

Beetles as Food Material Observed in Northern Thailand

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Insect-eating habit is worldwide observed in such areas as Southeast Asia, Africa, America and Papua New Guinea. Local people utilize insects as protein sources or sometimes spices, in stages of imago, pupa and larva. We are interested in the fact that the local people in northern Thailand obtain beetles as food material. In the summer of 1997, we had an opportunity of collecting the material in a market located between Lumphun and Lampang Provinces, and also in Ban Angkhai Village, Chiang Mai Province. They are determined as follows:

Scarabaeidae

1. *Heliocopris bucephalus* (FABRICIUS)
2. *Catharsius molossus* (LINNÉ)
3. *Onitis kiuchii* MASUMOTO
4. *Lepidiota hauseri* NONFRIED
5. *Melolontha malaccensis* MOSER
6. *Megistophylla andrewesi* MOSER
7. *Sophrops spancisetosa* FREY
8. *Adoretus pachysomatus* H. KOBAYASHI
9. *Mimela schneideri* OHAUS

Dytiscidae

10. *Cybister tripunctatus orientalis* GSCHWENDTNER

Hydrophilidae

11. *Hydrophilus bilineatus cashimirensis* REDTENBACHER

In addition to imagoes of the above beetles, lepidopteran insects (pupae of *Bombyx mori* LINNÉ and larvae of undetermined species captured from bamboo), a cicadid insect (imagoes of *Cryptotympana facialis* (WALKER), etc.), and a hemipteran insect (imagoes of *Lethocerus indicus* (LÉPÉLETIER et SERVILLE)) are also commonly used for food material of villagers in this area.

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