

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE PICTURE-WINGED FLIES (DIPTERA: ULIDIIDAE) FROM FARS PROVINCE, IRAN

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ABSTRACT: Fars province in the south of Iran was surveyed for Ulidiidae (Insecta: Diptera) during 2009–2010. Four species belonging to 4 genera and 2 subfamilies Otitinae and Ulidiinae were recorded. Of these, *Ceroxys hortulana* (Rossi 1790) and *Ulidia omani* Steyskal 1970 are new to the fauna of Iran.

KEY WORDS: Fars province, Iran, Fauna, New record, Ulidiidae, Diptera.

The picture-winged flies, Ulidiidae (= Otitidae), are a family of true flies belonging to the superfamily Tephritoidea within the suborder Brachycera. Over 700 valid species are known, and these are distributed predominantly in the New World and, to a lesser degree, in the Palaearctic region, with few species widespread into tropical Africa, Asia, and into Oceania (Kameneva, 2003; 2005). The Iranian fauna of Ulidiidae is very poorly known. Papers by Kameneva (2008) and Kameneva & Korneyev (2010) contain a few faunistic records for the Ulidiidae of Iran, but none of the studies focused specifically on the Ulidiidae of the area. The objectives of the present study were to provide detailed information on the distribution of Ulidiidae in Fars province and to contribute to the knowledge of the Iranian fauna.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This paper is the result of some collection trips to different locations in Fars province during 2009–2010. The Fars province is located in southern Iran between 27°01' and 31°51'N and between 50°27' and 55°45'E, covering an area of 125,000 km². The climate of the province is arid to semiarid. The specimens were captured selectively by hand net or sweeping (Also, the McPhail trap and light trap were used) by the first author. The materials are deposited in the Department of Entomology, College of Agriculture, Islamic Azad University, Jahrom branch. The taxonomic arrangement of Fauna Europaea (2010) for subfamilies, tribes, genera and species are followed in this paper. Collecting periods are arranged chronologically.

RESULTS

The Ulidiidae species collected and identified during this 2-year study period are listed as follows:

Subfamily Otitinae Aldrich, 1932

Tribe Otitini Aldrich, 1932

The tribe is distributed in the Old World and North America, and is absent in South America and the temperate part of the Australasian region. It includes the

widespread genera *Herina* Robineau-Desvoidy; *Melieria* Robineau-Desvoidy and the holarctic genera *Otites* Latreille; *Tetanops* Fallén and *Ceroxys* Macquart. The tribe also includes the nearctic genus *Hiatus* Cresson and the strictly palaeartic genera *Dorycera* Meigen and *Ulidiopsis* Hennig (Kameneva & Korneyev, 2006).

Genus *Ceroxys* Macquart, 1835

***Ceroxys hortulana* (Rossi, 1790)**

Material examined: 4 ♂, 1 ♀: Fars Province, Shiraz; 29°36' N 52°31' E, Elevation: 5048ft, 2 Nov. 2009, Captured by: McPhail trap on *Punica granatum* L. (Punicaceae).

Distribution: Europe, Near East, **First record from Iran.**

Subfamily Ulidiinae Macquart, 1835

Tribe Ulidiini Macquart, 1835

The picture-winged fly tribe Ulidiini includes about 90 species of the genera *Physiphora* Fallén, 1810, *Timia* Wiedemann, 1824 and *Ulidia* Meigen, 1826 (Kameneva, 2010).

Genus *Physiphora* Fallen, 1810

Most diverse of the genus occur in the Afrotropical region (Kameneva, 2010).

***Physiphora alcaeae* (Preyssler, 1791)**

Material examined: 1 ♂, 3 ♀: Fars Province, Estahban-Eij Village; 29 °05' N 54 °10' E, Elevation: 5792ft, 20 Nov. 2009; Captured by: McPhail trap on *Punica granatum* L. (Punicaceae), 7 ♂, 13 ♀: Fars Province, Estahban; 29 °07' N 54 °01' E, Elevation: 5788ft, 17 Oct. 2009; Captured by: McPhail trap on *Ficus carica* L. (Moraceae), 1 ♀: Fars Province, Darab; 28 °51' N 54 °18' E, Elevation: 5511ft, 24 Mar. 2009.

Distribution: Subcosmopolitan, except subpolar regions (Kameneva and Korneyev, 2010).

Genus *Timia* Wiedemann, 1824

The genus occurring predominantly in the Middle East and Central Asia (Kameneva, 2010).

***Timia (Empyelocera) abstersa* (Loew, 1873)**

Material examined: 3 ♂, 6 ♀: Fars Province, Kharameh; 29°32' N 53°19' E, Elevation: 4921ft, 28 May. 2009, hand net on *Medicago sativa* L. (Fabaceae).

Distribution: Widespread in sub arid zones of the Palaeartic Region, from Southern Moldova and Ukraine, eastwards to Mongolia, and in steppes and semi-deserts of European Russia (Volgograd and Astrakhan Regions), Kazakhstan, states of Middle Asia and Iran (Kameneva, 2008).

Genus *Ulidia* Meigen, 1826

All known species occur in the Palearctic region, commonly occurring in dry meadows, wood-and-steppe and steppe grasslands or semi-deserts in late spring or early summer. Only one species, *Ulidia fulvifrons* Bigot, 1857, is found in the New World (Kameneva, 2008; Chen and Kameneva, 2009; Kameneva, 2010).

***Ulidia omani* Steyskal, 1970**

Material examined: 1 ♂: Fars Province, Shiraz; 30°27' N 53°37' E, Elevation: 5047ft, 5 Mar. 2010, hand net on *Armoracia rusticana* G. Gaertn., B. Mey. & Scherb. (Brassicaceae).

Distribution: Moldova, Near East, **First record from Iran.**

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