

New records of flower-visiting Muscidae (Diptera) from the Ligurian Apennines of Italy

[Neufunde von blütenbesuchenden Muscidae (Diptera)
aus dem ligurischen Apennin Italiens]

by

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Abstract

Nine species of flower-visiting Muscidae found on Mt. Lesima in the Ligurian Apennines are reported, eight of which are new for the province of Pavia, Italy. An annotated checklist is given of the 78 Muscidae species now known from this province.

Key words

Muscidae, flower-visitors, Palaearctic Region, Italy, province of Pavia, new records, checklist

Zusammenfassung

Neun Arten von blütenbesuchenden Muscidae wurden auf dem Berg Lesima im Ligurischen Apennin gefunden, wovon acht als Neufunde für die Provinz Pavia (Italien) gemeldet werden. Eine kommentierte Artenliste behandelt alle 78 Musciden-Arten, die nunmehr aus dieser Provinz bekannt sind.

Stichwörter

Muscidae, Blütenbesucher, paläarktische Region, Italien, Provinz Pavia, neue Nachweise, Checkliste

Introduction

Muscidae flies are among the most important flower visitors at high altitudes and high latitudes (e. g., PONT 1993, TIUSANEN et al. 2016). During a survey of wild pollinators in the summer of 2012 and 2013, several flies were captured and identification of the specimens belonging to the Muscidae revealed a new record for the Apennines, namely *Drymeia vicana* (HARRIS, 1780) which, despite being a rather common species in Central Europe, is known in Italy only from Sulden in the South Tyrol (HENNIG 1962: 668) [as *Trichopticoides decolor* (FALLÉN, 1824)] and from Monte Bondone in the province of Trento (Viote di M. Bondone, Trento, leg. D. AVESANI 2010). The survey took place on two grasslands of the Ligurian Apennines (Northern Apennines) of Italy, on Mt. Lesima at 1650 m a. s. l. (44°41.60'N 09°15.26'E). Administratively, the area belongs to the province of Pavia (Lombardy) and Mt. Lesima is its highest peak. For further details, see BIELLA & GROPPALI (2014).

All the material discussed here was collected by the senior author. The species collected are listed below, along with the plants on which they were captured while visiting the inner part of the corolla. Details such as repository collection (PCPB = private collection of Paolo BIELLA; MCSNV = Museo civico di Storia Naturale di Verona, collection of Daniele AVESANI), and status of the specimens (dry or in alcohol) are also provided. Unfortunately, species of the families Anthomyiidae, Fanniidae and Scathophagidae are still unidentified.

The Diptera of the province of Pavia have been surprisingly neglected in recent times: the keystone works of BEZZI (1891, 1892, 1922) and CORTI (1893, 1894, 1897, 1907) [CORTI (1907) without Muscidae] are also the last published surveys of the province. BEZZI mainly focused on the surroundings of Pavia city, in the Po plain, with only a minor fraction of his records from localities in the Apennine part of the province, while CORTI collected specimens also from the hilly areas (municipalities like Zavattarello or Romagnese). More than a century after their contributions, we have updated the nomenclature of their published lists (see Table 1).