

DUNG BEETLES OF MADAGASCAR

Madagascar has an exceptionally rich fauna of nearly 300 species of dung beetles (Scarabaeidae), of which 96% are endemic. Most species occur in forests and belong to the endemic subtribe Helictopleurina with one genus (*Helictopleurus*; first 4 rows) and to the tribe Canthonini with several endemic genera.



Adaptive radiation of Malagasy dung beetles

This project is run by the Metapopulation Research Group in the University of Helsinki in collaboration with students and researchers from the University of Antananarivo and from the Paris Muséum National D'Histoire Naturelle. We have constructed molecular phylogenies for 150 species, maintain a data base of the geographical ranges of the species, and conduct ecological studies on selected species and local communities.