SCIENTIFIC NOTE

SEVEN SPECIES AS NEW RECORDS FOR HOVER FLIES FAUNA OF IRAN (DIPTERA, SYRPHIDAE) FROM QARADAG FORESTS

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Syrphidae is one of the largest families of the order Diptera with more than 6000 described species over the world. This large family consists of small to medium flies 6- 18 mm long, most of which have yellow and black striped bodies resembling bees or wasps. Adults often hover near flowers and feed on nectar and pollen (Faegri and van der Pijl, 1979 and Sarıbıyık, 2003). These floral resources enhance the longevity and fecundity of adult flies (Topham and Beardsley, 1975). These flies are common pollinators almost wherever flowers are found. Larvae are pale green to yellow maggots resembling slugs which pupate on plants or in the soil enclosed in a puparium. Larvae pray on aphids, scales and other insects. They may consume up to 400 aphids as larvae so they are good natural enemies particularly in the Syrphinae subfamily. Recently, the fauna of syrphids has been studied by the related taxonomists in Iran (Khiaban et al. 1998, Alichi et al. 2002, Gharali et al. 2002, Goldasteh et al. 2002, Gilasian, 2005). Checklists of Iranian hover flies were listed by Peck (1988) and Dousti and Hayat (2006). Unfortunately, so far the syrphid fauna of Qaradag forests, registered biosphere in East Azarbaijan province, has not been well known thus it is the subject of this present study. Studied specimens were collected twice a month, during 2009. Flies were caught using common handy entomological net and malaise trap in 35 localities which are situated in forests as well as grasslands in studied area. The identification was made up to the specific level with the help of relevant literature such as Bei- Bienko (1988), Stubbs and Falk (2002) and Lyneborg and Barkemeyer (2005). Seven species introduced for Iran Syrphid fauna as new records by present study which are listed as follows:

Cheilosia aerea Dufour, 1848
Cheilosia cumanica Szilády, 1938
Chrysogaster basalis Loew, 1857
Eumerus lucidus Loew, 1848

Melanogaster nuda (Macquart, 1829)
Merodon aberrans Egger, 1860
Pipizella divicoi (Goeldlin de Tiefenau, 1974)

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