

Short reports

The first report of *Metaphycus pulvinariae* (Howard) (Hym.: Encyrtidae) from Iran. A. Davoodi¹, A. A. Talebi¹, Gh. R. Rajabi², Y. Fathipour¹ and X. Xu³. Department of Entomology, College of Agriculture, Tarbiat Modares University¹, Department of Agricultural Entomology, Plant Pests & diseases Research Institute², Institute of Applied Entomology, Agriculture & Biotechnology College, Zhjiang University, China³.

During spring 2003, a study was carried out to determine parasitoid wasps of soft scale insects (Hom.: Coccidae). In this survey, some samples of *Didesmococcus unifasciatus* (Arch.) were collected from Almond trees in Tabriz (Shend Abad) during June. Infected stems were held in insect boxes at room conditions. Emerged wasps were preserved in 75% ethyl alcohol. Among the samples, some parasitoid wasps were observed and indentified as *Metaphycus pulvinariae* (Hym.; Encyrtidae) by Z. Xu. According to the literatures, *M.pulvinariae* is a new record from Iran. Some of it's important morphological characters are as follows: Female's body length 0.9-1.1 mm; body color light yellow, dorsal surface of body slightly darker than ventral surface; Antennae 11 segmented, first four funicular segments and basal half of club, brown in color; maxillary palp three-segmented; notaular line present but incomplete; forewing hyaline, speculum close at base. Male's body length 0.8-1 mm; body dorsal surface darker than female's; Antennae 9 segmented, funicular segments brown, other morphological characters as female.

The first report of *Moranila californica* (Howard) (Hym.: Pteromalidae) from Iran. A. Davoodi¹, A.A. Talebi¹, Gh. R. Radjabi², Y. Fathipour¹, V. Rezaei¹ and H. Baur³. Department of Entomology, College of Agriculture, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran¹. Department of Agricultural Entomology, Plant Pests & Diseases

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A study was conducted to determine parasitoid wasps of soft scales (Hom.: Coccidae) in Tehran and Northern Provinces of Iran, in 2002. Leaves and stems of different host plants infested by soft scales were collected and held in insect cages at room conditions. Parasitoids emerged from field samples were preserved in 75% ethyl alcohol. Some female wasps of *Moranila californica* (Hym.: Pteromalidae) were emerged from *Saissetia oleae* (Olivier) and *Ceroplastes floridensis* Comstock collected from Gilan (Rodbar), were identified by Dr. Hannes Baur (Department of Invertebrates, Natural history museum, Switzerland). Larvae of *M. californica* are predators of the eggs of both soft scales. According to the literatures, *M. californica* is a new record from Iran. Some morphological characters of the adult females are as follows :

Body length 2-2.2 mm; body color dark brown to black with light brown head; antennae ten segmented, inserted above the mouthparts; thorax convex and metallic in color; forewing with dark infumation of distal half, costal cell with ten distinct hairs, submarginal vein long, curved, with at least eight bristles; second abdominal segment longer than all others.

The first report on *Eurytoma acroptilae* Zerova, 1986. parasitoid of safflower shoot flies from Iran. B.Gharali¹, M.Zerova². Dep. of Plant Pests & Diseases Res., Agric. and Nat. Resource Res. Center , Ilam, Iran¹. Dep. of Entomophags Systematics, Schmalhausen Inst. Of Zoology. Kiev. Ukraine².

By maintaining infected capitula of safflower in rearing boxes, some parasitoid specimens belonging to family eurytomidae were obtained. Capitulae were collected from safflower fields in Dehloran (20 April 2002), Dareh shahr (1 May 2002) and Shirvan chardavol (7 June 2003). The specimens identified as *Eurytoma acroptilae*. Adult parasitoids appear simultaneously with shoot flies in safflower fields and insert their black and pedunculate eggs in flower heads of *Carthamus tinctorius*. After hatching, larvae feed on flies' larvae externally and destroy them completely.

The hosts of this parasitoid in Ilam province are as follow :

1. *Acanthiophilus helianthi* (Rossi)
2. *Chaetorellia carthami* Stackelberg
3. *Terellia luteola* Robineau-Desvoidy
4. *Urophora maurianica* Macquart

All these flies belong to family tephritidae and their larvae attack safflower capitula. For the first time this parasitoid has been reared on weed *Acroptilon repens* (L.) infested by fruit flies belonging to genera *Acanthiophilus*, *Urophora* and *Trupanea* in Ukraine.

Notes on fifteen species of parasitoids and one species of hyperparasitoid (Pteromalidae & Encyrtidae) from Iran . H.Ghahari. Department of Entomology, Science & Research Campus, Islamic azad University, Tehran- IRAN.

Conducting surveys on different pest species through 1999-2003 in different regions of Mazandaran and Golestan provinces, and rearing them under optimum conditions ($25\pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$, 70-85 RH%, and 14 : 10 photoperiod), 15 parasitoid species of 2 families including, Pteromalidae and Encyrtidae, and 1 species of hyperparasitoid (family pteromalidae) were collected and identified. The parasitoids were classified in 11 genera including, *Cheirpachus* Westwood, 1828; *Cryptoxyx* Dellucchi, 1956; *Cryptogaster* Walker, 1833 (= *Polycystus* Westwood, 1828); *Dibrachoides* Kurdjumov, 1913; *Halticoptera* Spinola, 1811; *Homalotylus* Mayr; *Pachyneuron* Walker, 1833; *Pteromalus* Swederus, 1795 (= *Gerontidiella* Szelenyi, 1982 = (*Eupteromalus* Kurdjumov, 1913), and *Urolepis* Walker, 1846. The collected hyperparasitoid was of the genus *Euneura* Walker, 1844 (= *Gygaxia* Dellucchi, 1955). The identity of species confirmed by Dr. Boucek in The Natural History Museum of London. The identified parasitoids and hyperparasitoid are as below :

A : Pteromalidae

1. *Cheirpachus quadrum* (Fabricius) parasitoid of the larvae of *Rugoloscolytus mediterraneus* Egg. (Col.: Scolytidae) on peach
2. *Cryptoxyx latipes* (Rndani) parasitoid of the pupae of *Dacus ciliatus* Loew (Diptera : Tephritidae) on pumpkin
3. *Cryptoxyx robustus* (Masi) parasitoid of the pupae of *Adleria caputmedusae* (Hart.) (Hym.: Cynipidae) on oak
4. *Cryptogaster clavicornis* Walker parasitoid of the pupae of *Ragoletis ceraci* L. (Dip.: Tephritidae) on cherry
5. *Dibrachoides dynastes* (Foerster) parasitoid of the pupae of *Hypera variabilis* (Gyll.) (Col.: Curculionidae) on lucerne
6. *Euneura lachni* Ashmead hyperparasitoid of *aphidius ervi* Hal. (Hym.: Aphidiidae) on *Acyrtosiphon pisum* Harr. On bean
7. *Halticoptera flavicornis* Spinola parasitoid of the larvae of *Agromyza alnibetula* Hend. (Dip.: Agromyzidae) on poplar
8. *Pachyneuron grande* Thompson parasitoid of *Nipaecoccus vastator* Mask. (Hom.: Pseudococcidae) on oleander
9. *Pachyneuron planiscuta* Thompson parasitoid of *Nipaecoccus viridis* (News.) (Hom.: Pseudococcidae) on white mulberry
10. *Pteromalus cardui* (Erdos) parasitoid of the pupae of *Vanessa cardui* L. (Lep.: Nymphalidae) on soybean
11. *Pteromalus elevatus* (Walker) parasitoid of the pupae of *Pieris brassicae* (L.) (Lep.: Pieridae) on cabbage
12. *Pteromalus microps* Graham parasitoid of the pupae of *Papilio machaon* L. (Lep.: Papilionidae) on carrot
13. *Sphegigaster stepicola* Boucek parasitoid of the larvae of *Agromyza schineri* (Gir.) (Dip.: Agromyzidae) on poplar

14. *Trichomalopsis peregrina* (Graham) parasitoid of the larvae of *Ragoletis cerasi* L. (Dip.: Tephritidae) on strawberry
15. *Urolepis maritima* (Walker) parasitoid of the larvae of *Ephydra afghanica* (Dip.: Ephydriidae) on rice.

B : Encyrtidae

Homalotylus ephippium Ruschka parasitoid of the larvae of *Exochomus pubescens* Kust. (Col.: Coccinellidae)

All the specimens of the parasitoids and the hyperparasitoid, and many of their hosts are deposited in Department of Entomology, Science & Research Campus of Azad University.

New record on three mealybugs (three species and two genera) (Hem.: Coccoidea : Pseudococcidae) in Iran. M. Moghadam. Insect Taxonomy Research Department, Plant Pests and Diseases Research Institute, Tehran 19395-1454, Iran.

Among the collected specimens from the southern provinces of Iran in 1999-2001, three species of mealybugs were recorded for the first time.

Dysmicoccus brevipes. Previously recorded on imported pineapples (J. Ent. Soc.Iran, 1999. 18 : 44) it was collected on alfalfa root in systan & Baluchestan in March 2001.

Ferrisia virgata (Cockerell) (new species and genus) this mealybug is distributed in Systan & Baluchestan, Province on some tropical and subtropical plants. The amount of its damages are considerable on some host plants. Material examined : Systan & Baluchestan : Chabahar, On *Albizia* sp.: *Psidium guajava* : *Myrtus communis* ; 24. IV. 2001; leg. Moghaddam. Chabahar. Tiss : On *cordial myxa*; 22. IV. 2001; leg. Ghanbari.

Planococcoides robustus Ezzat & McConnell (new species and genus)- This species was collected from Hormozgan Province, Gheshm. Band- Haj Ali on *Prosopis spicigera* in III. 2001 by author.