Bat assemblages in Tanzanian coastal forest

Abstract

Bat species lists were compiled in 17 small coastal forests of Tanzania, eastern Africa, between 1990 and 1992. Forty-six bat species were recorded, with up to 15 species in a single forest. Eight forests were sufficiently studied for comparisons to be made on species frequencies and species diversity. Regional diversity was 2.74, and local diversities ranged between 1.55 to 1.97. Many species were remarkably unevenly distributed. Records of biogeographical significance for Tanzania were: confirmations of Myotis tricolor, Tadarida brachyptera, Myonycteris relicta, Rhinolophus deckenii and Kerivoula africana, and first records of Scotophilus nigrita alvenslebeni, Hipposideros cyclops and Cloeotis percivali.