

GENERAL INFORMATION

author(s)	Lock K, De Bakker D, De Vos B
year	2001
English title	Centipede communities in the forests of Flanders
original title	
reference	Pedobiologia 45
pages	27-35
type	article (a1)
ecosystem service	supporting – biodiversity
keywords	
taxa	<i>Chilopoda</i>
project	B&G/28/98: Forest soil classification based on soil-dwelling arthropod communities
supervisor	
institution	Ghent University, Laboratory for Environmental Toxicology and Aquatic Pollution
location	pdf, hardcopy
data	Flora&Fauna.xls

MATERIALS & METHODS

study area	5n (scientific zone)
time period	March 1997 – May 1998
goal	Investigation of the factors that influence the community composition of chilipedes in Flemish forests.
set-up	56 plots of the soil fauna project in forests in Flanders: transect with 3 pitfall traps, 3 m apart, $\varnothing = 9.5$ cm, with 4 % formaldehyde (+ detergent, + salt in winter)
data collection	2-weekly sampling (3-weekly during winter)
remarks	environmental variables: soil texture, CaCO ₃ content, moisture content, pH-CaCl ₂ , N, LAI, soil density

RESULTS

A total number of 21 centipede species were caught. Three distinct clusters of forests could be recognized which are separated geographically. The Campine region with a lot of pine forests, which is characterised by its sandy soils, contained the lowest diversity of centipedes and only *Lithobius forficatus* and *L. calcaratus* were common. Sandy Flanders with a lot of oak forests contained more species including *Cryptops hortensis*, the most characteristic species of this region. The loamy region contained a lot of oak and beech forests and *Cryptops parisi* and *Lithobius dentatus* were especially characteristic for this region.