

Department of Biological Sciences
Seminar Announcement
(Biodiversity and Ecology Journal Club)

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***Biodiversity of terrestrial
earthworms in Taiwan***

There are 50 nominal species of terrestrial earthworms in Taiwan. The genera *Amyntas* and *Metaphire* of the family Megascolecidae are dominant and include 42 species, 26 of which are native. The native species occur primarily in less disturbed areas in hills and mountains with species-specific altitudinal stratification in distribution. The exotic species occur in disturbed environments from the lowland plains to an elevation of 2100 m, and altitudinal stratification is shown only for the maximum ranges. Highly diverse environments in the Central Mountain Range constitute geographical barriers that result in population isolation and allopatric differentiation (speciation and subspeciation). Endemicity is higher in high elevations than low elevations. With the decrease in elevation, the number of native species decreased, while the number of exotic species increased, suggesting the occurrence of species shift from native forms to exotic forms in the earthworm community.

Date: 14 March 2003, Fri
Time: 11 am-12 pm
Venue: DBS Lab 7A, Blk S2,
Department of Biological
Sciences, Science Drive 4
Host: Dr Darren Yeo

All are welcome

Visitors may park at Carpark 10
See map <<http://rmbr.nus.edu.sg/RMBR.JPG>>