

Z. ŠUSTEK, Bratislava (Czechoslovakia)

## Properties of Carabid and Staphylinid Communities in Central European and Mediterranean Cities

The study of the urban fauna is practically and theoretically important not only due to urgent necessity of optimization of the relations between man and his environment in urban landscape, but it offers a good occasion for investigation of degradation and regeneration of plant and animal communities in such extent and conditions in which an experiment would not be possible. The degraded communities from cities can supply important reference data for more reliable interpretation for different bioindicative investigations.

The aim of present paper is to show the succession of some properties of carabid and staphylinid communities in the urban landscape, to deal briefly some properties of built up areas influencing the structure, of the communities and to present a model of coincidence of bioindicative criteria during degradation and regeneration of a community.

The material used in this study was sampled by the pitfall trapping in Brno and Bratislava on 39 localities in the city interior. Nine communities from free landscape were chosen as reference communities. The material totals 55 138 individuals of both families. Besides, an intensive study was carried out in Madrid (31 sites in city interior) and in its surroundings (17 sites) during summer 1985. The material from Spain totals 10 239 individuals. All localities were chosen as to characterize the variability of urban environment as much as possible.

### Classification of Carabid and Staphylinid Communities in Bratislava and Brno

Altogether 48 communities from both cities and free landscape were subjected to the hierarchical classification by the unweighted average linkage method and to the polar ordination combined with more similarity functions. All, hierarchical and non hierarchical classifications confirm the existence of three principal types of the communities in both cities, viz the communities of the alluvial forests, of mesophilous forests and of cultural steppe. Under the anthropogenous pressure, more or less degraded communities develop within each type. They lose subsequently their original species spectrum and converge to the only type of strongly degraded or chronically

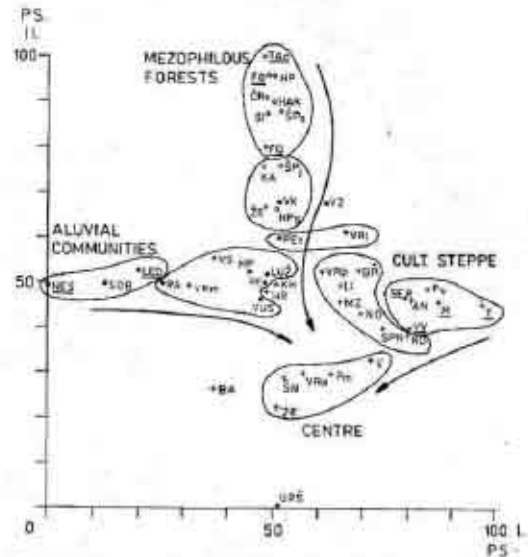


Fig. 1 Polar ordination of Carabid communities from Brno and Bratislava and from reference localities in free landscape. (o - forest communities, o - alluvial communities, + - communities of cultural steppe, PS - proportional similarity, TAc - Tilletio Aceretum, FO - Fageto Quercetum, LED - Ulmeto Fraxineto carpineum, NES - natural Phragmitetum, VV - vineyard, M - mais, T - tobacco, other abbreviations mean streets and squares in Brno and Bratislava)

pioneer communities close to the fauna of cultural steppe and exhibiting a characteristic structure. Such communities occur anywhere without respect to permanent ecotopic conditions (sensu ZLATNÍK 1966). The polar ordination of carabid communities according to their proportional similarity is presented here as an example of such succession. The logical synthesis of results of all classifications made leads to distinguishing of three or four subtypes within each type. These subtypes express the degree of anthropogenous influencing of the communities. Besides, there exist some intermediate subtypes characterizing some ecotonal communities. There are close relations between individual subtypes and they are symptomatic of individual types of urban greenery. Their mutual relations and succession are shown in the table 1. The ecological characteristics of each type and subtype are presented below.

TYPE A - communities of the forest geobiocenoses

of hydric series z and m (ZLATNÍK, RAUSER 1966). Characteristic species *Carabus granulatus*, *Bembidion biguttatum*, *B. unicolor*, *Trechus secalis*, *Patrobis excavatus*, *Pterostichus niger*, *P. vulgaris*, *P. nigrita*, *P. anthracinus*, *P. strenuus*, *P. diligens*, *Agonum moestum*, *A. obscurum*, *A. assimile*, *Staphylinus erythropterus*, *Philonthus decorus*, *Tachinus rufipes*, *Lathrobium spp.*, *Oxytelus rugosus*; on the water's edges *Bembidion articulatum*, *B. semicupreum*, *Dyschirius spp.*, *Platystethus spp.*, *Stenus spp.*, *Bledius spp.*

Subtype A1 – natural communities with characteristic spectrum of hygrophilous and euryhygrophilous species, abundance and biomass high, alpha diversity and equitability high, lognormal distribution of species/abundance relation, big species present, proportion of flying naturally higher than in mesophilous forests, sex ratio unpredictable.

Subtype A2 – intermediately (reversibly) damaged communities with preserved species, spectrum, alpha diversity and equitability low, loggeometrical distribution of species/abundance relation, females dominate in abundant species, dominance of *Patr. excavatus*, *Ag. assimile* and *Nebr. brevicollis* increases, big species disappear.

Subtype A3 – strongly damaged communities with a proportion of xenoecious species, abundance and biomass low, alpha diversity and equitability increases, males tend to dominate in abundant species, wingless species or big species sporadic.

Subtype A2/B2 – ecotonal communities from line formations along streams in the city interior, zoocenologically convergent to subtypes A2 – A3, by biomass to subtype B2, alpha-diversity and equitability high, abundance and biomass vary in dependence of immigration of *Carabus coriaceus*, *C. nemoralis*, *C. hortensis*, *Abax ater* etc.

Type F – communities of the forest geobiocenoses of hydric series n and o in veg. tiers 1 and 2. Characteristic species: *Carabus coriaceus*, *C. hortensis*, *C. nemoralis*, *C. ullrichi*, *Abax ater*, *A. parallelus*, *A. ovalis*, *Molops piceus*, *Pterostichus oblongopunctatus*, *Oxyopus tenebricosus* or *O. biharicus*, *O. similis*, *Othius punctulatus*, *Omalium rivulare*, *O. caesum*, *Oxytelus sculpturatus*.

Subtype F1 – natural communities, cumulative abundance and biomass high in relation to trophicity ranges A–D (ZLATNÍK, RAUSER 1966), alpha diversity and equitability high, sex ratio unpredictable, apterous and big species well represented, presence of species with small distributional areas in Central Europe, lognormal or loggeometrical distribution of species (abundance relation, xenoecious species sporadically).

Subtype F2 – reversibly damaged communities, spe-

cies spectrum preserved, alpha diversity and equitability lower, loggeometrical distribution of species/abundance relation, wingless and big species sporadic, tendency to dominance of females in abundant species, species with small distributional areas disappear.

Subtype F3 – strongly damaged forest communities with poorer species spectrum and autodomiance of *Abax ater*, big species absent, many xenoecious species, alpha diversity low, females dominate in more abundant species.

Subtype F3/C3 – strongly damaged or slightly regenerated communities with balanced representation of more tolerant forest species and field species, simultaneous occurrence of *Abax ater* and *Harpalus spp.*, *Amara spp.*, euryecious staphylinids present.

TYPE C – communities of cultural steppe characterized by a large spectrum of species (*Carabus scheidleri*, *C. violaceus*, *C. ullrichi*, *C. cancellatus*, *Broscus cephalotes*, *Bembidion lampros*, *B. properans*, *Trechus quadristriatus*, *Amara spp.*, *Harpalus spp.*, *Zabrus tenebrioides*, *Pterostichus cupreus*, *P. vulgaris*, *Calathus spp.*, *Dolichus halensis*, *Agonum dorsale*, *Brachynus crepitans*, *B. explodens*, *Xantholinus linearis*, *Tachyporus spp.*, *Drusila canaliculata*, *Omalium rivulare*, *O. caesum*, *Oxytelus sculpturatus*, etc.

Subtype C1 – this subtype characterized by presence of *Carabus spp.* or *Calosoma auro-punctatum* is actually absent in South Moravia and Slovakia.

Subtype C2 – intermediately damaged communities with obligate absence or extremely sporadic occurrence of *Carabus spp.* or *Calosoma auro-punctatum*, with codominance of *Harp. rufipes* and *Pt. vulgaris* or *Pt. cupreus*, with low alpha diversity, females dominant in abundant species, cumulative abundance and biomass high, absence of the species with small distributional areas, the species spectrum varies according to the timing of individual cultures and breeding cycle in carabids.

Subtype C3 – strongly damaged or slightly regenerated communities from open areas in city centre, proportionally rather similar to subtype C2, but with lower cumulative abundance and biomass, *H. rufipes* is frequently autodominant.

Subtype C4 – extremely strong damaged or chronically pioneer communities in small greenery patches in the city. Representation of individual species balanced, abundance and biomass very low, alpha diversity and equitability high, loggeometric distribution of species/abundance relation, big species, wingless species or species with small areas absent, higher representation of hygrophilous species.

Subtype C3/B3 – communities with predominating representatives of fauna of cult. steppe and with pre-

sence of the species requiring more permanent vegetational cover (*Leistus ferrugineus*, *Calathus* spp., *Carabus violaceus*, and *C. intricatus*) appear sometimes.

Subtype C3/A – communities in the city centre with dominance of field species but with strikingly increased representation of some hygrophilous species (*Agonum obscurum*, *Bembidion* spp., *P. niger*). Other characteristics in both last subtypes are similar as in the subtype C4.

#### Carabid and Staphylinid Communities in Madrid

There are many analogies in the pattern of succession of carabid and staphylinid communities in Central European towns and in Madrid. The communities in its interior belong to three types analogous to those in Bratislava and Brno, viz. communities close to evergreen forests dominated by *Quercus rotundifolia* (s. c. encinares), to alluvial or litoral formations and to cultural steppe.

The fauna of the forests or matorral of *Quercus rotundifolia* consists of three dominant species – *Calathus granatensis*, *C. mollis* and *Harpalus wagneri* accompanied by larger spectrum of species like *Pterostichus globosus*, *Acinopus picipes*, *Ditomis sphaerocephalus*, *Microlestes abeilli*, *Amara aenea* etc. The cumulative abundance of carabids fluctuates extremely. In Casa de Campo (a large park in the suburb of Madrid), which can be considered as an artificially regenerated forest, the only dominant species becomes *Cal. granatensis* (round 95%). *Calathus mollis* disappears, other species are represented only individually and *Calathus fuscipes* penetrates the community. The cumulative abundance is high (750 ind/trap during 40 days), alpha diversity low. This community is analogous to the subtype F2. The communities in more shadowy gardens in the modern quarters are dominated by *Calathus fuscipes* accompanied by *Amara aenea*, *Microlestes* spp. and the tenebrionide *Stenosis angustatus*. *Calathus granatensis* is absent in such habitats. The dry, strongly insolated places in city interior are inhabited by *Calathus ambiguus*, *Ophonus rotundatus*, *Acinopus picipes* and *Ditomis clypeatus* and tenebrionids *Dichilus subcostatus*, *Crypticus viaticus* and *Scaurus sciticus*. The cumulative abundance is low and equitability high in such places. Some moderately humid sites are inhabited by *Ditomis capito*, *Harpalus rufipes*, *Badister bipustulatus*, *Trechus quadristriatus* and *Ocypus aethiops*. These communities are analogous to subtype F3 – C3. In contrast to Central Europe, *Harp. rufipes* is not abundant in the city, though it is dominant in mais fields in the surroundings (alluvium of Tajo near to Aranjuez).

The litoral or alluvial communities are rich and relatively similar to those in Central Europe. The species *Carabus melancholicus*, *Chlaenius festinus*, *Ch. variegatus*, *Anisodactylus nemorivagus*, *A. binotatus*, *Diachromus germanus*, *Stenolophus teutonius* and *Agonum ruficorne* are dominant. Only *Agonum ruficorne*, *Stenolophus teutonius* are more tolerant and occur along natural or artificial creeks in the relatively natural park Casa de Campo. In more anthropogenously condition appear *Nebria brevicollis*, similarly as in Central Europe.

The fauna of cultural steppe seems to be more variable in "natural" conditions than in Central Europe. In irrigated mais field it is nearly identical, in the cereals it exhibits considerable degree of endemism. (*Acinopus sabulosus*, *Pterostichus crenulatus*, *P. globosus*). The most tolerant species seem to be *Harpalus distinguendus*, *Acinopus picipes* and *Microlestes abeilli*, which together with *Ocypus olens*, *Xantholinus linearis* inhabit open ruderal areas in the centre. Their communities are analogous to the subtype C3. The daily intensively watered grasslands represent besides the areas without any vegetation (very frequent) the most anthropogenously influenced habitats. Their communities are extremely poor and consist of *Xantholinus linearis*, *Tachyporus solutus* and *Ocypus olens*. They are analogous to the subtype C4.

Although the species composition of carabid and staphylinid communities in Madrid differs considerably from that in Brno and Bratislava, it can be concluded, that there exist, in more general level, the same patterns in the succession of urban fauna in both zoogeographical regions.

#### The Influence of some Properties of Built up Areas on Carabidae and Staphylinidae

The factor analysis (Fig. 2) shows that the relation between some properties of built up areas on some ecological characteristics is free. There is a very close cluster of buildings height, buildings density and of the distance of a sampling site from the city border. It was found that the buildings height above 25–30 m or buildings density more than cca 30 % effects negatively on the surviving of communities of both families in the city. However, low values of one factor can effectively compensate the negative influence of other. This is the case of modern housing estates, where are good predispositions to arising of communities of relatively high biotical value. In contrast to investigations on other animals in the city, the area of studied sites had not a visible effect on the structure of Carabid and Staphylinid communities. This is due to influence of many other, hardly separable factors.

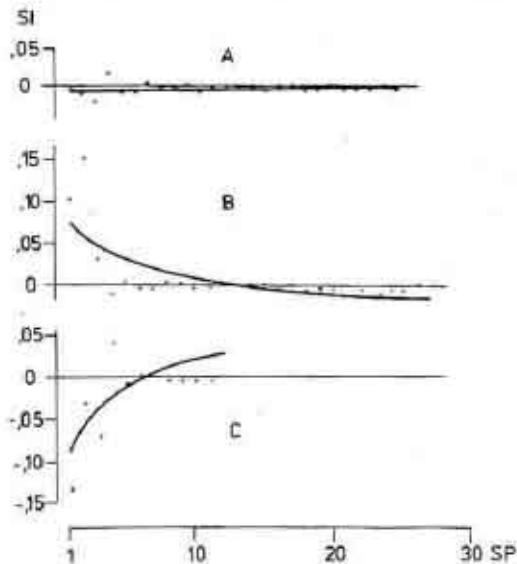


Fig. 2. Factor analysis of influence of some properties of built up areas on carabid and staphylinid communities. (h - buildings height, F - buildings density,  $d_{ca}$  - distance from city margine,  $d_{ce}$  - distance from similar habitat in the city exterior,  $d_{ci}$  - distance from a greenery area in the city interior, C - carabids, S - Staphylinids, H - alpha diversity, a - abundance, b - biomass.)

With the effect of buildings hight and density is closely bound the inhibitive effect of the streets tangential to a greenery area on the migration of beetles. An occasional observation in Brno showed that the radial streets allow the beetles penetrate deeply the city centre.

**A Tentative Model of the Coincidence of More Bioindicative Criteria**

The detailed historical analysis of the development of vegetation cover in each sampling site, which leads in some places in Brno and Bratislava continuously even to 14. century, showed that there exist simultaneously communities exhibiting seemingly the same ecological properties. However, some of them are in the state of certain degree of degradation, while others have reached certain degree of regeneration. Historical data showed that a community can regenerate spontaneously even in urban condition (ŠUSTEK 1979, 1984). The comparison of more degraded and regenerated communities allowed to conclude that the degradation and regeneration represent, in the idealized form, two mutually symmetrical processes. The decision if a community is in the process of degradation or regeneration is possible only on the basis of long term monitoring or on the

basis of historical data. The statical ecological characteristics as such can not give reliable informations about it. The same value of a criterium can be characteristic for more states of a community (e. g. abundance, biomass, alpha diversity) and can be reliable interpreted only together with other criteria.

On the basis of above considerations, a model of coincidence of more bioindicative criteria during the degradation and regeneration of a community can be tentatively proposed (Table 2). Independently on species composition, the model distinguishes three stages of degradation and regeneration, which represent in the time mutually symmetrical pairs with approximately similar properties, viz. natural and regenerated communities, intermediately (reversible) damaged or regenerated communities and strongly damaged and chronically pionier communities and strongly damaged and chronically pionier communities. The gradient of the changes between individual stages is continuous and can be divided more in details, if a bioindicative criterium it allows. As two-illustrative examples, three characteristic cases of body size structure of carabid and staphylinid communities and sex ratio patterns in carabids are presented in the figures 3 and 4. The validity of this model is limited on the habitats in the oak to oak beech vegetation tier (ZLATNÍK, RAUŠER 1966). The unfavourable abiotic factors in higher veg. tiers can have similar effects on a community as anthropogenous ones. Certain limitation are also given by the fact that some ecological properties of a species can compensate negative effects of others. E. g. the big

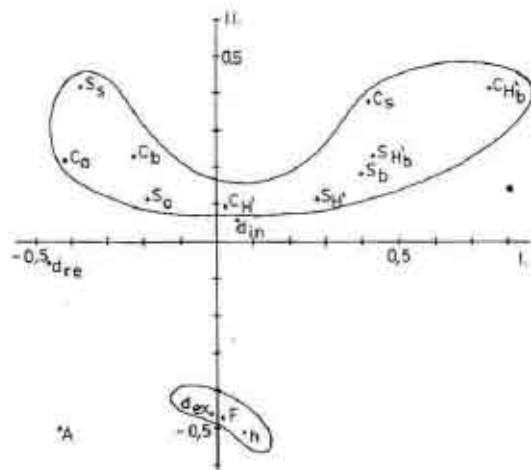


Fig. 3. Example of body size structure of Carabidae (left) and Staphylinidae (right) in a natural (Pavlovské vrchy), intermediately damaged (Sad. J. Kráľ'a) and strongly damaged (Medická zahrada) community. (ordinate - percentage of individuals or species, abscissa - body size scale in mm, solid lines - species, pointed - individuals, % - overlap of both distributional curves)

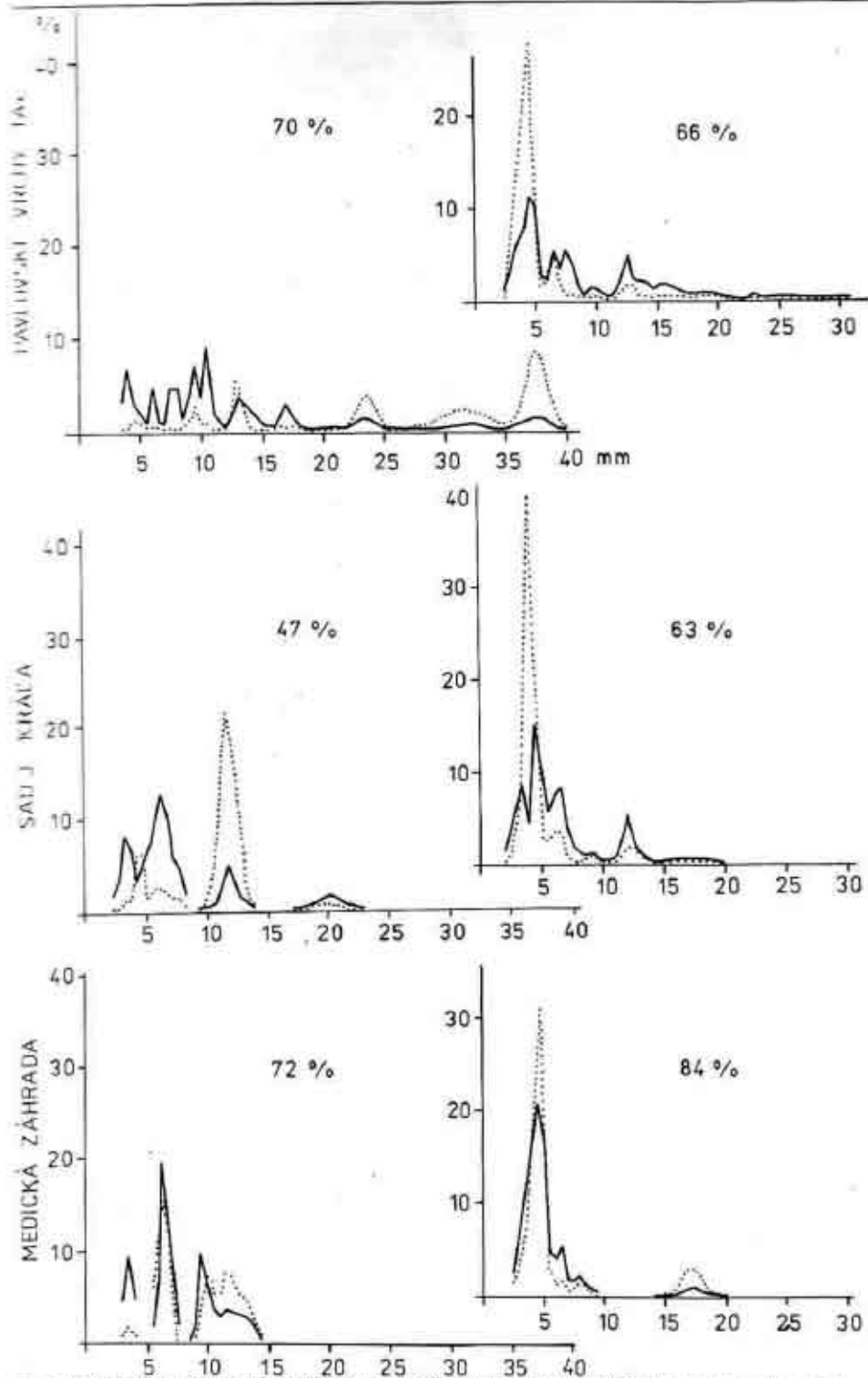


Fig. 4. Example of sex ratio pattern in carabids in a natural (A), intermediately damaged (B) and strongly damaged community (C). [SI - sex ratio,  $SI = (f - n)N$ ,  $n$  and  $f$  - males and females, of  $i$ -th species,  $N$  - total of individuals].

wingless staphylinids *Ocypus tenebricosus* and *O. biharicus* are in Brno and Bratislava limited only in natural or moderately dedraded communities, while the flying species *Ocypus olens* is frequent in the centre of Madrid even in the streets without vegetation.

#### Literature

- CZECHOWSKI, W. (1981): Carabids of Warsaw and Mazowia. - *Memorabilia zool.* 34, 119-144.
- CZECHOWSKI, W. (1982): Occurence of carabids, Coleoptera, Carabidae in the urban greenery of Warsaw according to the land utilization and cultivation. *Memorab. zool.* 39, 1-108.
- KLAUSNITZER, B. (1980): Begriffsbestimmung und Inhalt der Großstadttökologie. *Wiss. Z. Univ. Leipzig, Math.-naturwiss. R.* 29, 543-549.
- ŠUSTEK, Z. (1979): Výzkum geoekologie brněnských perků na příkladě střevlíkovitých v parku Lužánky. *Zprávy Geogr. úst. ČSAV, Brno*, 16, 156-174.
- ŠUSTEK, Z. (1981): Některé souvislosti geografického rozšíření střevlíkovitých (Col. Carabidae) a jejich schopnosti pronikat do ekosystémů urbanizované krajiny. *Zprávy Geogr. úst. ČSAB, Brno*, 18: 30-40.
- ŠUSTEK, Z. (1984): Bioindikačné vlastnosti bystruškovitých a drobčkovitých (Col. Carabidae et Staphylinidae) stredoeurópskeho veľkomesta. PhD. thesis, 360 pp. - Bratislava.
- ZLATNÍK, A., RAUŠER, J. (1966): Biogeografie I., Národní atlas ČSSR, list 2L. - Praha.

#### Anschrift

Ing. Zbyšek Šustek  
Ústav experimentálnej biológie  
a ekológie CBEV SAV  
Obrancov mieru 3  
814 34 Bratislava  
ČSSR

Table 1 Succession of carabid and staphylinid communities in Bratislava and Brno

## STREETS AND SQUARES IN THE CITY CENTRE WITHOUT VEGETATION

F 3  
STRONGLY  
DEGRADATED  
OR REGENERATING  
REMNANTS OF FO-  
RESTS IN THE  
CITY

C 3  
GARDENS IN THE  
RESIDENTIAL  
QUARTERS AND  
FREE AREAS IN  
HOUSING ESTA-  
TES

F 3/C  
PARKS IN THE  
CITY CENTRE  
WITH HIGH AND  
DENSE TREES

C 3/F  
OLD GARDENS  
AND ORCHARDS  
IN THE PERI-  
PHERIES

C 4 + C 3/A  
SMALL PATCHES  
OF TOWN GREENERY  
AND FLOWER BEDS  
IN THE CITY  
CENTRE

F 2  
FOREST PATCHES ENCL-  
SED IN THE BUILT UP  
AREAS WITH THE SPE-  
CIES SPECTRA CLOSE  
TO NATURAL CONDITIONS

C 3  
PARKS IN THE  
CITY CENTRE  
WITH DOMINANT  
GRASS AREAS  
WITH SPARSE  
TREES AND  
BUSHES

C 2  
CULTURAL STEPPE IN THE CITY EXTERIOR  
AND IN THE MARGINS OF THE PERIPHERIES  
IN ITS ACTUAL STATE

A 3  
STRONGLY DEGRADATED OR RE-  
GENERATING REMNANTS OF ALU-  
VIAL FORESTS IN THE CITY  
MARGIN

A 2  
ALUVIAL FORESTS AND  
STANDS ALONG THE  
STREEMS WITH THE  
SPECIES SPECTRA  
CLOSE TO NATURAL  
CONDITIONS

F 1  
FOREST GEOBIOCENOSES OF THE OAK AND BEECH/OAK  
VEGETATION TIERS, OF THE TROPICAL RANGES  
A-D AND OF HYDRICAL SERIES n AND o

A 1  
FOREST GEOBIOCENOSES OF THE OAK AND BEECH OAK  
VEGETATION TIERS, OF THE TROPICAL RANGES  
B-C-D AND OF THE HYDRICAL SERIES z AND m

Table 2 Coincidence of some bioindicative criteria in degradation and regeneration of carabid and staphylinid communities in oak – oak beech vegetation tier.

BIOINDICATIVE CRITERIUM	STATUS OF THE COMMUNITY		
	DEGRADATION →		
	NATURAL OR CLOSE TO NATURAL CONDITIONS	REVERSIBLY DEGRADATED	STRONGLY DEGRADATED
	← REGENERATION		
	SECONDARILY CLOSE TO CONDITIONS OR REGENERA- TED	INTERMEDIARLY REGENE- RATED	INITIAL STADIA OF REGENERATION OR CHRONICALLY PIONIER COMMUNITY
species spectrum	high number of characteristic species or of euryecious species, xenoecious species only in the ecotons, their number depends on beta diversity	higher number of xenoecious species, number of characteristic species preserved or slightly lower	determined by the properties of more natural communities in the surrounding. Tendency to less predictable communities with simultaneous occurrence of the species with different ecol. properties
species number	high C: 20-25 S: 20	preserved	lower C: 5-20 S: 5-20
abundance and dry biomass in individuals ind/trap. year and g/trap. year, respectively	Very variable and influenced by competition with other groups. In relation to natural production conditions decreases – from the range A to D – from the serie m to o – from the lower veg. tiers to the higher ones. Abundance: C: 40-400 S: 50-100 biomass: C: 4-17 g S: 0,3-2	preserved or higher	lower: low: Abundance: C: 10-100 S: 10-50 biomass: C: 0,3-2 S: 0,03-0,5



Table 2 continuation

alpha diversity and equitability in bias	high, decreases with the increase of abiotic pressure $J = 0.7$ $H' = 3$	lower 2.2-2.6	low $J = 0.4-0.5$ $H' = 2.0$	relatively high $J = 0.7-1.0$ $H' = 2.0-2.6$
theoretical distributions of the species abundance relation	lognormal under higher abiotic pressure loggeometrical	lognormal loggeometrical		loggeometrical logpoissonian
body size structure	distribution continuous within whole body size scale  overlap: 55-70%	Concentration of individuals in lower octaves  overlap: 30-55%	discontinuous in local minima between higher octaves	higher octaves empty discontinuities between low octaves  overlap: 70-100%
areographical structure	presence of more species with small distributional areas overlap of qualitative and quantitative representation: 55-70%	few species with small distributional areas  overlap: 30-60%		only the species with great distr. areas persist in damaged communities or appear as the first in the regenerating ones overlap: 70-100%
presence of hygrophilous species in the hydric rows	o: max 5% of individuals n: occasionally, like in o z: always present m: dominate, 80-90% of ind.  overlap: 70-80%	e and n: occasionally  z and m: decreases  overlap: 50-60%		the relative representation increases and becomes balanced with the relative abundance meso- and heliophilous species overlap: 70-100%
life form of Carabids	walking zoophagous epigeobionts always presents, relative biomass 60% relative abundance of zoophagous stratobiont living in litter and burrying into soil 40-50% in the hydric rows m and z the relative abundance of zoophagous stratobionts living in litter and soil surface 60-80% in less influenced geobiocenoids of cultural steppe is high relative abundance of myxophagous harpaloid geochortobionts and myxophagous stratochortobionts  overlap: 70-80%	less  abundance and biomass of zoophagous stratobionts living in litter and burrying into soil higher in all cenoses, in the hydric rows z and m also of the zoophagous stratobionts living in litter and in soil surface  overlap: 50-60%	occasional  increase representation myxophagous harpaloid geochortobionts and stratochortobionts	absent  representation of individual life forms is balanced, but in concret cases little predictable  overlap: 70-100%

Table end

sex ratio in Carabidae	inpredictable according to the rank of a species in the community, tends to 1:1	dominance of females in abundant species increases	dominance of females in abundant species decreases secondarily	dominance of males in nearly all species
ability of fly in Carabidae	in the hydricity series o: and n: apterous species 90-100 % z: and m: also in natural conditions 40-80 % cultural steppe: 70-100 % of flying species	representation of nonflying species decreases	last non flying species disappear	only flying species

**Explanations:** tropical ranges: A - oligotrophic, B - mesotrophic, C - eutrophic nitrophilous, D - eutrophic alkaliphilous; hydricity series: o - dry, n - normal, z - hygrophilous, m - wet; overlap: proportional similarity between qualitative and quantitative representation of species according to areogeographical types, relation to humidity, life forms and body size structure.

B. KLAUSNITZER und K. RICHTER, Leipzig (DDR)

### Zur synökologisch-mathematischen Beschreibung eines urbanen Gradienten unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Coleoptera

Der folgende Beitrag behandelt vor allem einige methodische Fragen der Auswertung synökologischer Daten, ohne die Vielzahl der Einzeldaten ausführlich darstellen zu können.

ODUM (1985) hat eine umfangreiche Liste mit Merkmalen für gestreute Ökosysteme vorgelegt. Fünf der insgesamt 18 Punkte betreffen dabei die Struktur von Tier- und Pflanzengesellschaften, u. a. nennt er die Verkürzung von Nahrungsketten aufgrund fehlender Prädatoren und einen Rückgang der Speciesdiversität. Alle diese typischen Merkmale sollten auch in urbanen Systemen nachweisbar sein. Nachdem unsere ersten Arbeiten in Leipzig prinzipiell diese Trends bestätigten - z. T. klare Aussagen jedoch auf der Basis üblicher Parameter nur schwer möglich waren - galt es, jeder Fläche eines urbanen Gradienten einen definierten Wert (als Maß für den urbanen „Streß“) zuzuweisen. Dazu verwendeten wir zunächst den von KLAUSNITZER (1981) postulierten A-E-Gradienten, der den Übergang vom Wald über Dauergrasland bis zur Steinwüste widerspiegelt. In der Praxis sind jedoch die unterschiedlichen Einflüsse (Stressoren) kaum zu trennen, so daß die ermittelten Werte eher einen allge-

meinen Urbanitätsgradienten repräsentieren. Für die nach KLAUSNITZER und RICHTER (1983) errechneten Gradientenwerte konnten lineare Korrelationen mit einer Reihe synökologischer Parameter erhalten werden. Sie liefern somit eine Skalierungs- und Bewertungsmöglichkeit der einzelnen Flächen eines Gradienten. Als besonders gut korreliert erwies sich dabei in früheren Untersuchungen an Carabiden die Homogenität (B), d. h. das zeitliche Differential der Diversität gegen die Gesamtdiversität.

In der letzten Zeit wurde versucht, bei der Untersuchung von Ruderalflächen möglichst viele Arthropodengruppen einzubeziehen. Bereits auf der Basis nur sehr grob sortierten Materials läßt sich das Gradientenmodell anwenden. Klassifizierungen von Flächen nach ihrer urbanen Beeinflussung sind mit bis zum Familienniveau determinierten Material möglich. Abb. 1 zeigt den Zusammenhang zwischen Gradientenwert und Homogenität bzw. Diversität für die Carabidae von 4 Ruderalstellen. Im Zusammenhang mit den Carabidae war es von Interesse, zu prüfen, ob eine Übertragung der Werte des neuen Flächen-satzes (Ruderalflächen) auf die früheren Werte (Grün-