New and supplementary information on the vespid fauna of Iran

(Hymenoptera: Vespidae)

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Abstract. Based on our data and the published literature, *Euodynerus dantici dantici* (Rossi, 1790), *Euodynerus disconotatus sulfuripes* (Morawitz, 1885), *Euodynerus fastidiosus* (de Saussure, 1853), *Rhynchium acromum* Giordani Soika, 1952, *Tachyancistrocerus komarowi komarowi* (Morawitz, 1885), and *Polistes nimpha irakensis* (Gusenleitner, 1976) are new records for the fauna of vespid wasps of Iran. New localities were found for some species and subspecies previously known in Iran.

Key words. Vespidae, new records, Iran, Middle East.

Introduction

EBRAHIMI & CARPENTER (2008) have recently summarised our knowledge of the vespid (Vespidae) fauna of Iran and have published a catalogue listing 182 species. Additional information is available in SOLEIMANI (2007), who worked in Kerman province, and in ABBASI et al. (2008) from Zanjan province. CASTRO & DVOŘÁK (2009) have recorded another species new to Iran. Based on our own collections and a literature survey, we can add here six more species new to Iran and can give new localities for some species and subspecies which extends our knowledge of their distribution.

Species List

The specimens were collected using a sweep net in various parts of Kerman and Zanjan provinces of Iran. Collected specimens are deposited in the Hayk Mirzayans Insect Museum (HMIM) based at the Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection (IRIPP) and Zoology Museum of Shahid Beheshti University. The collected wasps were killed with ethyl acetate or potassium cyanide. Identifications were made mainly with CARPENTER'S identification keys (personal communication). Josef GUSENLEITNER confirmed some of the identifications. The distribution given in the species list refers only to the distribution within Iran.

Abbreviations: GS = G. Soleimani, JG = Josef Gusenleitner, RA = Roohollah Abbasi; KE = Kerman province, ZA = Zanjan province; W = Worker.