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Nota di contenuto	Machine generated contents note: List of Contributors -- Preface -- 1. Reproductive competition and its impact on the evolution and ecology of dung beetles (Leigh W. Simmons and T. James Ridsdill-Smith) -- 1.1 Introduction -- 1.2 Competition for mates and the evolution of morphological diversity -- 1.3 Competition for resources and the evolution of breeding strategies -- 1.4 Ecological consequences of intraspecific and interspecific competition -- 1.5 Conservation -- 1.6 Concluding remarks -- 2. The evolutionary history and diversification of dung beetles (T. Keith Philips) -- 2.1 Introduction -- 2.2 Scarabaeinae diversity and tribal classification issues -- 2.3 Scarabaeine dung beetle phylogenies -- 2.4 The sister clade to the Scarabaeinae -- 2.5 The origin of the dung beetles -- 2.6 The oldest lineages and their geographic origin -- 2.7 Evolution of activity period -- 2.8 The evolution of feeding habits -- 2.9 Evolution of derived alternative lifestyles -- 2.10 Evolution of nidification: dung manipulation strategies -- 2.11 Evolution of nidification: nesting behaviour and subsocial care -- 2.12 Conclusions -- 2.13 Future work / gaps in knowledge -- 3. Male contest competition and the evolution of weapons (Robert Knell) -- 3.1 Introduction -- 3.2 Dung beetle horns as weapons -- 3.3 Functional morphology of horns -- 3.4 Horns as

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Sommario/riassunto	"This book describes the evolutionary and ecological consequences of reproductive competition for scarabaeine dung beetles. As well as giving us insight into the private lives of these fascinating creatures, this book shows how dung beetles can be used as model systems for improving our general understanding of broad evolutionary and ecological processes, and how they generate biological diversity. Over the last few decades we have begun to see further than ever before, with our research efforts yielding new information at all levels of analysis, from whole organism biology to genomics. This book brings together leading researchers who contribute chapters that integrate our current knowledge of phylogenetics and evolution, developmental biology, comparative morphology, physiology, behaviour, and population and community ecology. Dung beetle research is shedding light on the ultimate question of how best to document and conserve the world's biodiversity. The book will be of interest to established researchers, university teachers, research students, conservation biologists, and those wanting to know more about the dung beetle taxon. "--