Discovery of the genus *Vanhartenidia* Lelej, 2006 (Hymenoptera: Mutillidae) in Egypt, with description of a new species

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**Abstract.** The genus *Vanhartenidia* Lelej, 2006 is newly recorded from Egypt. A new species, *V. mandishaensis* El-Torkey & Soliman, **sp. nov.** is described and illustrated from Bahariya Oasis (Giza, Egypt).

**Key words:** Velvet ants, Trogaspidiini, *Vanhartenidia*, a new species, Palaearctic, Bahariya Oasis

The velvet-ant fauna of Egypt includes about 85 species in 22 genera (Lelej 2002, update; El-Torkey et al., 2011). The genus *Vanhartenidia* Lelej, 2006 includes eight species distributed from India to East Africa, of these species two are known by both sexes: *V. dives* (Smith, 1855) (India, Iran & Pakistan) and *V. felix* Lelej, 2006 (Yemen); five species are known from female: *V. arabica* Lelej, 2006 (Yemen), *V. kassalana* (Bischoff, 1920) (Sudan), *V. pyrrhopilota* (Bischoff, 1920) (Djibouti & Eritrea), *V. tricolor* (Klug, 1829) (Arabia, Eritrea & Ethiopia) and *V. unguiculata* (Magretti, 1883) (Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia & Sudan); one species is known from male, *V. tihama* Lelej, 2006 (Yemen) (Lelej & Van Harten, 2006). In this paper the genus *Vanhartenidia* is newly recorded from Egypt and a new species *V. mandishaensis** sp. nov.** is described.

**Material and methods**

This paper is based on materials collected by using pitfall traps from Bahariya Oasis (Giza, Egypt). The measurements of the different parts were made with the help of an ocular micrometer. The photos were taken by using a LEICA MZ 125 stereo-binocular microscope fitted with a digital camera (Q-imaging Micro Publisher 5.0 RTV) at King Saud University Museum of Arthropods [KSMA], Plant Protection Department, College of Food and Agriculture Sciences, King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The type materials are deposited in Efflatoun Bey Collection [CUE], Entomology Department, Faculty of Science, Cairo University, Giza, Egypt and Institute of Biology and Soil Science [IBSS], Vladivostok, Russia. The following abbreviations are used for morphological terms: F, S and T refer to numbered flagellomeres, metasomal sterna and metasomal terga, respectively.

**Genus *Vanhartenidia* Lelej in Lelej & van Harten, 2006**

**Type species.** *Vanhartenidia felix* Lelej, 2006, by original designation.

*Vanhartenidia mandishaensis* El-Torkey & Soliman, **sp. nov.**

(Figs 1–7)

**Material examined.** Holotype, ♀: EGYPT, Mandisha, Bahariya Oasis [28°21’29’’N, 28°55’21’’E], pitfall trap, 4.IX.2007