

Vertebrate zoology is the biological discipline that consists of the study of Vertebrate animals, i.e., animals with a backbone, such as fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Vertebrate Zoology is the science of animals with backbones, that is, mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and fishes. At the Department of Vertebrate Zoology, we investigate the systematics, phylogenetic history and geographical distribution of those animals. Focal research points include the phylogeny of birds, and the distribution and phylogeny of tropical freshwater fishes. We also maintain a long-term interest in threatened freshwater fishes of Sweden. The department also provides repository for the national wildlife, which are specimens of threatened animals found dead in nature. These claim our interest not only as the group of animals with the highest average attainment, not only as the group which contains our own evolutionary pedigree, but because a great deal of the detailed course of their evolution can be traced in the fossil-bearing rocks. All the invertebrate phyla and most of their classes had their origin so far back as to antedate the first fossil-bearing rocks we know. The book is such that the students will be benefited as far as the their knowledge and examination is concerned.

Contents

Diversity of Vertebrates • Classes of Vertebrates • Class Aves • The Basics of Vertebrate Evolution • Vertebrate Circulatory System • Mammal Vertebrate • Development of Fishes • Genetic Structure of Fish

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