

Publication**Coleopterology in Laos - an introduction to the nature of the country and its coleopterological exploration****Book Item (Buchkapitel, Lexikonartikel, jur. Kommentierung, Beiträge in Sammelbänden)****ID** 2291429**Author(s)** Geiser, Michael; Nagel, Peter**Author(s) at UniBasel** [Geiser, Michael](#) ; [Nagel, Peter](#) ;**Year** 2013**Title** Coleopterology in Laos - an introduction to the nature of the country and its coleopterological exploration**Editor(s)** Brancucci, Michel; Nagel, P; Kolibac, J; Geiser, M**Book title** Beetle diversity of Laos Part 1**Volume** Part 1**Publisher** Stiftung Pro Entomologia**Place of publication** Basel**Pages** S. 11-46**ISSN/ISBN** 978-3-7234-0101-9**Series title** Entomologica Basiliensia et Collectionis Frey**Number** 34**Keywords** biogeography, ecology, conservation biology, southeast asia, entomology, physical geography, faunistics, coleoptera, history of exploration

An introduction to the physical environment of Laos is provided, including vegetation, fauna, conservation and habitat types, intended to serve as general background information for entomological research in that country. An overview of the history of entomological – particularly coleopterological – surveys in Laos is provided, including information about collectors and the places in which their material is deposited. A detailed list of localities surveyed in the course of the seven Laos expeditions undertaken by the Basel Natural History Museum (2003–2012, all organised by Michel Brancucci), is provided, including associated data such as geographical coordinates, altitude and collecting dates. A comparison between existing sampling localities and the available habitats in Laos reveals the coleopterologically least-explored areas, such as the montane rain forests of both the Annamite range along the border to Vietnam, and the Luangprabang range west of the River Mekong, as well as the lowland habitats east and west of the southernmost section of the Mekong.

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