SDG 15: 15.2.3. Maintain and extend current ecosystems' biodiversity, work directly to maintain and extend existing ecosystems and their biodiversity, of both plants and animals, especially ecosystems under threat

1. Camera-Trap Monitoring of the Philippine Long-tailed Macaque in Mt. Tambuyong, Davao de Oro

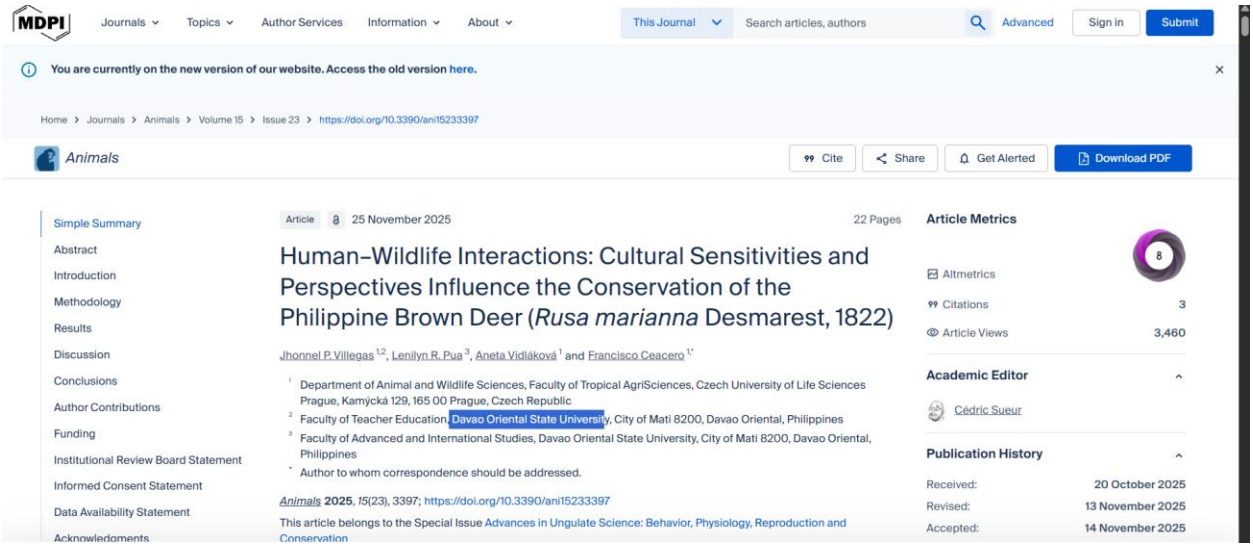
Researchers from Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) documented a troop of Philippine long-tailed macaques (Macaca fascicularis philippensis) through non-invasive camera traps installed in Mt. Tambuyong, Compostela, Davao de Oro, as part of the biodiversity assessment of the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor (EMBC). The camera traps were deployed on June 27, 2025, in coordination with the local government of Compostela and operated for almost five months to monitor wildlife presence, behavior, and population conditions. The recorded footage revealed a macaque family group, suggesting the presence of a breeding population and suitable habitat conditions. The initiative demonstrates the use of technology in wildlife monitoring and highlights the importance of Indigenous communities as stewards of ancestral lands. It also supports indigenous-led conservation efforts and the protection of forest ecosystems within the EMBC through the DENR-UNDP/GEF Biodiversity Corridor Project.



Source: https://faps.bmb.gov.ph/faps/2025/12/04/camera-traps-capture-philippine-long-tailed-macaque-family-in-mt-tambuyong-signaling-healthy-ecosystem/

2. Human–Wildlife Interactions: Cultural Sensitivities and Perspectives Influence the Conservation of the Philippine Brown Deer (Rusa marianna)

This study examines the cultural perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge of the Mandaya Indigenous people concerning the conservation of the Philippine brown deer (Rusa marianna), an endemic species threatened by hunting and habitat loss. Through in-depth interviews with 29 Indigenous experts and community observations in Davao Oriental, the researchers documented the cultural and spiritual significance of the deer, locally known as Yatag ni Magbabaya, which is regarded as a gift from the Creator and an important part of Mandaya identity and ancestral lands. The study identifies forest clearing, indiscriminate hunting, and poverty-related dependence on forest resources as major conservation challenges. It emphasizes the need for culturally sensitive conservation strategies and community education that recognize Indigenous traditions while addressing socioeconomic concerns. The findings highlight the importance of integrating Indigenous knowledge and community participation into wildlife protection and sustainable resource management.



Source: https://www.mdpi.com/2076-2615/15/23/3397?utm_source=chatgpt.com

3. Metapocyrtus (Dolichocephalocyrtus) aliwagwag sp. nov., a New Flightless Weevil from the Aliwagwag Protected Landscape

This taxonomic study describes Metapocyrtus (Dolichocephalocyrtus) aliwagwag sp. nov., a newly identified flightless weevil from the Aliwagwag Protected Landscape in Mindanao, Philippines. The research contributes to the documentation of the genus Metapocyrtus, one of the most diverse and taxonomically complex groups of Philippine flightless weevils, with more than 250 recognized species. Members of the subgenus Dolichocephalocyrtus are

characterized by their elongated rostrum and distinct differences between males and females. Because these weevils cannot fly, their distributions are generally restricted to particular geographic areas, making them important subjects for studies of endemism and habitat conservation. The discovery adds to the documented insect diversity of the Aliwagwag Protected Landscape and reinforces the importance of biodiversity surveys and the protection of forest habitats that support endemic species.



Source: https://bdj.pensoft.net/article/163127/

4. Futuring Brown Deer Conservation from the Lenses of the Mandaya Indigenous People

This study explores future conservation strategies for the Philippine brown deer (Rusa marianna) through the perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge of the Mandaya Indigenous community in Davao Oriental. Using ethnographic methods, interviews, focus group discussions, community observations, and futures research tools such as Causal Layered Analysis and the Futures Triangle, the research examines how Indigenous beliefs and environmental practices can contribute to long-term wildlife protection. The Mandaya envision a future in which healthy deer populations support forest ecosystems, cultural identity, and local livelihoods. Although the community recognizes the importance of respecting wildlife, habitat degradation and illegal poaching remain significant threats. The study highlights community recommendations, including the establishment of no-hunting zones, restrictions on snares and traps, stronger wildlife protection laws, and collaboration with government agencies. It also recommends the use of camera traps, drones, and GPS tracking to improve wildlife population assessments. The findings demonstrate the value of integrating Indigenous knowledge with modern scientific approaches to achieve sustainable biodiversity conservation.



Futuring Brown Deer Conservation from the Lenses of the Mandaya Indigenous People

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Source:https://www.researchgate.net/publication/397471192_Futuring_Brown_Deer_Conservation_from_the_Lenses_of_the_Mandaya_Indigenous_People

5. Species Inventory and New Distribution Records of Macrolichens in Mt. Mayo Range, Davao Oriental, Philippines

This research provides the first comprehensive inventory of macrolichens in the Mt. Mayo Range, Davao Oriental, highlighting their importance as indicators of ecological health and environmental change. Through quadrat sampling and taxonomic identification conducted in montane and dipterocarp forests at elevations of 740–1,290 meters above sea level, the researchers documented 59 macrolichen species belonging to 17 genera and eight families. Five species were recorded for the first time in the Philippines, expanding the country's known macrolichen diversity. The study also assessed species diversity and similarities among forest types, demonstrating the ecological significance of the mountain range. The findings emphasize the importance of recognizing Mt. Mayo as a protected landscape and conserving its forest habitats. The researchers further recommend community education, engagement of Indigenous communities, and the establishment of a local herbarium to support biodiversity research, specimen preservation, and conservation efforts.



Source: https://doi.org/10.59893/abud.25(1).002

6. Conserving the Philippine Brown Deer (Rusa marianna) through Cultural Engagement

This study investigates the relationship between the Mandaya Indigenous people of Davao Oriental and the Philippine brown deer (Rusa marianna), a species threatened by poaching and habitat destruction. Through community interviews, the researchers documented the Mandaya people's traditional ecological knowledge, cultural practices, and spiritual connection to the deer, which they regard as a sacred gift from the Supreme Being. Despite the community's cultural values of environmental respect and sustainability, habitat loss and illegal hunting remain significant threats to the species. The study highlights the importance of community-based conservation strategies that recognize Indigenous knowledge and encourage local participation in wildlife protection. By incorporating cultural engagement into conservation planning, the research supports stronger relationships between Indigenous communities, biodiversity conservation initiatives, and the sustainable management of forest resources.



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Conserving the Philippine Brown Deer (Rusa marianna Desmarest, 1822) through Cultural Engagement

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Abstract

The Philippine brown deer (*Rusa marianna* (Desmarest, 1822) is a wild species endemic to the Philippines, where

Source: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/393146003_Conserving_the_Philippine_Brown_Deer_Rusa_marianna_Desmarest_1822_through_Cultural_Engagement

7. Description of a New Species of Amphisternus Germar, 1843 from the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor

This taxonomic research describes Amphisternus hamugaway sp. nov., a newly identified fungus beetle from the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor in Mindanao, Philippines. The discovery represents the second recorded Philippine species of the genus Amphisternus, following the earlier description of A. alberti by Tomaszewska in 2014. The publication provides a formal scientific description, high-resolution photographs of the beetle's physical characteristics, and brief ecological observations. This research expands the scientific documentation of the country's beetle diversity, particularly among species inhabiting the forests of Eastern Mindanao. It also provides baseline taxonomic information that can support future biodiversity inventories, ecological studies, and conservation assessments of the region's forest ecosystems.

https://doi.org/10.59893/bjc.25(2).014
Baltic J. Coleopterol. 25(2) 2025
ISSN 1407 – 8619

Description of a new species of *Amphisternus* Germar, 1843 (Coleoptera: Endomychidae: Lycoperdininae) from Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor

Stephannie Cadayona, Milton Norman Medina

Cadayona S., Medina M.N. 2025. Description of a new species of *Amphisternus* Germar, 1843 (Coleoptera: Endomychidae: Lycoperdininae) from Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor. *Baltic J. Coleopterol., 25(2): 287 – 293.*

This paper presents a new species of *Amphisternus* Germar, 1843, *A. hamugaway* sp. nov. from the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor, Mindanao Island, Philippines. This is the second species of *Amphisternus* in the Philippines, along with *A. alberti*, described by Tomaszewska in 2014. High-definition images of the species' habitus and a brief note on the species ecology are also presented.

Keywords: Fungus beetle, new species, taxonomy, Oriental Region, Philippines.

Stephannie Cadayona. Master of Science in Environmental Science Program, Faculty of Advanced and International Studies, and Tropical Genomics and Invertebrate Research Laboratory - University Research Complex (URESCOM), Davao Oriental State University, City of Mati, 8200 Philippines; e-mail:

Source:
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/399740680_Description_of_a_new_species_of_Amphisternus_Germar_1843_Coleoptera_Endomychidae_Lycoperdininae_from_Eastern_Mindanao_Biodiversity_Corridor

8. Pachyrhynchus analynae sp. nov., a New Easter Egg Weevil from Tarragona, Davao Oriental, Mindanao, Philippines

This study describes Pachyrhynchus analynae sp. nov., a newly identified Philippine flightless weevil from Tarragona, Davao Oriental. The species was named in honor of Dr. Analyn Anzano Cabras in recognition of her significant contributions to Philippine beetle research and conservation, particularly the study of the tribe Pachyrhynchini. The new species represents an additional member of the Pachyrhynchus speciosus species complex. The publication also presents information on the species' ecology, habitat, distribution, and plant associations. This discovery contributes to the documentation of endemic Philippine insect diversity and provides additional scientific information about the distribution and ecological characteristics of flightless weevils in Eastern Mindanao. It further highlights the importance of continued taxonomic research and the conservation of habitats supporting geographically restricted insect species.



Source: https://www.scopus.com/pages/publications/105028787396?origin=resultslist

9. Ecology and Intraspecific Colour and Pattern Variation of Pachyrhynchus cebrem in Davao de Oro, Mindanao

This study documents the colour and pattern variations and additional ecological information of Pachyrhynchus cebrem, an endemic flightless weevil originally described from Mt. Candalaga, Davao de Oro. Through fieldwork and examination of specimens housed at the Tropical Genomics and Terrestrial Invertebrate Research Laboratory of DOrSU, the researchers recorded additional populations from mountain ranges adjacent to Mt. Candalaga. The publication presents updated distribution records, ecological observations, in situ photographs, and representative images showing variations in the species' colour and patterns. These findings expand the known distribution and ecological information of P. cebrem and contribute to a better understanding of the biodiversity of Davao de Oro's mountain ecosystems. The study also provides baseline information that may support future ecological assessments and conservation planning for endemic weevils and their forest habitats.

Agbas et al. (2025) 1:1
https://doi.org/10.63346/AJIS/ZIMW5545
OPEN ACCESS

Asian Journal of Insect Science

RESEARCH PAPER

Notes on the Ecology and Intraspecific Colour and Pattern Variation of *Pachyrhynchus cebrem* Patano & Rukmane-Barbāle, 2023 (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Entiminae) in Davao de Oro, Mindanao Island, Philippines

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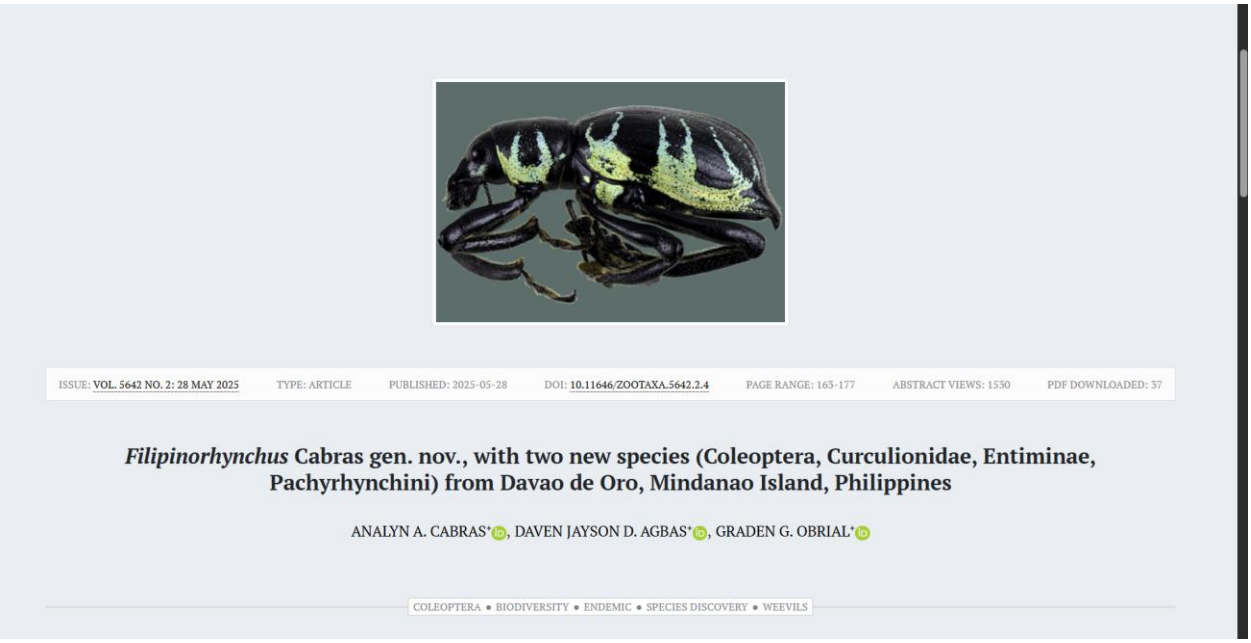
Source:
https://res.cloudinary.com/de53jj1iz/raw/upload/v1772609115/pcsi/files/1772609112717_Agbas%20et%20al%202025.pdf

10. Filipinorhynchus Cabras gen. nov., with Two New Species from Davao de Oro, Mindanao Island, Philippines

This taxonomic research establishes Filipinorhynchus Cabras gen. nov., a newly described genus of Philippine flightless weevils, together with two new species, Filipinorhynchus engkanto and Filipinorhynchus diwata, from Davao de Oro, Mindanao. The publication identifies the genus through distinct morphological characteristics, including its relatively large body, dull and matte surface, rough punctation, elongated elytra, and prominent erect setae. It also discusses the genus's relationship with other members of the tribe Pachyrhynchini, particularly the genus Pachyrhynchus. The discovery adds to the scientific understanding of the Philippines' endemic beetle fauna and highlights the distinctive insect diversity of the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor. Through the formal documentation of previously undescribed species, the research provides important baseline information for biodiversity inventories, taxonomy, and the conservation of forest-dependent invertebrates.



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Filipinorhynchus Cabras gen. nov., with two new species (Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Entiminae, Pachyrhynchini) from Davao de Oro, Mindanao Island, Philippines

ANALYN A. CABRAS[1], DAVEN JAYSON D. AGBAS[1], GRADEN G. OBRIAL[1]

COLEOPTERA • BIODIVERSITY • ENDEMIC • SPECIES DISCOVERY • WEEVILS

Source: https://mapress.com/zt/article/view/zootaxa.5642.2.4

11. Pseudoichthyodes n. gen., cabrasae n. sp., a New Genus and Species of Apomecynini from the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor

This study describes and illustrates Pseudoichthyodes cabrasae, a newly established genus and species of longhorn beetle belonging to the tribe Apomecynini, collected from Mt. Candalaga in Maragusan, Davao de Oro. The research provides formal taxonomic documentation of a previously undescribed beetle from the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor. By identifying and describing its distinguishing characteristics, the publication contributes to the understanding of Philippine longhorn beetle diversity and the distribution of endemic insect species in Mindanao. The discovery also emphasizes the scientific importance of Mt. Candalaga and its surrounding forest habitats as areas requiring continued biodiversity exploration, documentation, and conservation.

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Pseudoichthyodes n. gen., *cabrasae* n. sp., a New Genus and Species of Apomecynini (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: Lamiinae) from Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor, the Philippines

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Source:
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/395917951_Pseudoichthyodes_n_gen_cabrasae_n_sp_a_New_Genus_and_Species_of_Apomecynini_Coleoptera_Cerambycidae_Lamiinae_from_Eastern_Mindanao_Biodiversity_Corridor_the_Philippines

12. A New Species of Oberea Dejean, 1835 from Mt. Candalaga Range in Maragusan, Davao de Oro, Mindanao, Philippines

This taxonomic study describes Oberea cabrasae Medina and Panangcad sp. nov., a newly identified longhorn beetle belonging to the tribe Saperdini from the Mt. Candalaga Range in Maragusan, Davao de Oro. The publication provides detailed morphological descriptions and high-definition photographs of the species' external characteristics and genitalia to establish its taxonomic identity. The discovery represents an additional Philippine endemic species of Oberea and the eighth recorded species of the genus in the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor. This research contributes to the documentation of endemic insect diversity in Mindanao and provides valuable baseline information for future taxonomic and biodiversity studies. It also highlights the importance of conserving the remaining forest habitats of Mt. Candalaga, which support unique and geographically restricted beetle species.

A new species of *Oberea* Dejean, 1835 (Coleoptera: Lamiinae: Saperdini) from Mt. Candalaga Range in Maragusan, Davao de Oro, Mindanao, Philippines

Milton Norman Medina, Jenie Ann Panangcad

Medina M.N., Panangcad J.A. 2025. A new species of *Oberea* Dejean, 1835 (Coleoptera: Lamiinae: Saperdini) from Mt. Candalaga Range in Maragusan, Davao de Oro, Mindanao, Philippines. *Baltic J. Coleopterol., 25(1): 123 – 129.*

Oberea cabrasae Medina & Panangcad sp. nov., a new species of Saperdini is described and illustrated. High-definition images of species habitus and genitalia are also presented. The present species is a new addition to the *Oberea* fauna endemic in the Philippines, the eighth species for the Eastern Mindanao Biodiversity Corridor (EMBC), Philippines.

Keywords: Asia, Beetles, Lamiinae, Mindanao, New Species, Philippines.

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Source:
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/399224517_A_new_species_of_Oberea_Dejean_1835_Coleoptera_Lamiinae_Saperdini_from_Mt_Candalaga_Range_in_Maragusan_Davao_de_Oro_Mindanao_Philippines

13. DOrSU Launches the Research Expedition "Mycobiota of Mount Hamiguitan: An Inventory-Based Approach to Fungal Diversity and Potential Endemism" (July 28, 2025)

Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU), in partnership with the University of Santo Tomas (UST) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), launched a research expedition entitled "Mycobiota of Mount Hamiguitan: An Inventory-Based Approach to Fungal Diversity and Potential Endemism" on July 28, 2025. The initiative brought together researchers from DOrSU and UST to conduct field investigations and document fungal diversity in Mount Hamiguitan. Before the field activities, the research team conducted technical briefings covering safety protocols, proper specimen handling, and fieldwork assignments to ensure organized and responsible scientific collection. The expedition also included a scientific session on fungal and microbial research, biodiversity,

ecology, and sustainable innovations. This collaborative initiative supports the documentation of fungal diversity and potential endemic species in Mount Hamiguitan, contributing to biodiversity assessment, scientific knowledge, and the conservation of one of the Philippines' important forest ecosystems.



Source:
https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1070273975254779&set=a.503957585219757