

BOOK REVIEW

MOHAMEDSAID M.S.: CATALOGUE OF THE MALAYSIAN CHRYSOMELIDAE (INSECTA: COLEOPTERA). Pensoft, Sofia-Moscow, 2004, 239 pp. ISBN 954-642-201-0. Price USD 45.00.

Revisionary studies on the Chrysomelidae from Malaysia were started by the author of this catalogue in 1986. During nearly twenty years, he published a large number of new records for species and descriptions of new species.

This catalogue is not only a comprehensive one for Malaysia but also for Borneo. Malayasia comprises Peninsular Malayasia and two Malaysian territories in Borneo: Sabah and Sarawak. Borneo is shared by three countries: Indonesia, Brunei and Malaysia. Because the geographical distribution cited for many species is Borneo, the author decided to cover the whole of Borneo in this catalogue rather than concentrating on those parts within the political boundary of Malaysia.

The classification adopted in the catalogue is largely based on Seeno & Wilcox (1982). 1073 species and 215 genera within 13 subfamilies are included in this catalogue. Nine new combinations and three synonyms are proposed. Out of the 1073 species listed, 635 and 621 are known from Borneo and Peninsular Malaysia, respectively. The subfamily Galerucinae is the largest in Borneo and Peninsular Malaysia, and is represented by 393 species. In addition, the galerucine beetles from Borneo make up about 40% of the total chrysomelid fauna of the island.

References cited for each species in the catalogue are only those pertaining to Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo. The readers should refer to the other catalogues for a complete literature overview of the species. Unfortunately, no literature and synonymical notes are provided for genera. The bibliography only deals with Malaysian Chrysomelidae. The book concludes with indices of both species and generic names, with synonyms in italics and new combinations in bold.

The book is technically perfect, with high quality of illustrations including 32 colour photographs of different subfamilies. The cover is made up of attractive colour photographs of leaf beetles (*Sagra borneensis* on the front and four additional species on back). The author of this catalogue is a renowned specialist on the taxonomy of Chrysomelidae. His great knowledge of this family makes this book very authoritative. This catalogue is a basic source of information for both amateur and professional entomologists interested in Chrysomelidae and an indispensable tool for those studying this important group.

REFERENCES

SEENO T.N. & WILCOX J.A. 1982: Leaf beetle genera (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). *Entomography* **1**: 1–221.

J. Bezděk & A. Bezděk