

Some Psocoptera new to Albania

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Abstract

So far, only 17 species of Psocoptera were reported from Albania. During a short visit in September 2015, 10 additional species were found: *Caecilius fuscopterus*, *Cerobasis guestfalica*, *Ectopsocopsis cryptomeriae*, *Ectopsocus briggsi*, *Lachesilla pedicularia*, *Lachesilla quercus*, *Lachesilla rossica*, *Peripsocus alboguttatus*, *Valenzuela burmeisteri* and *Valenzuela corsicus*.

Keywords: Albania, barkflies, Psocoptera.

Introduction

With only four reported species (LIENHARD, 1998), the number of Psocoptera species in Albania was by far the lowest of all European countries except Iceland. Recently, SZIRÁKI (2013) found 13 additional species, however, Albania remained one of the least investigated European countries. Therefore, Psocoptera were sampled during a short trip in September 2015.

Material and methods

From 13 till 18 September 2015, Psocoptera were sampled in Albania. Most time was spent in northern Albania (Ndërlysj, Thethi and Valbona), where most specimens were found in the rivervalley on isolated junipers growing on gravel. Higher up, the forests mainly consisted of beech or pine, which did not seem to contain any Psocoptera. Some material was also collected near Tirana, the capital of Albania. Only one species was captured in a park in the city centre, however, most material was collected in Linzë, where animals were found on junipers growing in forest clearings on south-exposed calcareous grasslands, uphill of the Dajti express cable car. Sampling was done by sweeping and beating the vegetation. All material was captured by the author and will be deposited in the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. The collected specimens were identified with the book of LIENHARD (1998), of which a pdf is freely available (www.faunedefrance.org).

Results

During the present study, 13 species of Psocoptera were found in Albania, 10 of which are new for the country (indicated with *). This elevates the total number of species for this country to 27 (Table 1). The records of the encountered species are given below.

- *Caecilius fuscopterus* (Latreille, 1799)*: Ndërlysj, 42°21'12"N 19°46'15"E, 13.IX.2015.
- *Cerobasis guestfalica* (Kolbe, 1880)*: Valbona, 42°27'6"N 19°53'4"E, 16.IX.2015.
- *Ectopsocopsis cryptomeriae* (Enderlein, 1907)*: Linzë, 41°22'23"N 19°55'7"E, 18.IX.2015.
- *Ectopsocus briggsi* McLachlan, 1899*: Linzë, 41°22'23"N 19°55'7"E, 18.IX.2015.
- *Graphopsocus cruciatus* (Linnaeus, 1768): Valbona, 42°27'6"N 19°53'4"E, 16.IX.2015.

- *Lachesilla pedicularia* (Linnaeus, 1758)*: Ndërlytaj, 42°21'12"N 19°46'15"E, 13.IX.2015.
- *Lachesilla quercus* (Kolbe, 1880)*: Ndërlytaj, 42°21'12"N 19°46'15"E, 13.IX.2015; Tethi, 42°23'56"N 19°46'17"E, 15.IX.2015; Valbona, 42°27'6"N 19°53'4"E, 16.IX.2015; Tirana, 41°19'35"N 19°49'32"E, 17.IX.2015; Linzë, 41°22'23"N 19°55'7"E, 18.IX.2015.
- *Lachesilla rossica* Roesler, 1953*: Ndërlytaj, 42°21'12"N 19°46'15"E, 13.IX.2015.
- *Peripsocus alboguttatus* (Dalman, 1823)*: Ndërlytaj, 42°21'12"N 19°46'15"E, 13.IX.2015.
- *Valenzuela burmeisteri* (Brauer, 1876)*: Ndërlytaj, 42°21'12"N 19°46'15"E, 13.IX.2015; Tethi, 42°21'53"N 19°47'17"E, 14.IX.2015; Tethi, 42°23'56"N 19°46'17"E, 15.IX.2015; Valbona, 42°27'6"N 19°53'4"E, 16.IX.2015; Linzë, 41°22'23"N 19°55'7"E, 18.IX.2015.
- *Valenzuela corsicus* (Kolbe, 1882)*: Ndërlytaj, 42°21'12"N 19°46'15"E, 13.IX.2015.
- *Valenzuela flavidus* (Stephens, 1836): Ndërlytaj, 42°21'12"N 19°46'15"E, 13.IX.2015.
- *Valenzuela piceus* (Kolbe, 1882): Tethi, 42°21'53"N 19°47'17"E, 14.IX.2015; Tethi, 42°23'56"N 19°46'17"E, 15.IX.2015; Valbona, 42°27'6"N 19°53'4"E, 16.IX.2015.

Table 1. Checklist of the Albanian Psocoptera.

<p>Caeciliusidae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Caecilius fuscopterus</i> (Latreille, 1799) 2. <i>Valenzuela burmeisteri</i> (Brauer, 1876) 3. <i>Valenzuela corsicus</i> (Kolbe, 1882) 4. <i>Valenzuela flavidus</i> (Stephens, 1836) 5. <i>Valenzuela piceus</i> (Kolbe, 1882) <p>Ectopsocidae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. <i>Ectopsocopsis cryptomeriae</i> (Enderlein, 1907) 7. <i>Ectopsocus briggsi</i> McLachlan, 1899 8. <i>Ectopsocus meridionalis</i> Ribaga, 1904 <p>Elipsocidae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. <i>Elipsocus moebiusi</i> Tetens, 1891 <p>Lachesillidae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. <i>Lachesilla pedicularia</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) 11. <i>Lachesilla quercus</i> (Kolbe, 1880) 12. <i>Lachesilla rossica</i> Roesler, 1953 <p>Liposcelididae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. <i>Liposcelis priesneri</i> Enderlein, 1925 	<p>Mesopsocidae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. <i>Mesopsocus dubosqui</i> Badonnel, 1938 <p>Peripsocidae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. <i>Peripsocus alboguttatus</i> (Dalman, 1823) <p>Psocidae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. <i>Amphigerontia contaminata</i> (Stephens, 1836) 17. <i>Blaste conspurcata</i> (Rambur, 1842) 18. <i>Blaste quadrimaculata</i> (Latreille, 1794) 19. <i>Metylophorus nebulosus</i> (Stephens, 1836) 20. <i>Neopsocus rhenanus</i> Kolbe, 1882 21. <i>Psococerastis gibbosa</i> (Sulzer, 1776) 22. <i>Psocus bipunctatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1761) 23. <i>Trichadenotecnum sexpunctatum</i> (Linnaeus, 1758) <p>Stenopsocidae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 24. <i>Graphopsocus cruciatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1768) 25. <i>Stenopsocus immaculatus</i> (Stephens, 136) <p>Trogiidae</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 26. <i>Cerobasis guestfalica</i> (Kolbe, 1880) 27. <i>Trogium pulsatorium</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
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Discussion

Although the number of Psocoptera species in Albania could be raised from 17 to 27 during the present study, this is still one of the lowest numbers of all European countries. In the neighboring countries, a lot more species were reported: 76 species from Greece and 77 from ex-Yugoslavia (LIENHARD, 1998). Therefore, a lot of extra species can still be expected. All encountered species were also found in at least one of the neighboring countries, with the exception of *Lachesilla rossica*, which was previously only observed in Switzerland and the Ukraine (LIENHARD, 1998).

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