

**Book review**

SIMONE, L.R.L., 2006. Land and freshwater molluscs of Brazil. Editoria Gráfica Bernardi /FAPESP, Sao Paulo: 1-390, ils. ISBN 85-906670-0-6. Hardcover € 105,00.

The Neotropical land and freshwater malacofauna gets more and more attention over the past decades. Of several South American countries faunal lists have been published during recent years. This book is the first one dealing with a specific country and presenting an illustrated catalogue of species. It lists 1074 species of which 956 gastropods (89%) and 117 bivalves (11%); 700 (65%) are terrestrial, 373 (35%) are freshwater species. A modest number (33) of exotic species introduced in Brazil is listed in an appendix.

The book gives illustrations of nearly all species, mostly from at least two sides. Many type specimens are depicted, for which mostly American and European museums have generously supplied photographs.

The book includes an extensive list of more than 2600 references, covering not only Brazil but also presenting literature on the land and freshwater molluscs of neighbouring countries.

Lacking any key to families or lower taxa, identification is done best by comparing a specimen at hand with the many illustrations. Given the variation in some families and the poor quality of some (generally copies of original) figures, it may be hard to make a correct identification at species level.

Compared to the earlier catalogue of Brazilian landshells (Salgado & Coelho, 2003. *Rev. biol. Trop.* 51 Suppl. 3: 149-189) it strikes me that the species list is longer. Judging from a group (Bulimuloidea) that is familiar to me, it appears that several taxa have been added which former authors apparently considered synonyms. Also the taxonomy at generic and familiar rank is somewhat different than recent authors suggested. This does, however, not alter the fact that this is an extremely useful book for all those interested in land or freshwater molluscs from the Neotropics.

In short, Dr Simone has made a very useful addition to the literature related to Neotropical malacology.

A.S.H. BREURE