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Book Review: *Fauna Iberica, Volume 14: Coleoptera, Scarabaeoidea I.* (Martin-Piera, F. and J. I. Lopez-Colon)

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important in this group of beetles. I believe that substantive revisions and synopses of taxa will begin to appear as more people become aware of this publication outlet.

I recommend this journal for anyone interested in this group of scarab beetles. Subscriptions and/or additional information about the publication can be obtained from Robert Alexis or Michel Delpont at the addresses given above.

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BOOK REVIEW

MARTIN-PIERA, F AND J. I. LÓPEZ-COLÓN. 2000. **Fauna Iberica, Volume 14: Coleoptera, Scarabaeoidea I.** Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales and Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Madrid. 526 pp, 7 color plates. ISBN: 84-00-07997-3. Hard cover. Available from Departamento de Publicaciones, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Vitrubio No. 8, 28006 Madrid, Spain. FAX: 91-562-96-34. Price 6,000 Spanish pesetas (about \$35).

At over 500 pages, this is only the *first* volume of a probable three volume Spanish language treatment of the Scarabaeoidea of the Iberian peninsula. Volume one is a comprehensive and detailed piece of work in the grand tradition of faunas and floras. This first volume treats all of the "lower" scarabaeoids (Laparosticti) except for the Aphodiidae and Aegialiidae, which will appear in the next scarabaeoid volume. The third volume will treat the "higher" scarabs (Pleurosticti).

The book begins with a brief overview of the morphology and life cycle of scarabaeoids followed by a discussion on various relationship hypotheses of families/subfamilies. A short commentary follows detailing the principal classification schemes, historical and current, that have been proposed for scarabaeoids. For the Iberian fauna, the authors recognize the following families: Glaresidae, Lucanidae, Trogidae, Geotrupidae, Ochoaidae, Hybosoridae, Glaphyridae, Aegialiidae, Aphodiidae, Scarabaeidae (dung beetles), Orphnidae, Melolonthidae, Rutelidae, Dynastidae, and Cetoniidae. As is typical of most European approaches, the principal subfamilies of Scarabaeidae recognized by American workers and Lawrence and Newton's 1995 classification have been elevated to family rank. Illustrated keys to the adults and larvae of Iberian families of scarabaeoids are the gateway to the traditional synopsis for each of the families and their tribes (where appropriate), genera, and species.

Each family treatment consists of an introductory overview of distribution, systematic position, adult anatomy, natural history, collecting, a checklist of the Iberian taxa, and keys (including larvae when known). Following a brief introduction to each genus, the species treatments are comprised of original description information (all synonyms are provided in Appendix 1 at the end of the book), a short description, distribution (no maps), and biological notes. Superb habitus illustrations by Jesús Romero Samper are scattered throughout the book along with 116 line drawings and halftones. Over 750 references are in the literature cited. Seven color plates of living beetles conclude the volume.

This book is very attractively produced with crisp illustrations, a high quality paper, and a sturdy binding. This volume, and the ones to follow, will be *the* standard for scarabaeoid identification for the Iberian peninsula for the foreseeable future. Scarab workers, biogeographers, natural resource managers and students in Spain and Portugal, and natural history devotees will find this book particularly attractive. At about \$35, this volume is a genuine bargain.

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