

A contribution to the knowledge of the tachinid flies of the subfamily Tachininae (Diptera, Tachinidae) in northwestern Iran

[Ein Beitrag zur Kenntnis der Raupenfliegen der Unterfamilie Tachininae (Diptera, Tachinidae) im nordwestlichen Iran]

by

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Abstract

A report is given on parasitic flies of the subfamily Tachininae (Diptera: Tachinidae) collected in the course of fieldwork in northwestern Iran from 2009 to 2013. A total of 15 species in 9 genera and 7 tribes is recorded. Of these, the two genera *Triarthria* STEPHENS, 1829 and *Zophomyia* MACQUART, 1835, and the 8 species *Macquartia chalconota* (MEIGEN, 1824), *Macquartia praefica* (MEIGEN, 1824), *Nowickia ferox* (PANZER, 1809), *Nowickia atripalpis* (ROBINEAU-DESVOIDY, 1863), *Peleteria abdominalis* (ROBINEAU-DESVOIDY, 1830), *Tachina magna* (GIGLIO-TOS, 1890), *Triarthria setipennis* (FALLÉN, 1810) and *Zophomyia temula* (SCOPOLI, 1763) are recorded for the first time from Iran. Collection data for all 15 species are listed, together with their current general distribution and their host insects as reported in the literature. The distinguishing characters of the species newly recorded from Iran are given and are documented with photographs.

Key words

Tachinidae, Tachininae, Palearctic Region, Iran, faunistics, new records

Zusammenfassung

Die im nordwestlichen Iran bei Feldstudien in den Jahren 2009 bis 2013 gefundenen Raupenfliegen der Unterfamilie Tachininae (Diptera: Tachinidae) wurden untersucht. Insgesamt konnten 15 Arten aus 9 Gattungen und 7 Triben nachgewiesen werden. Davon werden die zwei Gattungen *Triarthria* STEPHENS, 1829 und *Zophomyia* MACQUART, 1835 sowie die 8 Arten *Macquartia chalconota* (MEIGEN, 1824), *Macquartia praefica* (MEIGEN, 1824), *Nowickia ferox* (PANZER, 1809), *Nowickia atripalpis* (ROBINEAU-DESVOIDY, 1863), *Peleteria abdominalis* (ROBINEAU-DESVOIDY, 1830), *Tachina magna* (GIGLIO-TOS, 1890), *Triarthria setipennis* (FALLÉN, 1810) und *Zophomyia temula* (SCOPOLI, 1763) erstmals für den Iran gemeldet. Für alle 15 gefundenen Arten werden die Sammeldaten aufgelistet und dazu die jeweilige Gesamtverbreitung und die Wirtsnachweise aus der Literatur zusammengestellt. Bei den erstmals im Iran nachgewiesenen Arten werden darüber hinaus noch Unterscheidungsmerkmale genannt und durch Photographien dokumentiert.

Stichwörter

Tachinidae, Tachininae, paläarktische Region, Iran, Faunistik, neue Nachweise

Introduction

The family Tachinidae forms one of the most diverse families of flies (Diptera) with about 8500 valid species in the world (O'HARA 2013). The Tachininae is the largest subfamily of Tachinidae with about 550 species recorded from the Palearctic Region (HERTING & DELY-DRASKOVITS 1993). Members of this subfamily are morphologically very diverse and include some of the largest, most colourful, and most bristly tachinids. On the other hand the subfamily also includes some of the smallest and least conspicuous tachinids. Females of Tachininae are ovoviviparous and eggs are deposited on the host, more often in its vicinity or on its food plant. The egg hatches within minutes and penetrates the host (TSCHORSNIG & RICHTER 1998). Larvae of Lepidoptera form the main hosts of the subfamily Tachininae, whilst larvae and adult Coleoptera are the second largest host group. But also other insect orders and a few other arthropods are attacked by a small number of species of the Tachininae (STIREMAN et al. 2006).