The Shell evolution of the hydrocenidae of Malaysian Borneo

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Propositions

accompanying the thesis

The shell evolution of the Hydrocenidae of Malaysian Borneo

1. Morphological variation is a common feature for any natural population. (This thesis; Chapters 2 and 3)
2. Taxonomic treatment is best carried out with detailed morphological assessment and complementary genetic information. (This thesis; Chapters 2 and 3)
3. Gradual spatial ecological changes can lead to extreme morphological changes and possibly parapatric speciation. (This thesis; Chapter 4; Haase & Schilthuizen, 2007; Schilthuizen et al., 2012)
4. Morphological characters of *Georissa* evolved independently from the phylogeny. (This thesis; Chapter 5)
5. Despite years of malacological work in Borneo, more than half of the *Georissa* species of the island remains to be discovered.
6. The rate of (local) extinction can be reduced with good conservation plans and their execution.
7. The societal relevance of systematics and evolutionary biology is underappreciated.
8. To enhance the speed of species discovery, large-scale scientific expeditions should be organised.
9. Given the current practice of species description, a full documentation of tropical biodiversity will remain out of reach forever.