
Keynote presentations abstracts

Results of study of Coleoptera (Insecta) from the Lower Cretaceous Lebanese amber

Alexander KIREJTSHUK^{1,2} & Dany AZAR³

- 1- Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, 1 Universitetskaya Emb., St. Petersburg, 199034, Russia.
- 2- UMR MNHN/CNRS 7205 OSEB "Origine, Structure et Evolution de la Biodiversité", Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN), Département de Systématique et Evolution 45, Rue Buffon F-75005 Paris cedex 05, France.
- 3- Lebanese University, Faculty of Sciences II, Department of Natural Sciences, Fanar Matn, PO box 26110217, Lebanon; e-mail: azar@mnhn.fr

This overview includes more than 39 families of fossil Coleoptera from Lower Cretaceous Lebanese amber of 9 outcrops. Lebanese amber contains the oldest representatives of the families Scydmaenidae (considered by some as a subfamily of Staphylinidae), Ptiliidae, Elodophalmidae, Clambidae, Throscidae, Libanophytidae fam. n., Ptilodactylidae, Cantharidae, Melyridae, Dasytidae, Dermestidae, Kateretidae, Erotylidae, Latridiidae, Laemophloeidae, Salpingidae, Anthicidae, Melandryidae, Aderidae, Curculionidae (Scolytinae). The families Chelonariidae and Scraptiidae are known from both Lebanese amber and Baissa, with both sites having a comparable age. The subfamilies Trechinae (Carabidae), Euaesthetinae (Staphylinidae) and Liparochrinae (Hybosoridae) first appear in the fossil record in Lebanese amber. The Coleoptera in Lebanese amber mostly belong to groups with arboreal habits (as found today in wood and tree fungi). Some species remained without family attribution belong to families which are needed to be described. The first insect from the newly discovered outcrops of Nabaa Es-Sukkar - Brissa: Caza (District) Sir Ed-Danniyeh, Mouhafazet (Governorate) Loubnan Esh-Shimali (North Lebanon) is described and the first general description