



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

Journal Name:	<a href="#">Asian Journal of Biology</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJOB_32748
Title of the Manuscript:	<b>Body Size Variation in Pterostichus montanus Motch. (Coleoptera, Carabidae) in Altitudinal Gradient</b>
Type of the Article	<b>Original Research Article</b>

**General guideline for Peer Review process:**

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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**PART 1: Review Comments**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<b><u>Compulsory</u></b> REVISION comments	<p>The language needs some revision.</p> <p>The second factor (altitude gradient) is precise, but you need to be more specific about the first one. "Climatic conditions of the shore and high altitudes" does not sound reliable. It might be temperature, humidity, vegetation, etc. If you mean that the first gradient in your study is the transition from lowland to high mountain climate, you should specify this. But this not the case, since there is no such gradient pattern on the ordination graph (fig. 6). Indeed, there is a similarity between the coast and the high-mountain plot, but you must be more correct in defining the main factor.</p> <p>It is not clear what do you mean by "population structure". This characteristic of the populations might comprise the age, sex or genetic structure and the spatial distribution.</p> <p>If the "Body size did not differ in the populations at different altitudes", then how "multivariate analysis revealed differences between populations of <i>P. montanus</i>"? Please, explain.</p>	
<b><u>Minor</u></b> REVISION comments	<p>Technical and experimental methods and statistical treatment are adequate, but interpretation suffers from important omissions.</p> <p>"sampled in 30 -km high-altitude transect" – if this means that the transect was long 30 km, why is the "high-altitude" for?</p> <p>There are some untranslated labels on the map. It</p>	



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	<p>would be more perspicuous if you remove or translate them. Besides, it is not clear what the numbered (1 to 10) squares are for?</p> <p>The legend after the map includes data, partly repeating in the main text below (line 70 – 73). You might consider uniting this information in a Table.</p> <p>Figure 7 is not very informative.</p> <p>In the Discussion section: it is not quite clear where the <i>C. odoratus</i> appears from. Cite this passage more correctly, i.g. mention the author whose work you compare with.</p>	
<b><u>Optional/General</u></b> comments	<p>This article presents an interesting dataset which is a valuable contribution to the ground beetle fauna.</p> <p>Did you operate the traps every two weeks during the whole period 1988 – 2010?</p>	

**Reviewer Details:**

Name:	<b><i>Teodora Teofilova</i></b>
Department, University & Country	<b><i>Department of Animal Diversity and Resources, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research (IBER), Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria</i></b>