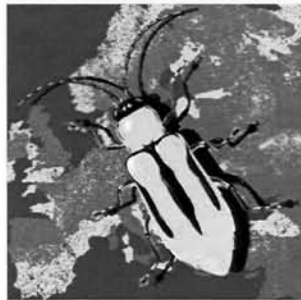


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**Stefan Vidal, Stefan Schütz, Stefan Scheu,
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