

**A LITTLE KNOWN SPECIES *PONTANIA PROXIMA*
(SERVILLE, 1823) (HYMENOPTERA, SYMPHYTA,
TENTHREDINIDAE) FROM TURKEY**

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ABSTRACT: In this study we report a little known species *Pontania proxima* (Serville, 1823) on *Salix alba* L. in the inner Western Anatolian. We give details on geographical distribution, host and pictures of the gall.

KEY WORDS: Hymenoptera, *Pontania proxima*, *Salix alba*, Tenthredinidae, Turkey.

The family Tenthredinidae (Symphyta, Hymenoptera) are known "Typical Sawflies". It is the largest family of Symphyta, including more than seven to eighths of all members of the Symphyta (Comstock, 1964). About 6000 species in 360 genera are known in temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere (Liston, 1995; Goulet & Huber, 1993; Medvedev, 1994; Lacourt, 1999; Taeger & Blank, 1998). The number of valid species recorded from Europe more than 900 (Liston, 1995). Historically, the fauna of Tenthredinidae of Turkey has been poorly studied despite its zoogeographic interest. The first study on the sawfly fauna of Turkey was reported by Guichard & Harvey (1967). Benson (1966, 1968), studied about the Symphyta of Turkey, and described new taxa and gave keys to some genera and species found in Turkey. Published studies concern mostly sawflies (Suborder: Symphyta), either as forest and cultivated pests in Turkey (Bodenheimer, 1941; Alkan, 1952; Baş, 1973; Özbek, 1986; Erden, 1988; Güçlü & Özbek, 1999; Çalmaşur & Özbek, 2004a). Wolf (1968) and Chevin & Chenon (1982), recorded some sawfly species from Turkey. Three sawflies species from Tenthredinidae family were given as new to Turkey with some new host records (Özbek, 1986; Güçlü & Özbek, 1999; Çalmaşur & Özbek, 2004a). Çalmaşur & Özbek, (2004b; 2004c) listed totally 104 species from predominantly eastern of Turkey. Of these, 18 species were new for Turkey fauna. Çalmaşur (2006), recorded 4 species for the first time from North Eastern of Anatolia, Turkey.

Bodenheimer (1941), reported the first record of *Pontania proxima* from Turkey but location of specimens was not given. Second record of this species was reported on *Salix alba* from Kastamonu and İstanbul (Alkan, 1952). Recently this species was also reported on *Salix alba* in Cyprus (Liston & Jacobs, 2012).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The white willow galls were collected in different localities from Inner western of Anatolia (Afyon, Denizli, Kütahya and Uşak provinces). We also recorded localities and collected time. The galls identified according to the available literature sources (Alkan, 1952; Taeger & Blank, 1998; Medvedev, 1994; Lacourt, 1999). The gall specimens are deposited in the Zoology Museum of Gazi

University.

RESULTS

Pontania proxima (Serville, 1823)

Materials: AFYON, between Afyon-Kütahya way to Kütahya, 4.km 38°50'N, 30°25'E, 1031m, 20.05.2007, 10 galls; Bayat, 38°59'N, 30°56'E, 1045m, 18.06.2007, 7 galls; Bayat, surrounding Bayat dam, 38°58'N, 30°53'E, 1139m, 18.06.2007; 14 galls; İncehisar, surrounding İncehisar dam, 38°48'N, 30°48'E, 1050m, 19.06.2007, 3 galls; İhsaniye, between İhsaniye-Döğer surrounding Üçler dam, 39°04'N, 30°25'E, 1107m, 19.06.2007, 11 galls; Çay, Çayırızı village, 38°22'N, 30°44'E, 1112m, 27.06.2007, 10 galls; Çay, Eber village, surrounding Eber lake, 38°36'N, 31°09'E, 973m, 09.07.2007, 13 galls; Emirdağ, Aşağıkepen village surrounding Pınarbaşı dam, 39°02'N, 31°19'E, 973m, 09.07.2007, 12 galls; Çay, Koçbeyli town, surrounding Karamık lake, 38°25'N, 30°53'E, 1014m, 10.07.2007, 16 galls; Çay, Aydoğmuş village, 38°22'N, 30°46'E, 1014m, 10.07.2007, 11 galls; Çay, Pazaragaç town, 38°36'N, 30°51'E, 996m, 11.06.2008, 3 galls; DENİZLİ, above Cankurtaran town Honaz Mountain, 37°40'N, 29°13'E, 1207m, 26.06.2007, 3 galls; Cankurtaran town Honaz Mountain, 37°39'N, 29°14'E, 1100m, 26.06.2007, 3 galls; Çivril, Gülpınar village, 38°24'N, 29°43'E, 968m, 13.07.2007, 6 galls; Çardak, Beylerli town, 37°41'N, 29°37'E, 921m, 22.04.2008, 3 galls; KÜTAHYA, Altıntaş, Genişler village, 38°58'N, 30°06'E, 1064m, 20.05.2007, 8 galls; Tavşanlı, between Tavşanlı-Domaniç way to Domaniç 4.km, 39°34'N, 29°27'E, 815m, 21.05.2007, 4 galls; Tavşanlı, between Tavşanlı-Domaniç way to Domaniç 20.km, 39°43'N, 29°31'E, 706m, 21.05.2007, 17 galls; Kütahya, Söğüt village, 39°26'N, 30°10'E, 1075m, 19.06.2007, 8 galls; Domaniç, between Domaniç-Tahtaköprü way to Tahtaköprü 3.km, 39°59'N, 29°38'E, 930m, 20.06.2007, 5 galls; Domaniç, Berçin village, 39°46'N, 29°34'E, 864m, 20.06.2007, 2 galls; Kütahya, Frigian valley above Fındık village, 39°33'N, 30°12'E, 960m, 11.07.2007, 5 galls; Kütahya, between Kütahya-Çavdarhisarı way to Çavdarhisarı bank of Bedir stream, 39°12'N, 29°36'E, 1020m, 11.07.2007, 14 galls; Pazarlar, Yakuplar town surrounding Yakuplar dam, 39°55'N, 29°08'E, 918m, 12.07.2007, 14 galls; İhsaniye, Döğer town surrounding Emre lake, 39°01'N, 31°00'E, 1067m, 03.05.2008, 4 galls; UŞAK, between Eşme-Uşak way to Eşme 13.km, 38°35'N, 29°01'E, 600m, 22.06.2007, 7 galls; Eşme, Takmak village surrounding Takmak dam, 38°26'N, 28°57'E, 831m, 22.06.2007, 5 galls; Banaz, Yeşilyurt village, 38°48'N, 29°40'E, 1024m, 23.06.2007, 4 galls; Ulubey, between Ulubey-Karahallı way to Karahallı 8.km, 38°21'N, 29°19'E, 543m, 13.07.2007, 5 galls (Fig. 1).

Host: *Salix alba*.

DISCUSSION

Pontania proxima was recorded on *S. alba*, *S. alba* x *S. fragilis* L., *S. fragilis*, *S. babylonica* L. in Europa, Sardinia, Cyprus, Crete, Caucasia, Siberia, Central Asia and North America (Lacourt, 1999). Alkan (1952), recorded on *S. alba* from Kastamonu and İstanbul in Turkey. In this study, we presented new locations of *Pontania proxima* which are recorded from Turkey at the third time on *S. alba* in the inner Western Anatolian. We estimate that *Pontania proxima* distributed throughout Anatolian region with *S. alba* or mentioned other *Salix* species. The objective of our study is to contribute to the knowledge of Tentredinidae fauna of Turkey. Çalmaşur (2006), expressed that the number of the species of Turkish sawfly fauna rised up to 222. We estimate that number of species of Turkey Tentredinidae fauna will increase following local faunistic studies in the future.

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Figure 1. The gall pictures of the *Pontania proxima*.