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Systematics, Phylogeny, Evolution and Diversity of Elateridae (Coleoptera) and Their Relatives

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Message from the Guest Editors

Elateridae (click beetles) are the largest family in the beetle superfamily Elateroidea. They mainly include groups with a hard, compact body and the pro-mesothoracic clicking mechanism but also comprise soft-bodied predators of snails or millipedes. Several species are economically important crop pests. Molecular phylogenetic studies suggest close relationships between predominantly wellsclerotized Elateridae and several soft-bodied lineages, including fireflies. Despite the effort of numerous recent studies, monophyly, limits, phylogeny, and classification of Elateridae are far from being fully understood. More attention should also be given to the immature stages of Elateridae, which are unknown for many lineages. Additionally, the evolutionary history of the group, including fossil record, is also understudied. Therefore, for this upcoming Special Issue, we are seeking high-quality original submissions and reviews that address and update our understanding of the diversity, systematics, phylogeny, zoogeography, evolution, fossil record, morphology, and ecology of Elateridae and related lineages.



