

BOOK REVIEW

BOER DE A. : THE TYPES OF CARABIDAE (COLEOPTERA) IN THE ZOÖLOGISCH MUSEUM AMSTERDAM, PREDOMINANTLY THE COLLECTION "OSKAR VOGT". Backhuys Publishers, Leiden, 2002, vii + 147 pp. ISBN 90-5782-121-4, price EUR 88.00.

In 1997 the staff of Zoölogisch Museum of Amsterdam started to record all the type material under their care, with the ultimate goal of making the type lists available on the Internet. The Department of Entomology started with its three major entomological collections: Diptera collection of J.C.H. de Meijere and Carabidae and *Bombus* collections of O. Vogt. The list of dipteran types and biography of Prof. Dr. de Meijere was published by de Jong (2000).

The present book deals with the types of carabids in the collection of Oskar Vogt. The book is divided into three main chapters. The two introductory chapters briefly focus on the biography of Oskar Vogt and his entomological career. Oskar Vogt was a famous brain specialist and neurologist who started collecting bumblebees and carabids as a hobby. Nevertheless, the entire entomological collection of Oskar Vogt is enormous, comprising of about 400,000 specimens. It mainly consists of bumblebees (some 300,000 specimens), with in addition several coleopteran families (about 100,000 specimens belonging mainly to Carabidae, Chrysomelidae and Tenebrionidae). Although he actively collected insects and made several collecting trips abroad (e.g., Spain, Caucasus, North Africa), the majority of specimens in his collection were from collections he bought. Among the important collections that Vogt acquired are those of Breuning, Nicolas, Hauser, von Oertzen, and Roeschke. After the death of Oskar Vogt in 1959, the whole of his entomological collection (2902 drawers) came to the Museum of Amsterdam due to effort of Dr. G. Kruseman – the well-known *Bombus* specialist and head of department of entomology in Museum of Amsterdam at that time. An extensive biography of

Oskar Vogt will be published later, together with the *Bombus* type list, because Vogt was predominantly a *Bombus* specialist.

The principal part, "Alphabetical list of taxa", includes a list of 540 published specific, subspecific and infrasubspecific taxa of carabids, the types of which are deposited in the Museum of Amsterdam. Each taxon is characterized by its full original name, its original and present status, original type material citations including localities from which the type material was collected, complete citation of the information on the labels, and references of the current status of the taxon. For the genus *Carabus*, the catalogues by Deuve (1994, 1997) were generally used, for other genera papers by Jiroux (1996) and Csiki (1927). The book also includes brief biographical notes on the authors of the taxa and terminates with an extensive list of references. Because the majority of the references contain primary descriptions of new taxa, the dates of issue are cited where possible.

This very intimate catalogue is technically perfect. I am convinced that the book represents an important source of information for both amateur and professional entomologists interested in the genus *Carabus* and an indispensable tool for studying this favoured group.

References

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CSIKI E. 1927: Carabidae: Carabinae I. In: Junk W. & Schenkling S. (eds): *Coleopterorum Catalogus. Pars 91*. W. Junk, Berlin, 648 pp.

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