Leuctra klapperichi, a new stonefly species (Plecoptera: Leuctridae) from Iran with geographic affinities of related species

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Abstract

A new species of the genus Leuctra (Plecoptera: Leuctridae), L. klapperichi sp. n., is described from Iran. Affinities and notes on the distribution of the related species are presented.

Key words: Plecoptera, Leuctra klapperichi, new species, Iran, distribution

Introduction

Hitherto seven species of the stonefly family Leuctridae are known from Iran. The first four (Leuctra fusca (Linnaeus), L. collaris Martynov, L. furcatella Martynov and L. delamellata Zhiltzova) were reported by Aubert (1964) from the Mts Elburs. Later L. hippopos Kempny was found in the Mts Elburs (Zwick 1975), and L. kopetdaghi Zhiltzova in the Mts Zagros (Theischinger 1976b). In the same year, L. holzschuhi Theischinger was described from the Mts Elburs (Theischinger 1976a).

Among the unsorted dry material of the Collection of Smaller Insect Orders, Department of Zoology, Hungarian Natural History Museum, a few stonefly specimens were found that were collected in the Mts Elburs, Iran. This material corresponds to the following species: Isoperla bithynica (Kempny) (1 male, 3 females), Leuctra fusca latior Berthelémy & Dia and Leuctra klapperichi sp. n. (1 male), described below.

Material and methods

The dry Leuctra specimen was relaxed in soapy water for six hours and its abdomen boiled in KOH for 10 minutes.