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Title of the Project: **Study on Diversity and distribution of beetles (Insecta: Coleoptera) in Western Ghats of Pune district.**

Summary:

Study on diversity and distribution of beetle fauna was performed for two years (2013-2015). Order Coleoptera (Beetles) is represented by two sub orders in the study area. Sub Order Adephaga is represented by one super family and two families. Their distribution is wide to moderately wide in the study area.

Sub Order Polyphaga is more diverse; represented by five series, eleven super families and twenty two families inhabiting varied habitats in the study area. Most of the beetle families of this sub order have wide to moderately wide distribution, but six families, however are reported to have restricted distribution in the study area.

Ground beetles (Family Carabidae), Scarab beetles (Family Scarabaeidae) and Darkling beetles (Family Tenebrionidae) are commonly occurring beetle groups in the Western Ghats of Pune district. Reporting of family Geotrupidae, Cantharidae, Dermastidae, Cleridae, Ulodidae and Attelabidae is highlighted in the present study.

Comparing the diversity of beetle fauna in the study area Mulshi and Khed talukas are reported to be rich, Junnar, Ambegaon and Bhor regions are reported to be moderately rich and Velhe taluka is reported to be considerably poor in this regard.