



The genus *Brachyptera* Newport (Plecoptera: Taeniopterygidae) in the Peloponnes, Greece

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Abstract

A new species of the genus *Brachyptera* (Plecoptera: Taeniopterygidae), *B. kotschani* sp. n. is described on the basis of a male and eight female adults collected in the Peloponnes, Greece. Remarks on the closely related and poorly known *B. dinarica* Aubert, and notes on the distribution and ecology of the *Brachyptera* species known from the Peloponnes are also presented.

Key words: Plecoptera, Taeniopterygidae, *Brachyptera kotschani* new species, Peloponnes, Greece

Introduction

The genus *Brachyptera* Newport, 1848 is a West Palaearctic stonefly genus, comprised of 30 valid species and seven subspecies (DeWalt et al. 2011, Baumann & Kondratieff 2009). The majority of these species are Mediterranean in distribution. Among the Mediterranean peninsulas, the Balkans are the richest with 15 species and one subspecies recorded (Fochetti 2004, Tierno de Figueroa & Fochetti 2001).

The Peloponnes peninsula of Greece forms the southernmost mainland of the Balkans. Its stonefly fauna is rather interesting, despite being poorly investigated with large mountainous areas that remain relatively unstudied. Among the 32 species reported so far, three are endemic and 17 are restricted to the Balkans (Aubert 1956, 1963, Joost 1970, Theischinger 1975, Zwick 1978, Pardo & Zwick 1993, Tierno de Figueroa & Fochetti 2001, 2007). During a collecting tour in April 2009, attempts were made to collect topotype material of stoneflies described from the Peloponnes, and to increase sampling in cover some poorly studied areas.

Herein, I describe a new species of *Brachyptera* found in the southwest and central Peloponnes and compare this species with the closely related but poorly known *B. dinarica* Aubert, 1964. Additionally, notes on the distribution and ecology of the genus in the Peloponnes peninsula is provided.

Material and methods

Newly collected material was caught by hand, dipnet or by beating sheet. All specimens were stored in 70% ethanol and most have been deposited in the Collection of Smaller Insect Orders, Department of Zoology, Hungarian Natural History Museum (HNHM). One female paratype is deposited in the collection of the former Limnologische Fluss-Station des Max-Planck-Instituts für Limnologie, presently held by Prof. Peter Zwick, Schlitz, Germany (CPZ), and one female paratype is in the Gilles Vinçon Collection, Grenoble, France (CGV). The type series of *B. dinarica* was studied during a visit to the Wien Natural History Museum (WNHM). Specimens used for illustrations are indicated in the material examined. Terminology mainly follows that of Berthélemy (1971) as adapted by Kazanci (2001) and Baumann & Kondratieff (2009).