

With more than 700 species the mainly Holarctic genus *Quedius* Stephens, 1829 is one of the largest among rove beetles (family Staphylinidae) and insects as a whole. *Quedius* are very common inhabitants of the forest leaf litter and other ground-based debris, also in the open landscapes. Some species occur in mammal and bird burrows and nests, some are hypogean and some are myrmecophilous. They are commonly encountered beetles and a good model for ecological and biogeographic studies.

The biggest diversity of *Quedius* is confined to the Palearctic region where the largest area is covered by the territory of the Russian Federation. Very poor and highly fragmented knowledge of *Quedius* of this large and geographically diverse country have necessitated this first inventory of the fauna of the rove beetle genus *Quedius* in the Russian Federation.

This work provides an annotated catalogue of 88 species of *Quedius* currently recorded from Russia with a visual table-based summary of their overall distribution and bionomics. It also offers a well illustrated identification key to all species recorded in the Russian Federation to kick-start badly needed further local exploration of this genus.



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## ROVE BEETLES OF THE GENUS *QVEDIUS* (COLEOPTERA, STAPHYLINIDAE) OF RUSSIA: A KEY TO SPECIES AND ANNOTATED CATALOGUE

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*Quedius* s.str. *molochinus* (Gravenhorst, 1806)

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