

Abstract

The diploma thesis focuses on criminalistic entomology, exploring in depth the use of its methods in the Czech legal system and providing an analysis of their application. Forensic entomology is a specialised discipline and sub-discipline of criminal biology that studies insects in relation to criminal investigations. The primary focus of the thesis is on violent crimes.

The thesis addresses both the theoretical aspects of criminalistic entomology and its practical applications, examining its use at both national and international levels. Apart from the introduction and conclusion, the thesis is divided into seven chapters. The thesis consists of a theoretical part, which deals with the historical development and methodological procedures, including the incorporation of criminalistic entomology into the field of criminalistic biology. The second practical part of the thesis analyzes responses from a questionnaire survey conducted among Czech courts, prosecutors' offices, and the Institute of Criminalistics. The results show that criminalistic entomology is currently used in the Czech legal system, mainly in the investigation of crimes against life. However, its broader potential suggests it could be utilized more widely, especially in cases involving body manipulation or toxin detection. The thesis emphasises and points out that criminal entomology is not necessarily associated with murder or other crimes against life. Instead, its application can be developed in other areas of criminal law. The questionnaire survey reveals an interesting contrast in the responses of different authorities. However, it can be concluded that criminal entomology is used in only a minority of cases.