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NOTES ON THE FOOD OF CYCHRINI (COLEOPTERA: CARABIDAE)

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In this paper, the food of nineteen species of Cychrini is given, for three genera: *Cychrus*, *Scaphinotus* and *Sphaeroderus*. The beetles of this tribe seem to be nearly exclusively carnivorous, feeding principally on snails and slugs, exceptionally on insects and vegetable matter. The head is narrow and prolonged; the mandibles are elongate and prominent, with two acute median teeth in outer half, apparently well adapted for entering the opening of a snail shell. The beetles may be useful in keeping down harmful molluscs.

The purpose of this study was to compile a list of data on the food of some Cychrini, from the literature and observations in the field. Almost all species live in forest country and appear to be nocturnal. *Cychrus caraboides* Linné, *Cychrus dufouri* Chaudoir, *Scaphinotus bilobus* Say and *Sphaeroderus lecontei* Dejean have been noted searching for food on rainy days.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

*Cychrus* sp. Snails, France (Jeannel, 1941; Grassé, Poisson and Tuzet, 1961; Colas, 1962).

*Cychrus attenuatus* Fabricius. Fly mites, Germany. This species is attracted to various baits (Nüssler and Grämer, 1966).

*Cychrus caraboides* Linné (*rostratus* Fabricius). Snails, Denmark, England, France and Germany (Fowler and Donisthorpe, 1913; Blunck, 1925; Burmeister, 1939; West, 1942; Aubé, 1951; Nüssler and Grämer, 1966). According to the last authors, the species is attracted to various baits.

*Cychrus dufouri* Chaudoir. Snails, France (Jeannel, 1941).


*Scaphinotus angustatus* Harris. Repeatedly collected in bait traps with fruit and honey, Canada (Lindroth, 1961).


Scaphinotus viduus Dejean. Snails, Canada and U.S.A. (Schaupp, 1878a; Fyles, 1901; R. T. Bell and J.-P. Laplante, personal communication). Slugs, Canada (Fyles, 1901). The species was caught at sugar (Shoemaker, 1919).

Sphaeroderus sp. Slugs and other molluscs (Chagnon and Robert, 1962).

Sphaeroderus canadensis Chaudoir. Snails, Canada and U.S.A. (Schaupp, 1878a; H. Goulet, personal communication).


Sphaeroderus nitidicollis Chevolat. Snail, Canada (A. Larochelle, unpublished data).


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LITERATURE CITED


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