



LÖBL I. & LÖBL D. (eds) 2015: CATALOGUE OF PALAEARCTIC COLEOPTERA. HYDROPHILOIDEA–STAPHYLINOIDEA. VOL. 2. REVISED AND UPDATED EDITION. Brill, Leiden, Boston, xxvi + 1702 pp. ISBN 978-90-04-28992-5 (print book), ISBN 978-90-04-29685-5 (e-book). Price USD 245.00.

The first edition of the Catalogue of Palaearctic Coleoptera was published between 2003–2013, the volume on Hydrophiloidea–Histeroidea–Staphylinoidea was released in 2004. As explained by Ivan Löbl in the Introduction there was no plan at that time to update the Catalogue. But a lot more new information was published during 2004–2014, which increased the interest of coleopterists for an updated version, and the willingness of Aleš Smetana and Michael Schülke to prepare updates resulted in the publication of this edition.

The arrangement of chapters in this edition is the same as in the 1st edition. Short introductory sections explain the scope of the book, list authors with addresses and include 3 maps and a table of geographical codes used in the text to depict the distributions of the species. Former Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro from 2003 to 2006) used in the 1st edition has been split into Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo in the present version. A chapter of 24 pages forms the next section – “New nomenclatural and taxonomic acts, and comments”. It contains the justification for several tens of necessary acts, such as proposals of new synonyms, new replacement names, new combinations, designation of type species, changes of authorship and others. It is a pity, that most of these changes are commented on only very briefly. In some cases, a more thorough explanation would be advisable. The bulk of the volume is the catalogue itself. The higher classification is based on Beutel & Leschen (2005), but with some modifications deemed necessary by the present authors. All taxa below subfamily rank are arranged alphabetically. Altogether, the catalogue lists 41,800 taxa, exceeding by about 6,500 names those listed in the 2004 version. More than 10,400 references and indices to family-group and genus-group names complete the book. Only primary references are given, i.e., those that contain descriptions of a new genus/species or proposals for new replacement names.

Unlike the 1st edition which was available only in printed form, this revised and updated edition is fortunately published also as an electronic book. It is not very comfortable and easy to find anything in a two voluminous books with more than 1,700 pages. So, an e-book is much more user-friendly.

I found some misspelled Latin names, probably a result of the inappropriate use of an English spelling checker. These are some examples:

- p. 291, *Aclypea cicatricose* (should be *cicatricosa*)
- p. 297, *Silpha alpine* (should be *alpina*)
- p. 297, *Silpha elongate* (should be *elongata*)
- p. 297, *Silpha perforate* (should be *perforata*)
- p. 297, *Thanatophilus elongates* (should be *elongatus*)
- p. 298, *Thanatophilus minutes* (should be *minutus*)

In this catalogue, which is a reference for the correct spelling of scientific names, such mistakes are very unfortunate.

No doubt, the catalogue is an indispensable tool for both professional and amateur entomologists, as well as curators of collections of Palaearctic beetles. For the non-specialists, it provides a useful list of valid names, their proper spelling and currently known distributions of the species covered. Despite the above noted problems and inconsistencies, I hope that other volumes of this revised and updated edition will be of the same high standard as the present volume.

REFERENCES

- BEUTEL R.G. & LESCHEN E.A.B. (eds) 2005: Coleoptera, Beetles. Vol. 1: Morphology and Systematics. *Handbook of Zoology, Vol. IV (Arthropoda: Insecta), Part 38*. Walter de Gruyter, Berlin, New York, xi + 567 pp.

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