

DIVERSITY OF CARABID COMMUNITIES IN A LAND USE MOSAIC IN THE WELSH UPLANDS

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Abstract

The influence and importance of woodland patches on assemblages of carabid beetles were investigated on agricultural land in Pontbren, Mid Wales. The study was conducted in late spring 2003, with sampling of carabid beetles taken over a three-day period using the pitfall trap method. In total twenty-five different species of carabid beetle were recorded and 2322 individuals. *Agonum muelleri* was the most abundant species found, making up approximately 25% of the total carabid population. There was a significant difference in terms of both carabid species composition and richness amongst woodland and grassland habitats, highlighting the importance of woodland elements in the agricultural landscape.