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Agramma hirta n. sp. from Iran and new records of some other
Palaeartic lace-bugs
(Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Tingidae)

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ABSTRACT. *Agramma hirta* n. sp. from Iran, the second species of the genus recorded from this country, is described and compared with *A. panici* LINNAVUORI. First country records are presented for five species of the Palaeartic *Tingidae*, namely for *Dictyonota horvathi* (KIRITSHENKO, 1914), *Kalama lugubris* (FIEBER, 1861), *Dictyla sahlbergi* (HORVÁTH, 1906) (all three new to Iran), *Physatocheila harwoodi* CHINA, 1936 (new to Czech Republic), and *Monosteira discoidalis* (JAKOVLEV, 1883) (new to Syria).

Key words: entomology, taxonomy, new species, new country records, Palaeartic, Hemiptera, Heteroptera, Tingidae.

During my studies on the Palaeartic *Tingidae* I have had a possibility to identify specimens from the collection of the National Museum of Natural History in Prague (Czech Republic). Among the studied material I have found one species of the genus *Agramma* STEPHENS, 1829 new to the science, as well as several species previously unrecorded from various countries.

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***Agramma hirta* n. sp.**

(Fig. 1)

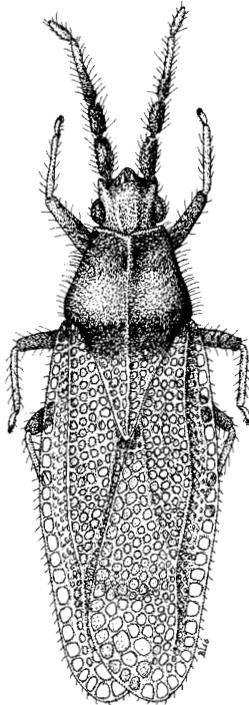
DIAGNOSIS

The new species resembles *Agramma panici* LINNAVUORI, 1977 (known from Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Somalia and Sudan) in the shape of the body and relatively broad costal area composed of one row of large areolae, but can easily be distinguished from the latter in having dense pilosity of the body surface (all other species of the genus are bare).

DESCRIPTION

Body length: 2.27 mm, body width: 0.75 mm, length of pronotum: 0.87 mm, width of pronotum: 0.53 mm, length of hemelytron: 1.62 mm, length of discoidal area: 1.00 mm, length of antennal segments: 0.18 mm : 0.15 mm : 0.29 mm : 0.13 mm.

Head yellowish brown, bearing long, bright hairs, and two very short, apically brightened spines; eyes relatively small, yellowish, bearing bright hairs between ommatidia; frons 3.6 times broader than the eye width; bucculae areolated, each composed of three rows of small areolae; sternal laminae of rostral sulcus developed as very thin and low carinae, and without areolae; rostrum short, slightly extending beyond posterior margin of prosternum. Antennae moderately thick, yellowish brown, segment IV and apical half of segment III slightly brighter in



1. *Agramma hirta* n. sp., holotype, dorsal view

shade; segments I and II subequal in length; segment III, the longest, narrowing from base to apex; antennae with small piliferous tubercles, bearing long, pale hairs.

Pronotum very finely carinate along its lateral margins, and bearing a low median carina; pronotal disc convex, yellowish brown, indistinctly punctate, covered with long pale hairs; collar composed of two rows of small areolae, its anterior margin brightened; posterior processus of pronotum pale ochreous, areolated.

Hemelytra pale ochreous, areolated; main veins (R+M and Cu) distinct, bearing pale hairs; costal area relatively wide, bearing one row of large areolae, fringed with pale, stiff, not very dense hairs; subcostal area composed of 4 rows of areolae in its widest part, bearing pale hairs; discoidal area with 5-6 rows of areolae in its widest part, sparsely covered with pale hairs; sutural area composed of 8 rows of areolae in its widest part.

Legs short; femora incrassate, bearing pale hairs, including some on small, piliferous tubercles; femora yellowish brown, tibiae and tarsi lighter in shade than femora, and bearing pale hairs.

Thoracic sterna yellowish brown, smooth; abdominal sterna yellowish brown, sparsely covered with short, bright hairs.

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype female: [IRAN]: S. Iran, 1600-2100 m, Kuh-e Gena, top, 4-5. 5. 1977; loc. no. 322. Exped. Nat. Mus. Praha (in the collection of the National Museum of Natural History, Prague, Czech Republic).

ETYMOLOGY

The species name refers to the dense pilosity of the body.

REMARKS

The genus hitherto comprised 25 species distributed within the Palaearctic Region (AUKEMA & RIEGER, 1996), including *A. atricapillum* (SPINOLA, 1837), a single species of the genus previously known from Iran (the occurrence of *A. laetum* (FALLÉN, 1807) is still not confirmed in this country). Thus, the presently described *A. hirta* n. sp. is the second species of the genus known to occur in Iran, and it can be easily separated from *A. laetum* by its dense pilosity of the body surface.

NEW COUNTRY RECORDS

***Dictyonota horvathi* (KIRITSHENKO, 1914)**

MATERIAL EXAMINED

IRAN: 1 ex., S. Iran, 400m, 6 km W Geno, 7-9. 5. 1977; Loc. no. 323, Exped. Nat. Mus., Praha.

Up to now recorded from Kazakhstan, Armenia, Iraq, Mongolia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan (AUKEMA & RIEGER, 1996). New to Iran.

***Kalama lugubris* (FIEBER, 1861)**

MATERIAL EXAMINED

IRAN: 1 ex., Lorestan, 65 Km. N., Andimeshk Pole-tang, 490 m. 10. 4. 1977, PAZUKI/HASHEMI.

Up to now known from Turkey, Malta, Greece, Yugoslavia, Cyprus, Israel and Libya (AUKEMA & RIEGER, 1996). New to Iran.

***Physatocheila harwoodi* CHINA, 1936**

MATERIAL EXAMINED

CZECH REPUBLIC: 2 ex., Moravia m., 10.-13. 5. 1988, Lednice, V. ŠVIHLA lgt.

Hitherto known from Austria, France, Great Britain, Germany, Italy, and Slovenia (AUKEMA & RIEGER, 1996); a record from Poland is still not confirmed (see LIS, 1996). New to Czech Republic.

***Dictyla sahlbergi* (HORVÁTH, 1906)**

MATERIAL EXAMINED

IRAN: 1 ex., N. Iran, C. Elburz, Damavand, Lajran, 2400m, 21. 7. 1970; Loc. no. 64, Exp. Nat. Mus., Praha.

Up to now recorded only from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan (GOLUB, 1997). New to Iran.

***Monosteira discoidalis* (JAKOVLEV, 1883)**

MATERIAL EXAMINED

SYRIA: 4 ex., Machhad, 1. 3. 1973, Saf.

Hitherto recorded from Kazakhstan, South European Territory of Russia, Afghanistan, Northwestern Territory of China, Iran, Iraq, Kirgizia, Mongolia, Tadjikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan (AUKEMA & RIEGER, 1996). New to Syria.

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