



An updated checklist of the ground beetles (Coleoptera: Carabidae) of Sardinia*

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Abstract

An up-to-date checklist of the ground beetles of Sardinia and surrounding islets is presented. The presence on the island of 379 species is confirmed, while 41 are here considered of doubtful occurrence. All endemic elements are indicated and concise information is given on the Italian distribution of each species, together with the chorotype of recurrent pattern of main distribution.

Key words: Carabidae, checklist, distribution, chorotypes, endemics, Sardinia, Italian fauna

Introduction

The first list of the ground beetles of Sardinia was published as an appendix in a paper by Casale and Vigna Taglianti (1996). Such list, with 351 species, was the result of the critical examination of all bibliographical data on Sardinia and especially of the material collected by Italian entomologists during more than thirty years of research trips in mainland Sardinia and its surrounding small islands and archipelagos. The nomenclature and taxonomy of that list followed the “Checklist delle specie della fauna italiana” (Vigna Taglianti 1993), the first attempt to update the list of Italian carabids after Magistretti’s (1965) catalogue. A few years later, Vigna Taglianti (2001) published a catalogue of the carabid fauna (157 species) of the small circum-Sardinian islands.

More recently, many new species (especially belonging to the soil fauna) have been described from Sardinia (Magrini 2000; Magrini 2001; Marggi & Huber 2001; Leo & Magrini 2002; Magrini & Bulirsch 2002; Kopecky 2003; Magrini 2003a, 2003b; Magrini *et al.* 2003; Casale 2004; Casale & Magrini 2004; Magrini 2004; Magrini *et al.* 2004; Leo *et al.* 2005; Magrini & Fancello 2005; Magrini & Degiovanni 2006; Magrini *et al.* 2006; Magrini & Fancello 2007; Magrini & Fancello 2009), and several taxonomic revisions of various carabid groups have been published, not only based on morphological characters (*cf.* Hieke 2001; Wrase 2009) but also on biochemical phylogeography, like the one by Ketmaier *et al.* (2003) on the subspecies of *Percus strictus* (Dejean, 1828).

Four recently published works have been of primary importance for the nomenclature and taxonomy of Carabidae, also of the Mediterranean area and particularly of Sardinia: the two volumes by Lorenz (1998a, 1998b), with a second edition in 2005 (Lorenz 2005a, 2005b), the revision of genus-group names by Bousquet (2002), and the catalogue by Löbl and Smetana (2003), a milestone in the taxonomy and faunistics of Palaearctic ground beetles. Since 2004 it is also possible to consult the *Fauna Europaea* database for data on the Sardinian Carabidae (Vigna Taglianti 2004).