Lamellicornia (Coleoptera) from Tunisia

By
L. ÁDÁM
(Received 10 December, 1978)

Abstract: A list of Lamellicornia (Coleoptera) collected in Tunisia in 1977 is presented. Three species and a subspecies are new to the fauna of the country.

The subsequent list of beetles collected by the research workers of the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest in 1977 comprises the material of the Lamellicornia. This rich material was especially noteworthy in the species of Melolonthidae and Scarabaeidae, yielding a total of seventy species. I was unable to determine one species owing to lack of literature and comparative material.

The great majority of the species was known from Tunisia, which is not surprising since extensive collectings were made there in the past. Nevertheless, three species and a subspecies were found to be new to the fauna of that country.

List of localities

No. 1. Sebka Sidi Bou Mefiah, 8 km SE from El Kef, 25 March, 1977. Singled mainly from flowers (Chamomilla sp.) of vegetation on a saline meadow, the dry marsh bottom of a basin without natural outlet.

No. 2. Same, 25 March, 1977. Singled from sheep and cattle droppings, or from ground below these.


No. 5. Same, but about 7 km from El Kef, about 1100 m; 26 March, 1977. Singled from under rocks at feet of seer cliff walls.


No. 7. Roule Ferme Eddy, Oued Mellegue, 5 km W from El Kef, 26 March, 1977. Singled or dug from hard, packed, drying mud along river shore. Singled from higher sand banks (Cicindelids).

* The collectings of the Hungarian Natural History Museum in Tunisia. No. 15.
** The material was collected by Zs. Debreczy, A. Embey-Isztin, L. Gozmány, S. Mahunka and L. Mahunka-Papp.
No. 8. 5 km E from El Kef, 26. March, 1977. Singled from under stones on barren slopes of S to SE exposition, or in bottom of enclosed dry wadis.


No. 15. Same, but about 30 km S of El Kef, 27. March, 1977. Treading and shore-washing along small stream, also singled from bases of decaying coastal plants.

No. 17. Ferme Shitta, Djebel Eddyr, about 6 km NNE from El Kef, about 1100 m, 28. March 1977. Singled from sward, mosses, from below stones imbedded in grassy soil, in shaded sites between cliff walls.

No. 28. Same, but about 7 km NE from El Kef, 1000 m, 28. March, 1977. Five ethylenglycol soil traps, baited with putrid meat, between crags, partly in wheat field partly in grass sward; in situ until 3. April, 1977.

No. 34. Ferme Shitta, Djebel Eddyr, about 7 km NE from El Kef, 29. March, 1977. Singled along roads, mainly from bases of Asphodelus, or dug from under base leaves.


No. 37. Environ of Ain Draham, 31. March, 1977. Berlese and Tardigrada samples from Quercus suber and Qu. libanotis forests: 1. litter samples from various places in closed forest; 2. mosses from the ground with the underlying soil; 3. mosses from perpendicular cliff wall; 4. mosses and lichens from Quercus suber trunk, with bases of Polypodium vulgare.


No. 42. Fernana, 1. April, 1977. Singled from horse dropping and from underlying ground.

No. 43. Ferme Shitta, Djebel Eddyr, about 8 km NE from El Kef, 1. April, 1977. Singled from horse dropping and from underlying ground.

No. 44. Same, 1. April, 1977. Singled from under stones (Psychid sacs).

No. 47. Same, 2. April, 1977. Singled from under stones and exposed plant bases.


No. 49. About 2 km NW from Maktar, 3. April, 1977. Berlese and Tardigrada samples from barren sites on border of town: 1. litter from base of Pinus pinuspo and a pulvinate Composite plant.

No. 50. Same, 3. April, 1977. Netted from single Thymus, Calycotome and Othonopsis plants on sparsely grown wayside.

No. 51. Same, about 10 km S from town, 3. April, 1977. Singled from ground and under stones on limestone hill (with Osteres).

No. 52. Same, 3. April, 1977. Berlese sample from litter and decaying bases of Thymus sp.

No. 54. Same, about 5 km S of town, 3. April, 1977. Singled from wet heaps of litter (ac- cumulated by water and wind) or from underlying ground in Eucalyptus plantation.

No. 55. Same, 3. April, 1977. Singled from flowering plants (Mesembrianthemum sp., Elaeagnus sp., etc.).

No. 60. Same, 3. April, 1977. Lighting (MV lamp) for nocturnal insects, 1900-2300, 22-16 C°, slight wind, open sky, full moon.


No. 68. Menzel Chaker, about 2 km W of village, 5. April, 1977. Shrubs and pulvinate plants taken from shores of saline marsh, material singled from their bases and roots.


No. 73. Same, 6. April, 1977. Netted on plants, mimosa shrubs, in cypress, alley (also reservoir and a dung heap in its vicinity!).


No. 76. Thyna, 12 km on the Gafsa road, 6. April, 1977. Singled from under decaying trees, plants, stones in seacoast vegetation.

No. 77. Same, 6. April, 1977. Sifted from dead, decaying snake, also soil underneath it.

No. 79. Same, 6. April, 1977. Singled by flashlight, on ground surface in garden.

No. 84. Same, 7. April, 1977. Singled on soil and under bark of palm trees.

No. 85. Same, 7. April, 1977. Lighting by camping gas lamp, 1900-2130, 24-18 °C, overcast sky, completely windless night (though site immediately on seashore!); a very intense flight of nocturnal insects!

No. 86. Boughrara, singled in and around agricultural college, 6-10. April, 1977.

No. 89. Same, on still higher, dry ground, 8. April, 1977. Singled on dry, grassy ground.

No. 92. Boughrara, agricultural college, 6. April, 1977. Insects taken on lamps of building; 1900-2200, 18-12 °C, stormy night, overcast sky.

No. 93. 2 km W of La Hencha, 9. April, 1977. Netted from Ferula flowers along road.

No. 94. Boughrara: saline lake 5 km NW from College. 9. April, 1977. Netted in weedy borders along rows of olive trees, also from Tamarix shrubs, between college and lake; some singled also from ground.

No. 95. 10 km S from Alchichine, 10. April, 1977. Netted on and beaten from Tamarix bushes in very dry, sandy area.

No. 98. Same, 10. April, 1977. Singled from ground, sifted and singled from roots of plants.


No. 111. Oued Gouifla, on Degache-Gafsa road, 15. April, 1977. Singled by turning stones in sandy areas along river.

No. 112. 35 km N from Tozeur, on road G. P. 3., between Tozeur-Gafsa, 15. April, 1977. Singled from under stones in barren rock desert.


No. 121. Same, 16. April, 1977. Singled from ground among sand dunes on higher ground, farther from water.


List of species

MELOLONTHIDAE

Protaetia (Potosia) opaca (Fabricius, 1787): Nos. 11, 151, 159.
Aethiessa floralis (Fabricius, 1787): Nos. 8, 11, 14, 47.
Oxythyrea pantherina (Gory et Percheron, 1833): Nos. 59, 94, 106, 110, 111, 121.
Tropinota (Tropinota) squalida (Scopoli, 1783): Nos. 7, 17, 47, 51, 59, 93, 106.
Amphicoma (Eulasia) bombylius (Fabricius, 1787): Nos. 6, 11, 48, 50, 51.
Pentodon algerinum algerinum (Herbst, 1789): Nos. 95, 98, 112, 116, 152.
Phyllognathius excavatus (Forster, 1771): Nos. 128, 136, 172, 181, 186.
Tribopertha quedenfeldti (Reitter, 1890): Nos. 59, 94.
Hoplia susiana Escalera, 1913: Nos. 106, 121. - The species was known to occur in Morocco and Algeria, apparently it is reported here for the first time from Tunisia.
Rhizotrogus (Pseudoapterogyna) elegans Brenke, 1889: Nos. 11, 44, 47, 51.
Rhizotrogus (Pseudoapterogyna) euphytus Buquet, 1840: Nos. 11, 14, 35, 44.
Rhizotrogus (Geotrogus) rectibasis (Reitter, 1902): No. 5.
Pachydema xanthochroa Fairmaire, 1879: Nos. 54, 59, 64, 70, 76, 86, 92, 98.
Pachydema carthaginensis (Rambur, 1843): Nos. 68, 84, 89, 94, 121.
Paratriodonta cinctipennis (Lucas, 1849): Nos. 59, 64, 66, 75.

SCARABAEIDAE

Geotrupes (Geotrupes) niger Marsham, 1802: Nos. 4, 38.
Geotrupes (Thorectes) demoffysi Baraud, 1965: No. 181.
Geotrupes (Thorectes) rugatulus Jekel, 1865: Nos. 4, 17, 28, 35, 44.
Bolbelasmus bocchus vaulogeri (Abeille, 1898)
Trox barbarus Harold, 1872: Nos. 59, 79.
Trox granulipennis Fairmaire, 1852: No. 17.
Ochodaeus sp.: No. 66.
Hybalus bigibber Reitter, 1892: No. 44. - It was described from Sicily. The species is new to the fauna of Tunisia.
Eremeaus unistriatus Mulsant, 1851: Nos. 70, 116.
Colobopterus (Colobopterus) erraticus (Linné, 1758): Nos. 1, 2.
Aphodius (Aphodius) fimetarius (Linné, 1758): No. 4, 38.
Aphodius (Aphodius) foetidus (Herbst, 1783): Nos. 4, 38.
Aphodius (Bodius) ghardimaouensis Balthasar, 1929: Nos. 43, 79.
Aphodius (Bodius) icerius (Laicharting, 1781): No. 116.
Aphodius (Bodius) iugens Creutzer, 1799: No. 4.
Aphodius (Mendidaphodius) sitiphoides d'Orbigny, 1896: No. 116.
Aphodius (Erytus) klugi A. Schmidt, 1910: Nos. 60, 64, 70, 77, 79.
Aphodius (Erytus) opacior D. Koshtantschikov, 1894: No. 108.
Aphodius (Calamosternus) granarius (Linné, 1767): Nos. 2, 4.
Aphodius (Liothorax) lividus (Olivier, 1789): Nos. 60, 64, 70, 73, 77, 85.
Aphodius (Mendidius) palmenticola Karsch, 1881: Nos. 102, 116.
Aphodius (Phalacrocothrus) diecki Harold, 1870: Nos. 42, 44.
Aphodius (Phalacrocothrus) quadriguttatus (Herbst, 1783): Nos. 2, 42.
Aphodius (Amidorus) cribricollis Lucas, 1846: Nos. 2, 15.
Aphodius (Chilothorax) exclamationis Motschulsky, 1849: No. 107.
Aphodius (Chilothorax) hieroglyphicus Klug, 1845: Nos. 60, 70, 77, 102.
Aphodius (Chilothorax) lineolatus Filliger, 1803: Nos. 2, 4, 38.
Aphodius (Biraulus) satellitius (Herbst, 1783): No. 4.
Aphodius (Megynoides) leucopierus Klug, 1846: Nos. 60, 70, 77, 102, 116, 117.
Sugrames (Pseudosugrames) brevitaris Reitter, 1894: No. 102.
Diastictus tibialis (Fabricius, 1798): Nos. 37, 49, 52.
Pleurophorus caesus (Panzer, 1796): Nos. 69, 70, 116.
Psammodius sefrensis (Petrovitz, 1961): No. 159. - The species was described from Algeria (Ain Sefra). One specimen was found in Tunisia, being new to the fauna.
Rhyssemus (Euononthophagus) crocatus Mulsant, 1873: Nos. 1, 2, 4, 11, 39, 51.
Onthophagus (Onthophagus) andalusiacus Waltl, 1835: Nos. 4, 43, 51.
Onthophagus (Onthophagus) maki Illiger, 1803: Nos. 43, 44, 64.
Onthophagus (Onthophagus) nebulosus Reiche, 1864: No. 66.
Onthophagus (Onthophagus) opacicollis Reitter, 1893: No. 4.
Onthophagus (Onthophagus) taurus (Schreber, 1759): Nos. 2, 38, 112, 195.
Onthophagus (Onthophagus) transcaucicus Koenig, 1888: No. 116.
Onthophagus (Onthophagus) trigibber Reitter, 1893: No. 4.
Copris hispanus hispanus (Linné, 1764): Nos. 4, 34, 79, 85, 92, 95, 98.
Onitis alexis septentrionalis Balthasar, 1942: No. 150.
Onitis ion (Olivier, 1789): Nos. 2, 4.
Onitis numida Castelnau, 1840: No. 4.
Bubas bison (Linné, 1767): Nos. 2, 4.
Bubas bubaloides Janssens, 1938: Nos. 59, 64.
Gymnopleurus flagellatus (Fabricius, 1787): Nos. 11, 70, 79, 92, 95.
Scarabaeus (Ateuchetus) variolosus (Fabricius, 1787): No. 17, 43, 44, 51.
Scarabaeus (Scarabaeus) sacer sacer Linné, 1758: Nos. 59, 64, 70, 79, 92, 95, 98, 116.
Scarabaeus (Scarabaeus) sacer acuticollis Motschulsky, 1849: No. 92. - The species is new to the beetle fauna of Tunisia.

LITERATURE


Author's address: L. ÁDÁM
Zoological Department
Hungarian Natural History Museum
H-1088 Budapest
Baross utca 13.
Hungary