

**A CONFIRMED SPECIES TO TURKISH MIRIDAE
FAUNA: *MYRMECORIS GRACILIS* (SAHLBERG, 1848)
(HETEROPTERA)**

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ABSTRACT: The paper presents *Myrmecoris gracilis* (Sahlberg, 1848) as a second record for Turkish Miridae (Heteroptera) from Ankara: Ayaş in Central Anatolian region of Turkey. Thus, its occurrence in Turkey is confirmed.

KEY WORDS: Miridae, *Myrmecoris gracilis*, Ayaş, Ankara, Turkey

**Family Miridae
Myrmecoris gracilis (Sahlberg, 1848)**

Material Examined: Turkey, Ankara, Ayaş, Başbereket village, 1080 m, 13-14 July 1998, 2 females specimens collected by net trap from grass-vegetation.

Distribution in Palaearctic region: Austria, Bulgaria, Byelorussia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Great Britain, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldavi, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia (Central, North, South; East-West Siberia), Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Kazakhstan, China (North), Korea, Uzbekistan (Stichel, 1956-58; Wagner, 1971; Aukema & Rieger, 1999).

Remarks: The Palaearctic genus *Myrmecoris* (Miridae) is monotypic with the type species *Myrmecoris gracilis* (Sahlberg, 1848). The species is a predator and has an ant mimic. It was formerly classed by the IUCN as "Rare" in its pre-1994 system (Natural History Museum, May 2019).

Myrmecoris gracilis (Sahlberg, 1848) sucks plant juices, but feed mainly on aphids, other small insects which are exclusively herbivorous and insect eggs.

The species was firstly reported by Bozbuğa & Elekçioğlu (2008) from Antalya province. With this study, it is recorded for the second time from Turkey with exact locality information.

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