

A study on some families of Coleoptera from Savadkooh County, Mazandaran province, northern Iran

Badania nad wybranymi rodzinami chrząszczy (Coleoptera) regionu Savadkooh prowincji Mazandaran w północnym Iranie

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ABSTRACT: The paper deals with the faunistic data of some Coleoptera families collected in Savadkooh County (northern Iran). In total 28 species (Tenebrionidae: 7 species, Scarabaeidae: 4 species, Carabidae, Cerambycidae, Nitidulidae: total 3 species, Elateridae, Kateretidae, Silphidae: total 2 species, Glaphyridae and Melyridae: single species for each one) were collected and identified. Two species, *Meligethes planiusculus* (HEER) (Nitidulidae) and *Anamartus strobli* (REITT.) (Kateretidae) are new records for Iran.

KEY WORDS: Coleoptera, selected families, new records, Savadkooh c-ty, Mazandaran prov., Iran

Introduction

Coleoptera is the largest order in which 40% of all described insect species are beetles (over than 350,000 species), and new species are frequently discovered. Beetles can be found in almost all habitats, but are not known to occur in the sea or in the polar regions (WHITE 1983, LAWRENCE et NEWTON 1982, LAWRENCE et BRITTON 1994). Although many coleopteran families include serious agricultural and forest pests,

there are several families whose members are predators of agricultural pests (CROWSON 1981, BARAUD 1992, LUFF 1998).

The fauna of Iranian Coleoptera is very diverse, but mostly unknown. The main checklist of this taxon was prepared by MODARRES AWAL (1997). After the checklist, several other research papers were published, which will surely help to catalogue the data on the families (e.g. Curculionoidea by LEGALOV et al. 2010, Staphylinidae by SAMIN et al. 2011, Nitidulidae by LASON et GHAHARI 2013, Lucanidae by BARTOLOZZI et al. 2014, Scarabaeoidea by BUNALSKI et al. 2014).

Investigated area

Savadkooh (36°05' N / 52°55' E) is a county in Mazandaran province, covering an area of 2,441 square kilometers (942 sq miles), and is at the centre of Mazandaran. The main part of this city is located in a valley, in the central Alborz region, where the Tâlâr River flows. The region includes vast forests with diverse trees and shrubs, so a diverse fauna of insects especially plant feeders, can also be expected. The aim of this paper is to describe faunistic work on the beetle specimens which were collected from different regions of Savadkooh with an aim towards gradually completing the fauna inventory of Iranian Coleoptera.

Materials and methods

Specimens were collected during spring and summer 2012 by sweeping, aspirator, beating tray, canopy fogging, leaf litter sifting (and by processing the samples through barley funnels), Malaise and flight intercept traps and of course hand collecting by locating suitable hosts and searching for beetles. The information concerning the species name, describer, locality, date of collection, and the number of specimens (in brackets) is also given.

Results and discussion

Totally 28 species of Coleoptera were collected from Savadkooh County, located in Mazandaran province. Two species, namely *Meligethes planiusculus* (HEER) (Nitidulidae) and *Anamartus strobli* (REITTER) (Kateretidae), are new records for Iran. In addition to the 11 families studied in this paper, several other specimens belonging to other families were collected, which are under identification. Since Savadkooh county contains vast forest ecosystems, we expect that the fauna of Coleoptera is very diverse and needs to be sampled in different seasons. The list of species is given below alphabetically.

Family: Carabidae

Genus: *Bembidion* LATREILLE, 1802

Bembidion dalmatinum haupti REITTER, 1908

Material examined: Darzi-Kola, 23 IV 2012, 2 ex.; Aghozben, 9 June 2012, 1 ex.

Genus: *Carabus* LINNEAUS, 1758

Carabus cribratus porrectangulus GEHIN, 1885

Material examined: Lajim, 6 VII 2012, 3 ex.

Genus: *Stenolophus* STEPHENS, 1827

Stenolophus steveni KRYNICKI, 1832

Material examined: Katij-Kola, 14 V 2012, 1 ex.

Family: Cerambycidae

Genus: *Dorcadion* DALMAN, 1817

Dorcadion (Cribridorcadion) condensatum KÜSTER, 1852

Material examined: Naftchal, 9 VI 2012, 1 ex.

Dorcadion (Dorcadion) gebleri KRAATZ, 1873

Material examined: Haji-Kola, 14 V 2012, 2 ex.

Genus: *Stenurella* VILLIERS, 1974

Stenurella melanura (LINNAEUS, 1758)

Material examined: Laforak, 21 IV 2012, 1 ex.

Family: Elateridae**Genus: *Ampedus* DEJEAN, 1833**

Ampedus (Ampedus) sanguineus sanguineus (LINNAEUS, 1758)

Material examined: Shorab, 9 VI 2012, 2 ex.

Genus: *Dalopius* Eschscholtz, 1829

Dalopius marginatus (LINNAEUS, 1758)

Material examined: Calim, 15 V 2012, 1 ex.

Family: Glaphyridae

Glaphyrus varians varians MENETRIES, 1836

Material examined: Orim, 23 IV 2012, 2 ex.

Family: Kateretidae**Genus: *Anamartus* JELINEK, 1976**

Anamartus strobli (REITTER, 1885)

Material examined: Asad-Abad, 21 IV 2012, 1 ex. **New country record.**

Genus: *Brachypterolus* GROUVELLE, 1913

Brachypterolus linariae (STEPHENS, 1830)

Material examined: Vanchal, 6 VII 2012, 3 ex.

Family: Melyridae**Genus: *Cyrtosus* MOTSCHULSKY, 1853**

Cyrtosus anceyi ABEILLE de PERRIN, 1869

Material examined: Darzi-Kola, 23 IV 2012, 2 ex.; Shir-Darreh, 6 VII 2012, 1 ex.

Family Nitidulidae

Genus: *Carpophilus* STEPHENS, 1830

Carpophilus bifenestratus MURRAY, 1864

Material examined: Tappeh-Sar, 12 VIII 2012, 2 ex.

Genus: *Epuraea* ERICHSON, 1843

Epuraea longula ERICHSON, 1845

Material examined: Karsalar, 14 V 2012, 1 ex.

Genus: *Meligethes* STEPHENS, 1830

Meligethes planiusculus (HEER, 1841)

Material examined: Sokhteh-Sara, 12 VIII 2012, 1 ex. **New country record.**

Family: Scarabaeidae

Genus: *Euonthophagus* BALTHASAR, 1959

Euonthophagus sulcicollis (REITTER, 1892)

Material examined: Asad-Abad, 21 IV 2012, 2 ex.

Genus: *Paroniticellus* BALTHASAR, 1963

Paroniticellus festivus (STEVEN, 1809)

Material examined: Vanchal, 6 VII 2012, 2 ex.

Genus: *Polyphylla* HARRIS, 1842

Polyphylla (Polyphylla) olivieri LAPORTE, 1840

Material examined: Calim, 15 V 2012, 2 ex.

Genus: *Rhyssemus* MULSANT, 1842

Rhyssemus germanus (LINNAEUS, 1767)

Material examined: Naftchal, 9 VI 2012, 3 ex.

Family: Silphidae**Genus: *Nicrophorus* FABRICIUS, 1775***Nicrophorus fossor fossor* ERICHSON, 1837

Material examined: Chak-Sara, 15 V 2012, 4 ex.

Genus: *Oiceoptoma* LEACH, 1815*Oiceoptoma thoracica* (LINNAEUS, 1758)

Material examined: Esbu-Kola, 15 V 2012, 2 ex.; Shormast, 22 IV 2012, 5 ex.

Family: Tenebrionidae**Genus: *Colpotus* MULSANT et REY, 1853***Colpotus vogti* KOCH, 1948

Material examined: Esbu-Kola, 15 V 2012, 1 ex.

Genus: *Cephalostenus* SOLIER, 1836*Cephalostenus elegans* (BRULLÉ, 1832)

Material examined: Doab, 21 IV 2012, 2 ex.

Genus: *Dailognatha* ESCHSCHOLTZ, 1829*Dailognatha pumila* (BAUDI, 1874)

Material examined: Shorab, 9 VI 2012, 1 ex.

Genus: *Hymenalia* MULSANT, 1856*Hymenalia (Hymenalia) rufipes* FABRICIUS, 1792

Material examined: Orim, 23 IV 2012, 3 ex.

Genus: *Isomira* MULSANT, 1856*Isomira (Isomira) murina murina* LINNAEUS, 1758

Material examined: Doab, 21 IV 2012, 1 ex.

Genus: *Prionychus* SOLIER, 1835*Prionychus asiatica* FAIRMAIRE, 1892

Material examined: Gorzinkheyl, 9 VI 2012, 2 ex.; Doab, 21 IV 2012, 2 ex.

Genus: *Pachyscelis* SOLIER, 1836*Pachyscelis (Parapachyscelis) villosa* (DRAPIEZ, 1820)

Material examined: Chak-Sara, 15 V 2012, 2 ex.

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STRESZCZENIE

W pracy przedstawiono wstępne wyniki badań faunistycznych przeprowadzonych w centralnej części prowincji Mazandaran w północnym Iranie. W analizowanym materiale zidentyfikowano 28 gatunków chrząszczy należących do 11 rodzin: Tenebrionidae – 7 gatunków, Scarabaeidae – 4 gatunki, Carabidae, Cerambycidae i Nitidulidae – po 3 gatunki, Elateridae, Kateretidae i Silphidae – po 2 gatunki, Glaphyridae i Melyridae – po jednym gatunku. Dwa spośród nich, tj.: *Meligethes planiusculus* (HEER) (Nitidulidae) i *Anamartus strobli* (REITTER) (Kateretidae), wykazano z Iranu po raz pierwszy.

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