



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3682.1.5>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:2CA2969F-E90F-4E58-870F-BE7F5964B51F>

Checklist and distribution of the family Notonectidae in Romania, with the first record of *Notonecta maculata* Fabricius, 1794 (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Nepomorpha)

GAVRIL MARIUS BERCHI

West University of Timișoara, Faculty of Chemistry, Biology, Geography, Department of Biology-Chemistry, 16A Pestalozzi Street, RO-300115, Timișoara, Romania. E-mail: marius@heteroptera.ro

Abstract

Notonecta maculata Fabricius, 1794 is recorded for the first time from Romania. Five species belonging to the genus *Notonecta* Linnaeus, 1758 and one to the genus *Anisops* Spinola, 1837 are now recorded from this country. The occurrence of *Anisops sardeus sardeus* Herrich-Schaeffer, 1849 and *N. meridionalis* Poisson, 1923 is confirmed by additional records. A checklist of the Notonectidae of Romania and updated distribution maps are provided.

Key words: *Anisops sardeus*, backswimmers, Eastern Europe, *Notonecta meridionalis*, true bugs, water bugs

Introduction

The backswimmers (family Notonectidae) are represented in Europe by three genera: *Notonecta* Linnaeus, 1758, *Anisops* Spinola, 1837, and *Nychia* Stål, 1860; the first two are present in Romania (Berchi 2011). Globally, this is a well-represented family, comprising around 400 species (Polhemus 2009), of which 13 occur in Europe (Polhemus 1995, Aukema 2011).

In Romania, data regarding this family began to appear from the mid-nineteenth century (Fuss 1853, 1862). Many entomologists have left their mark on the knowledge of aquatic Heteroptera of Romania, including Géza Horváth, Arnold Lucien Montandon, Igor Sienkiewicz, and Béla Kis (see e.g., Horváth 1877, 1898,a,b; Montandon 1885, 1907; Sienkiewicz 1964; Kis 1972, 1976; Kis & Davidescu 1994).

One of the most representative work is that of Paina (1975), who wrote a bibliographic checklist of aquatic and semiaquatic true bugs (i.e., Heteroptera: Nepomorpha, Gerromorpha), including references to most of the previous published papers. However, concerning the backswimmers, only one genus with two species can be found in his paper—*Notonecta glauca glauca* Linnaeus, 1758 and *N. viridis* Delcourt, 1909, a number considerably smaller than in the surrounding countries (Soós 1963; Josifov 1986, 1999; Putshkov & Putshkov 1996; Protić 1998, 2011; Kanyukova 2006).

During the last few years, data dealing with faunistics concerning the backswimmers were published by Kis & Davidescu (1994), Kecskés (1997, 1999), Davideanu (1999), Ilie (2005, 2009), Ilie & Olosutean (2009, 2012), Berchi (2011), and Berchi *et al.* (2011, 2012), including records of one additional genus and three species.

In this paper, *Notonecta maculata* Fabricius, 1794 is reported from Romania for the first time. The occurrence of the recently recorded *Anisops sardeus sardeus* Herrich-Schaeffer, 1849 and *N. meridionalis* Poisson, 1923 is confirmed by additional records. A checklist of the Notonectidae of Romania and updated distribution maps are also provided.

Materials and methods

The biological material was collected by the author between the years 2010–2012, except for when another