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Date Coverage

1980–present

Update Frequency

Weekly

Geographic Coverage

International

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Changes of bat activity, species richness, diversity and community composition over an altitudinal gradient in the soutpansberg range, South Africa

Linden, Valerie M. G; Weier, Sina M; Weterings, Martijn J. A; Gaigher, Ian; Taylor, Peter J ; et al. *Acta Chiropterologica* 16.1 (Jan 1, 2014): 27-40.

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Abstract (summary) [Translate](#)

Bats are important indicator species which can help in identifying areas where conservation efforts should be concentrated and whether these areas are affected by ongoing climate change. To elucidate factors limiting and influencing the elevational distribution of bats in a recognised biodiversity hotspot, the Soutpansberg mountain range (in Vhembe Biosphere Reserve) of northern South Africa, we collected data in and around the Luvhondo Private Nature Reserve, by catching and acoustically monitoring bats over an altitudinal gradient from 900 to 1,748 m. A total of 18 different species could be recorded. Two species, namely *Pipistrellus hesperidus* and *Chaerephon cf. ansorgei* appeared to be present and dominant at all altitudes. Activity, species richness and diversity significantly decreased with increasing altitude, whereas community composition was not related to altitude and no endemics to either low or high altitude were detected. It is likely that the change of species richness and diversity over altitude is caused by other factors correlated with altitude such as vegetation type, area size, energy availability and climatic differences. Our research demonstrated that lower altitudes are richer and more diverse in bat species and since no highland endemics have been discovered, conservation efforts in the area, regarding bats, should not ignore these lower altitudes which are most susceptible to human impacts leading to habitat degradation due to over-grazing, bush encroachment, cultivation and denudation of large trees for firewood collection. © Museum and Institute of Zoology PAS.

Indexing (details) Cite

SUBT, SU

Subject
altitude;
bat;
biodiversity;
community composition;
elevation;
population distribution;
species conservation;

species diversity;
species richness

LOC

Location Limpopo, South Africa, Soutpansberg

IF

Identifier (keyword) altitudinal distribution, bat activity, Limpopo Province, South Africa, Soutpansberg Mountains, species diversity, species richness, Vhembe Biosphere Reserve

CC

Classification 73.4.7.5.5: Animal ecology; mammals; communities

TI

Title Changes of bat activity, species richness, diversity and community composition over an altitudinal gradient in the soutpansberg range, South Africa

AU

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AU	Correspondence author	Taylor, P.J Department of Biodiversity Value and Change in the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve, University of Venda, Thohoyandou 0950, South Africa.
LA	Language	English
SL	Language of abstract	English
DTYPE	Document type	Article
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VO	Volume	16
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ISSN	ISSN	15081109
PSTYPE	Publication type	Journal
PB	Publisher	Museum and Institute of Zoology PAS
DOI	DOI	http://dx.doi.org/10.3161/150811014X683246
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PD,YR	Publication date	Jan 1, 2014
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	Copyright	Copyright 2014 Elsevier B.V., All rights reserved.
FAV	First available	2014-09-04
UD	Updates	2014-09-04
	Database	GEOBASE (1980 - current)

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Classification	CC	cc("73.4.7.5.5") cc("animal ecology")	Search by code or description.
CODEN	CODEN	coden(engoe)	
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Document feature	DF	df(table) df(ref)	Numbers of tables, references, figures, etc.
Document status	DSTAT	dstat(new) dstat(revised)	
Document title	TI	ti("changes of bat activity")	Includes alternate title. Does not include Publication title (PUB).
Title only	TIO	tio(forest)	Searches only the Title, not Alternate title.
Alternate title	OTI	oti("peuplement forestier")	Usually an original language title, when the English title is in Document title. Field code TI also searches the Alternate title.
Document type	DTYPE	dtype("conference paper")	
DOI	DOI	doi(ijedudev)	Digital object identifier
First available	FAV	fav(2014-09-04)	Date on which a record was first loaded on ProQuest Dialog. May have been subsequently updated.
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Identifier (keyword)	IF	if("altitudinal distribution")	Keywords (uncontrolled vocabulary terms). Also searchable using SU. Search also contains terms from throughout the document which are calculated to be relevant.
ISBN	ISBN	isbn(9781845644680)	
ISSN	ISSN	issn(15081109)	
Issue	ISS	iss(1)	Also searchable by the Look Up Citation tool.
Language	LA	la(french)	The language in which the document was originally published.
Language of abstract	SL	sl(english)	Summary language
Location	LOC	loc("south africa")	Also searchable using SU.

Field name	Field code	Example	Description and Notes
Page count	PCT	pct(13)	Number of printed pages, when supplied
Pagination	PG	pg(27-40)	The start page is searchable on the Look Up Citation tool.
Start page	PAGE	page(27)	First page number – displayed within Pagination. Searchable on the Look Up Citation tool.
Publication date	PD	pd(20140101) pd(20090501-20090731)	Also searchable by the Look Up Citation tool.
Publication title ¹	PUB	pub(acta chiropterologica)	Includes all Publication names, including conference titles. Journal names also searchable using JN.
Publication type	PSTYPE	pstype(books)	Preferred search uses Document type (DTYPE).
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Publisher	PB	pb(Museum and Institute of Zoology PAS)	
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Title	TI	ti("forest settlement")	Includes Alternate title. Does not include Publication title (PUB).
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