



A checklist of Turkish Neuroptera with annotating on provincial distributions

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Abstract

A checklist of Turkish Neuroptera is presented. The list is based on an examination of relevant literature and personal investigations carried out between 1997 and 2007. 193 species and 6 subspecies are currently recognized as occurring in Turkey.

Key words: Checklist, Neuroptera, Turkey

Introduction

Lacewings belong to one of the most important group of insects because of their significant roles in integrated pest management as predators of aphid and mites, but their distributions and biologies are still poorly known.

Several Austrian, German and English scientists studied the Turkish neuropteran fauna during the 19th and early 20th centuries. As a result of their expeditions, large numbers of Turkish specimens are preserved in several of the larger European collections. Only since the late 20th century (1980's on) have Turkish specialists begun to make substantial new contributions to the knowledge at this fauna.

Aspöck et al. (1980, 2001) synthesized the faunistical data compiled to date by the outstanding European neuropterists specialists of their day, and this work is still the richest source of data on the European neuropteran fauna.

The first enumeration of the central European neuropteran fauna was compiled by Aspöck & Aspöck (1969a). It contained many new records from Turkey and provided baseline information on their distributions. Additionally monographs published by Hölzel (1967a, 1967b, 1968, 1972a, 1987) provide significant sources of information on the Turkish fauna.

Unfortunately, the last major the revisional work on the neuropteran of Turkey (Şengonca 1980a) contains many invalid names and data particularly concerning the Chrysopidae. Since then, many authors, especially H. Aspöck, U. Aspöck, H. Hölzel, Ç. Şengonca, H. Rausch, A. Kacirek and S. Canbulat have contributed many new records to the Turkish neuropteran fauna. The continuation of this research in the future will result in further increases in the number of known species, and in a deeper understanding of their habitats and distributions.

193 species and 6 subspecies in 63 genera and 10 families are recorded from Turkey in the present study. The distribution of these species by family follows: 14 Ascalaphidae, 2 Berothidae, 52 Chrysopidae, 25 Coniopterygidae, 2 Dilaridae, 31 Hemerobiidae, 4 Mantispidae, 55 Myrmeleontidae, 10 Nemopteridae and 4 Osmylidae.

The order of families and species is arranged alphabetical.