

Faunistic study on tachinid flies of the subfamily Dexiinae (Diptera: Tachinidae) in northwestern Iran

[Eine faunistische Studie zu den Raupenfliegen der Unterfamilie Dexiinae
(Diptera: Tachinidae) im nordwestlichen Iran]

by

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Abstract

In order to identify the parasitic flies of the subfamily Dexiinae (Diptera: Tachinidae) in northwest Iran, a survey was conducted during the period between 2009 and 2013. A total of 17 species belonging to 14 genera in three tribes was identified. Of these, 14 species and ten genera are recorded for the first time from Iran. Collection data for all 17 species are listed together with their current general distribution as well as their host insects as reported in the literature. The distinguishing characters of the species newly recorded from Iran are given and are partially documented with photographs.

Key words

Tachinidae, Dexiinae, Palaearctic Region, Iran, Turkey, new records

Zusammenfassung

Im Zeitraum von 2009 bis 2013 wurde im nordwestlichen Iran eine faunistische Studie zu den Raupenfliegen der Unterfamilie Dexiinae (Diptera: Tachinidae) durchgeführt. Insgesamt wurden 17 Arten aus 14 Gattungen festgestellt, die zu drei Triben gehören. Davon sind 14 Arten und zehn Gattungen erstmals im Iran gefunden worden. Für alle 17 nachgewiesenen Raupenfliegenarten werden die Sammeldaten aufgelistet und die jeweilige Gesamtverbreitung sowie die aus der Literatur bekannten Wirtsnachweise werden genannt. Für die erstmals im Iran nachgewiesenen Arten sind die Unterscheidungsmerkmale angegeben und teilweise auch durch Photographien dokumentiert.

Stichwörter

Tachinidae, Dexiinae, paläarktische Region, Iran, Türkei, neue Nachweise

Introduction

The Tachinidae is a large family of Diptera with a worldwide distribution. From this family 409 genera (O'HARA 2014) and more than 1600 described species are known in the Palaearctic region (TSCHORSNIG & RICHTER 1998). Nearly all members of this important family are parasitoids of insects. Their hosts are mainly larvae of Lepidoptera, Coleoptera or Hymenoptera. Adults of Coleoptera, Heteroptera and Orthoptera, and larvae or adults of some other orders are also parasitized (STIREMAN et al. 2006).

The monophyly of the subfamily Dexiinae is morphologically well-founded by autapomorphic characters especially from male postabdomen (TSCHORSNIG 1985). Also new molecular phylogenetic studies support the status of the subfamily as a monophyletic unit (WINKLER et al. 2015).

The Dexiinae includes 54 genera in the Palaearctic region (O'HARA 2014). Generally, dexiines tend to be larger, rather long legged flies that most commonly parasitize larval Coleoptera (mostly Scarabaeidae) and Lepidoptera. They have also been reared from Hymenoptera and Diptera (Tabanidae) (HERTING 1960, MESNIL 1944–75, 1980). In a large proportion of the Dexiinae, notably the tribe Dexiini, the females do not interact with their hosts directly, but rather they broadcast their eggs in the vicinity or appropriate microhabitat of the host. The planidial