

General Trends in Natural History

Habitats

Adults of *Harpalus* are, in general, found during the day sheltering beneath debris on the ground in grassy arid to mesic habitats such as lowland grasslands, woodlands, or natural or artificial clearings within montane or lowland forests. Species that occur at lowland elevations within the northern portions of western North America shift their ranges upward in elevation within more arid, southerly areas; this shift corresponds to the upward displacement of grasslands and their replacement by desert in the lowlands.

Approximately 180 days of field work by myself and research assistant Stanley Rewolinski in the western United States yielded a total of 2,546 adults of *Harpalus* from 149 different sites in Arizona, California, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming; most of these specimens were found in the five southwestern states of Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah. The 2,546 specimens represented 21 species (including three in the subgenus *Pseudophonus* and one in the subgenus *Glanodes*, groups not treated in the present paper). Data concerning these 21 species obtained during the field work and in Ball (1972, 1973) and Ball & Anderson (1962) allow descriptions of the macrohabitats occupied by a total of 22 native species of *Harpalus* in the five southwestern states listed above. Fig. 266 illustrates the distribution of these 22 species within the macrohabitat types: desert, xeric grassland (treeless regions with