

A new species of *Leptogaster* Meigen (Diptera, Asilidae) from Turkey with egg and spermatheca structure

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Abstract

Leptogaster suleymani n. sp. from South East of Turkey is described. Drawings of the male genitalia and the female spermatheca of this new species and the morphologically similar *L. fumipennis* Loew are given. Also, scanning electron micrographs of the spermatheca and eggs of this new species compared with *L. fumipennis* are given.

Key words: Diptera, Asilidae, *Leptogaster*, new species, Turkey, egg, spermatheca, structure SEM

Introduction

Leptogaster Meigen, type genus of the subfamily Leptogastrinae (Diptera: Asilidae) is widespread throughout the Palaearctic Region. This genus is represented by 254 species in the world and 54 species in the Palaearctic Region (Hull, 1962; Lehr, 1961, 1988; Geller-Grimm, 2006). Six species of *Leptogaster* are known from Turkey: *calceata* Engel; *cylindrica* (De Geer); *gracilis* Loew; *helvola* Loew; *palparis* Loew; *pubicornis* Loew (Engel, 1925–1926; Seguy, 1927; Paramonov, 1930; Janssens, 1959, 1969; Lehr, 1988; Weinberg & Hayat, 1997; Bosák & Hradsky, 2001; Geller-Grimm, 2006).

Although female and male genitalia structures of Leptogastrinae subfamily include important distinguishable taxonomic characters there are few studies about this subject (Lehr, 1961; Theodor 1976, 1980; Dikow, 2003). The internal reproductive structures of female of *Leptogaster* consists of a furca divided into two lateral bars (Theodor 1976, 1980) (Figs. 7–8); a short or long, sclerotized common spermathecal duct; three sclerotized spermathecal ducts which vary in width; and three sclerotized spermatheca which vary in size and shape between species.

Until now, eggs of *Leptogaster* species were not evaluated taxonomically. There are