

## Ptinidae

*Ptinus italicus* AAR. (*Bruchoptinus*): Remoulins (Gard), France, 21.V.1990: 1 femelle.

2. Op verzoek van Dhr. H. DUMONT leest Dhr. G. COULON de volgende mededeling.

### On some dragonflies from the Nile valley in Egypt

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#### Abstract

We report 11 afrotropical dragonfly species from the Egyptian Nile valley. *Mesocnemis robusta* (SELYS), a nilotic endemic, is first reported from the Nile delta and is an addition to the palaeartic fauna. A certain lack of homogeneity of certain species across the valley seems to exist and requires further study.

Remarkably little has been published on the Odonate fauna of the lower and middle Nile valley since ANDRES (1928) (for an overview of the entire Nile fauna, see DUMONT, 1980), while DUMONT & MARTENS (1984) provided data for the stretch of the river between New Halfa and Khartoum in northern Sudan. An extended stay of one of us (O.F.) in Egypt therefore provided a welcome opportunity to collect dragonflies, from the mediterranean as far south as Aswan. Most collections were made in July 1988 and August 1988, although a field trip to Dakla and Kharga oases had taken place as early as April 1988.

Adult dragonflies were collected at 15 different localities (Fig. 1). Larval material was also collected, and is presently under study. Arab names are transcribed according to the Bartholomew world map.

#### List of species and localities

##### Zygoptera

1. *Mesocnemis robusta* (SELYS): Kafr Shukr, 11.VII.88, ♂, ♀.
2. *Ischnura senegalensis* (RAMBUR): Aswan (Elephantine), 28.VIII.88, 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀; Shirbin, 10.VII.88, 1 ♂; Dakhla, IV.88, ♀, 4 ♂♂.
3. *Pseudagrion t. torridum* SELYS: Zifta, 10.VII.88, ♂; Aswan (Elephantine and Kitchener Island, 28.VIII.88, 4 ♂♂, 7 ♀♀; Dakhla, IV.88, 2 ♀♀.
4. *Pseudagrion nubicum* SELYS: Shirbin, 10.VII.88, ♂; Kafr Shukr, 11.VII.88, ♂, ♀; Kafr el Khalig, 10.VII.88, 22; Kafr el Zaiyat, 13.VIII.88, ♂.

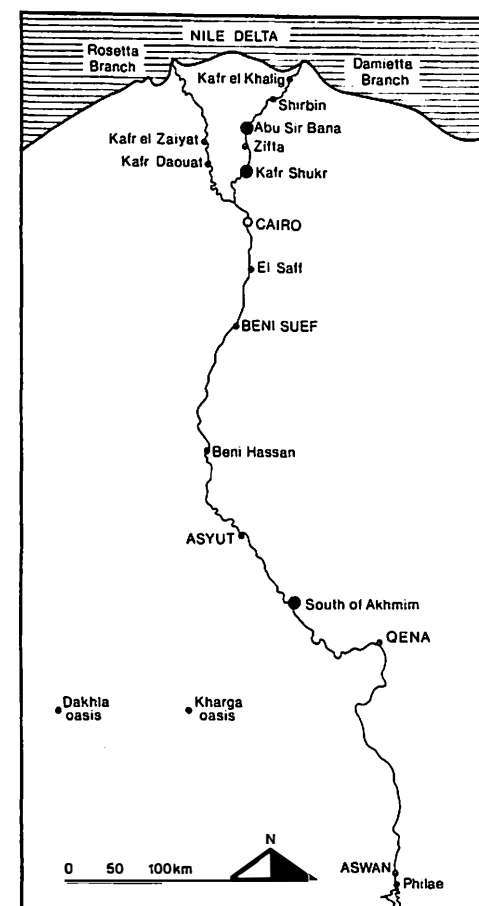


Fig. 1. Map of the Egyptian Nile valley, with sampling locations indicated. Stations of *Mesocnemis robusta* (Selys) (Kafr Shukr), and of *Nesiothemis farinosum* (Förster) (Abu Sir Bana and Akhmim) accentuated.

##### Anisoptera

5. *Crocothemis erythraea* (BRULLÉ): Dakhla, IV.88, ♂; Kharga, IV.88, ♂; Kafr el Zaiyat, 13.VIII.88, ♂, ♀; Kafr Daouat, 12.VIII.88, ♂.
6. *Orthetrum trinacria* (SELYS): Kafr el Khalig, 10.VII.88, ♂; Kafr Daouat, 12.VIII.88, ♂; Kafr el Zaiyat, 13.VIII.88, ♂; Beni Suef, 7.VIII.88, ♂; Elephantine, 28.VIII.88, ♂; Kharga, IV.88, ♂, ♀.
7. *Nesiothemis farinosum* (FÖRSTER): Abu Sir Bana, 10.VII.88, ♀, 2 ♂♂; South of Akhmim, 23.VII.88, ♂.
8. *Brachythemis leucosticta* (BURMEISTER): Beni Suef, 7.VIII.88, ♀, 2 ♂♂; Shirbin, 10.VII.88, 2 ♀♀, 2 ♂♂; Kafr Shukr, 11.VII.88, ♀; Zifta, 10.VII.88, 2 ♀♀, ♂; Kafr Daouat, 12.VIII.88, ♀, 2 ♂♂; Kafr el Zaiyat, 13.VIII.88, ♀; Beni Hassan, 14.VII.89, 2 ♀♀, ♂; Es Saff, 18.VIII.88, ♀, ♂; South of Akhmim, 23.VII.88, ♂; Elephantine, 28.VIII.88, 2 ♀♀; Philae, 26.VIII.88, ♂.

9. *Trithemis annulata* (P. DE BEAUVOIS): Zifta, 10.VII.88, ♂; Abu Sir Bana, 10.VII.88, 2♂♂; Shirbin, 10.VII.88, ♂; Kafr el Khalig, 10.VII.88, ♀; Beni Suef, 7.VIII.88, ♂; El Saff, 18.VIII.88, ♂; South of Akmim, 23.VII.88, ♀; Aswan, 26.VIII.88, ♀, ♂; Elephantine, 28.VIII.88, ♂; Dakhla, IV.88, 3♂♂.
10. *Diplacodes lefebvrei* (RAMBUR): Dakhla, IV.88, 3♂♂.
11. *Sympetrum fonscolombeii* (SELYS): Philae, 26.VIII.88, ♀.

#### Comments

None of the species recorded is new for the Nile valley. However, *Mesocnemis robusta* had not been found north of Nubia, and this nilotic endemic is now recorded for the first time from the Damietta branch of the Nile delta. By the geographic situation of the delta, it can now be added to the list of palearctic dragonfly species. Also noteworthy is the confirmation of the presence of *Nesiothemis farinosum* in the lower Nile, whence it had been reported by ANDRES (1928). It is curious that this afrotropical species has not yet been found on the Sudanese Nile. The same remark also holds for *Orthetrum trinacria*, and the reverse occurs in *Pseudagrion niloticum*, which appears much rarer in Egypt than in the Sudan, while in *Pseudagrion nubicum*, the reverse seems to be true. It would clearly be of interest to have a truly extended survey of the Nile dragonfly fauna, in order to resolve such details of species distributions along its course.

#### Acknowledgements

We thank Mr. Denis GASCHIGNARD for his much appreciated help in collecting Odonata in July 1988.

#### References

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3. Op verzoek van Dhr. K. DESENDER leest Dhr. G. COULON de volgende mededeling.

### Ground and Tiger beetles (Coleoptera, Carabidae) of the "Gaume" region in Belgium

by K. DESENDER, L. BAERT & A. HUYSSSEUNE

During short-term surveys at the end of June 1986, 1987, 1988 and 1989, 130 carabid species were recorded from a total of 22 sites situated in the sou-

thernmost parts of Belgium, called the "Gaume" region. Some of these sites were sampled during consecutive years and all sites are situated in 9 different U.T.M. 10 km-squares. A summary of the characteristics of these sites is given in Table 1, mentioning the U.T.M.-codes, the exact localities, a short habitat description and the sampling date(s). Sampling was mainly performed by means of hand collecting, sweep netting and short-term pitfall trapping. The complete species list is compiled for each site and each sampling occasion (Table 2). The nomenclature follows DESENDER (1985). Data were also gathered on spiders as well as on other beetle families which will be treated in future communications.

Besides the apparently high carabid species diversity, in part due to the high number of different habitats which were sampled, a large number of species with special faunistic interest is recorded. We have only retained species as such if they were previously known from at most 40 U.T.M. squares (about 10 % of all U.T.M. squares or less) in our country. All detailed data are given on these species (Table 3), whereas the other species are only tabulated (presence/absence, cfr. Table 2).

Remarkable captures of carabids can be classified into three species groups :

- 1°) a vast number of thermophilic species mainly confined to chalk grasslands or other dry, mostly sandy, habitats : *Amara equestris*, *A. tibialis*, *Callistus lunatus*, *Cicindela silvicola*, *Dyschirius angustatus*, *Harpalus azureus*, *Notiophilus germinyi*, *Pterostichus ovoideus*;
- 2°) a number of rare hygrophilic species occurring in riparian habitats or marshland : *Agonum livens*, *A. piceum*, *A. versutum*, *A. viridicupreum*, *Bembidion fluviale*, *B. milleri*, *B. minimum*, *B. punctulatum*, *B. stomoides*, *Demetrias monostigma*, *Perileptus areolatus*;
- 3°) two very rare woodland species : *Harpalus quadripunctatus*, confined to rather dry woodlands and *Leistus piceus*, preferring more humid forests.

The occurrence in Belgium of a number of these rarer species is shown on distribution maps (Fig. 1, after DESENDER, 1986a-d), which also mention the new data given here. Many of these species nowadays are only known in Belgium to occur in this southeastern region (e.g. *Leistus piceus*, *Cicindela silvicola*, *Pterostichus aethiops*) or are restricted to this region as well as to the Belgian coast and Campine region, where they are known mainly from sand dunes (e.g. *Amara tibialis*, *Demetrias monostigma*, *Dyschirius angustatus*) or from salt marshes and surrounding polder wetlands (*Bembidion minimum*). The capture of the last-mentioned species is of special interest because it has previously regularly been classified as 'halophilic' whereas these results show it can also occur on inland mudflats which are not influenced by salty or brackish water. The recently mentioned north-eastern expansion from France and Germany of *Cicindela silvicola* (cfr. DESENDER, 1986e) is further confirmed with two new observations during 1987.

#### References

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