

Carabids (Coleoptera: Cicindelidae and Carabidae) and Spiders (Araneida) in the Lauwerszee-area

by

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ABSTRACT. A description is given of the collecting scheme of an ecological investigation of the carabid and spider fauna of a newly reclaimed polder. Lists of species are available on request.

In 1969, when the Lauwerszeepolder was reclaimed, a program was started to study the development of the carabid and spider fauna in the new land. Four study areas were selected in the polder: "Coarse Sand", "Fine Sand", "Silty Sand" and "Silt". In each area four windowtraps and four striptraps and in both "Silty Sand" and "Silt" three groups of four pitfall traps were placed. On "Ditch", a strip of uncultivated land along the ditch next to the former Lauwerszee-dike and "Salt Marsh" on the former saltmarsh, both near Vierhuizen, five pitfall traps were placed.

The traps and the areas in the polder were described by Meijer (1973, 1974); Joenje (1974) described the polder vegetation and the vegetation of "Ditch" was described by Meijer (1972). The first complete catch was made 2.VII.1969 and since then catches have been gathered weekly except during late autumn and winter when "Ditch" and "Salt Marsh" were visited once each fortnight and the other areas at irregular intervals. The 1969 and 1970 catches have been sorted out completely as well as half of the 1974 and 1972 catches (one complete week-catch for each fortnight). A total number of about 111,000 specimens of 87 species of carabids and 70,000 specimens of 104 species of spiders was caught.

The data on the immigration of carabids into the polder have already been published (Meijer, 1974, 1975), other aspects of the data will be dealt with later. All material as well as a list of the species and numbers caught in the various areas during the four year study period have been deposited in the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Raamsteeg 2, Leiden, Holland, where a copy of the list can be obtained.

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