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An annotated catalog of the Iranian Miridae (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Cimicomorpha)

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Table of contents

Abstract	5
Introduction	6
Material and methods	6
Results	6
Family Miridae Hahn, 1833	6
Subfamily Bryocorinae Baerensprung, 1860	6
Tribe Dicyphini Reuter, 1883	6
Genus <i>Campyloneuropsis</i> Poppius, 1914	7
Genus <i>Dicyphus</i> Fieber, 1858	8
Genus <i>Macrolophus</i> Fieber, 1858	9
Genus <i>Nesidiocoris</i> Kirkaldy, 1902	9
Genus <i>Singhalesia</i> China & Carvalho, 1952	9
Subfamily Cylapinae Kirkaldy, 1903	10
Tribe Fulviini Uhler, 1886	10
Genus <i>Fulvius</i> Stål, 1862	10
Subfamily Deraeocorinae Douglas & Scott, 1865	10
Tribe Clivinematini Reuter, 1876	10
Genus <i>Bothynotus</i> Fieber, 1864	10
Genus <i>Stethoconus</i> Flor, 1861	10
Tribe Deraeocorini Douglas & Scott, 1865	10
Genus <i>Deraeocoris</i> Kirschbaum, 1856	10
Tribe Surinamellini Carvalho & Rosas, 1962	13
Genus <i>Nicostratus</i> Distant, 1904	13
Tribe Termatophylini Reuter, 1884	13
Genus <i>Argyrotelaenus</i> Reuter & Poppius, 1912	13
Subfamily Isometopinae Fieber, 1860	13
Genus <i>Isometopiellus</i> Akingbohunge, 1996	13
Genus <i>Isometopus</i> Fieber, 1860	13
Subfamily Mirinae Hahn, 1833	14
Tribe Herdoniini Distant, 1904	14
Genus <i>Camponotidea</i> Reuter, 1879	14
Tribe Mirini Hahn, 1833	14
Genus <i>Adelphocoris</i> Reuter, 1896	14
Genus <i>Agnocoris</i> Reuter, 1875	15
Genus <i>Brachycoleus</i> Fieber, 1858	16
Genus <i>Calocoris</i> Fieber, 1858	16
Genus <i>Capsus</i> Fabricius, 1803	17
Genus <i>Charagochilus</i> Fieber, 1858	17
Genus <i>Closterotomus</i> Fieber, 1858	17
Genus <i>Creontiades</i> Distant, 1883	18
Genus <i>Cyphodema</i> Fieber, 1858	18
Genus <i>Dichrooscytus</i> Fieber, 1858	18
Genus <i>Eurystylus</i> Stål, 1871	18
Genus <i>Grypocoris</i> Douglas & Scott, 1868	18
Genus <i>Hadrodemus</i> Fieber, 1858	19
Genus <i>Horistus</i> Fieber, 1860	19
Genus <i>Liocoris</i> Fieber, 1858	19
Genus <i>Lygidolon</i> Reuter, 1907	20
Genus <i>Lygus</i> Hahn, 1833	20
Genus <i>Megacoelum</i> Fieber, 1858	21
Genus <i>Mermitelocerus</i> Reuter, 1908	22
Genus <i>Miris</i> Fabricius, 1794	22
Genus <i>Orthops</i> Fieber, 1858	23
Genus <i>Pantilius</i> Curtis, 1833	23
Genus <i>Phytocoris</i> Fallén, 1814	24
Genus <i>Pinalitus</i> Kelton, 1955	30
Genus <i>Polymerus</i> Hahn, 1831	30
Genus <i>Reuterista</i> Kirkaldy, 1904	31
Genus <i>Rhabdomiris</i> Wagner, 1968	31
Genus <i>Stenotus</i> Jakovlev, 1877	32
Genus <i>Taylorilygus</i> Leston, 1952	32
Tribe Stenodemini China, 1943	32

Genus <i>Leptopterna</i> Fieber, 1858	32
Genus <i>Megaloceroea</i> Fieber, 1858	32
Genus <i>Notostira</i> Fieber, 1858	33
Genus <i>Stenodema</i> Laporte, 1833	33
Genus <i>Teratocoris</i> Fieber, 1858	34
Genus <i>Trigonotylus</i> Fieber, 1858	34
Subfamily Orthotylinae Van Duzee, 1916	35
Tribe Halticini A. Costa, 1853	35
Genus <i>Anapus</i> Stål, 1858	35
Genus <i>Dasyscytus</i> Fieber, 1864	35
Genus <i>Euryopicoris</i> Reuter, 1875	36
Genus <i>Halticus</i> Hahn, 1832	36
Genus <i>Myrmecophyes</i> Fieber, 1870	36
Genus <i>Orthocephalus</i> Fieber, 1858	36
Genus <i>Piezocranum</i> Horváth, 1877	37
Genus <i>Strongylocoris</i> Blanchard, 1840	37
Tribe Orthotylini Van Duzee, 1916	38
Genus <i>Blepharidopterus</i> Kolenati, 1845	38
Genus <i>Brachynotocoris</i> Reuter, 1880	38
Genus <i>Cyllecoris</i> Hahn, 1834	39
Genus <i>Cyrtorhinus</i> Fieber, 1858	39
Genus <i>Dryophilicoris</i> Reuter, 1875	39
Genus <i>Excentricus</i> Reuter, 1878	39
Genus <i>Globiceps</i> Lepeletier & Serville, 1825	39
Genus <i>Hyoidea</i> Reuter, 1876	40
Genus <i>Hypsitylus</i> Fieber, 1861	40
Genus <i>Malacocoris</i> Fieber, 1858	40
Genus <i>Orthotylus</i> Fieber, 1858	40
Genus <i>Pseudoloxops</i> Kirkaldy, 1905	43
Genus <i>Reuteria</i> Puton, 1875	43
Genus <i>Zanchius</i> Distant, 1904	44
Subfamily Phylinae Douglas & Scott, 1865	44
Tribe Hallodapini Van Duzee, 1916	44
Genus <i>Acrorrhinium</i> Nouhalier, 1895	44
Genus <i>Alloeomimus</i> Reuter, 1910	45
Genus <i>Glaphyrocoris</i> Reuter, 1903	45
Genus <i>Hallodapus</i> Fieber, 1858	45
Genus <i>Laemocoris</i> Reuter, 1879	46
Genus <i>Paralaemocoris</i> Linnavuori, 1964	46
Genus <i>Systellonotus</i> Fieber, 1858	47
Genus <i>Trichophorella</i> Reuter, 1905	47
Tribe Phylini Douglas & Scott, 1865	47
Genus <i>Acrotelus</i> Reuter, 1885	47
Genus <i>Amblytylus</i> Fieber, 1858	47
Genus <i>Anonychiella</i> Reuter, 1912	48
Genus <i>Aphaenophyes</i> Reuter, 1899	48
Genus <i>Atomophora</i> Reuter, 1879	49
Genus <i>Atomoscelis</i> Reuter, 1875	50
Genus <i>Atractotomus</i> Fieber, 1858	50
Genus <i>Auchenocrepis</i> Fieber, 1858	50
Genus <i>Badezorus</i> Distant, 1910	50
Genus <i>Boopidocoris</i> Reuter, 1879	51
Genus <i>Camptotylidea</i> Wagner, 1957	51
Genus <i>Camptotylus</i> Fieber, 1860	53
Genus <i>Camptozorus</i> Kerzhner, 1996	53
Genus <i>Campylomma</i> Reuter, 1878	53
Genus <i>Chlamydatus</i> Curtis, 1833	55
Genus <i>Compsidolon</i> Reuter, 1899	56
Genus <i>Compsonannus</i> Reuter, 1902	57
Genus <i>Conostethus</i> Fieber, 1858	57
Genus <i>Criocoris</i> Fieber, 1858	57
Genus <i>Dasycapsus</i> Poppius, 1912	58
Genus <i>Ectagela</i> Schmidt, 1939	58
Genus <i>Ephippiocoris</i> Poppius, 1912	58

Genus <i>Eumecotarsus</i> Kerzhner, 1962	58
Genus <i>Europiella</i> Reuter, 1909	58
Genus <i>Eurycranella</i> Reuter, 1904	59
Genus <i>Farsiana</i> Linnavuori, 1998	59
Genus <i>Gediocoris</i> Wagner, 1964	59
Genus <i>Glaucopterum</i> Wagner, 1963	59
Genus <i>Hadrophyes</i> Puton, 1874	60
Genus <i>Harpocera</i> Curtis, 1838	60
Genus <i>Lepidargyrus</i> Muminov, 1962	60
Genus <i>Macrotylus</i> Fieber, 1858	61
Genus <i>Malacotes</i> Reuter, 1878	62
Genus <i>Maurodactylus</i> Reuter, 1878	62
Genus <i>Megalocoleus</i> Reuter, 1890	62
Genus <i>Megalodactylus</i> Fieber, 1858	63
Genus <i>Monocris</i> Putshkov, 1974	63
Genus <i>Monosynamma</i> Scott, 1864	63
Genus <i>Nanopsallus</i> Wagner, 1952	63
Genus <i>Nasocoris</i> Reuter, 1879	63
Genus <i>Omocoris</i> Lindberg, 1930	64
Genus <i>Oncotylus</i> Fieber, 1861	64
Genus <i>Orthonotus</i> Stephens, 1829	65
Genus <i>Paralopus</i> Wagner, 1957	65
Genus <i>Paredrocoris</i> Reuter, 1878	65
Genus <i>Plagiognathidea</i> Poppius, 1914	65
Genus <i>Plagiognathus</i> Fieber, 1858	66
Genus <i>Pleuroxonotus</i> Reuter, 1903	67
Genus <i>Pronototropis</i> Reuter, 1879	67
Genus <i>Psallodema</i> Putshkov, 1970	67
Genus <i>Psallopsis</i> Reuter, 1901	67
Genus <i>Psallus</i> Fieber, 1858	68
Genus <i>Roudairea</i> Puton & Reuter, 1886	69
Genus <i>Salicarus</i> Kerzhner, 1962	70
Genus <i>Solenoxyphus</i> Reuter, 1875	70
Genus <i>Stenoparia</i> Fieber, 1870	71
Genus <i>Sthenaropsis</i> Poppius, 1912	71
Genus <i>Sthenarus</i> Fieber, 1858	72
Genus <i>Stirophyllus</i> Wagner, 1965	72
Genus <i>Thermocoris</i> Puton, 1875	72
Genus <i>Tuponia</i> Reuter, 1875	72
Genus <i>Tytthus</i> Fieber, 1864	76
Genus <i>Voruchia</i> Reuter, 1879	76
Genus <i>Voruchiella</i> Poppius, 1912	76
Genus <i>Yotvata</i> Linnavuori, 1964	77
Genus <i>Zakanocoris</i> Putshkov, 1970	77
Genus <i>Zophocnemis</i> Kerzhner, 1962	78
Tribe Pilophorini Douglas & Scott, 1876	78
Genus <i>Pilophorus</i> Hahn, 1826	78
Discussion	94
Acknowledgements	94
References	94

Abstract

An updated list of Iranian Miridae Hahn, 1833 is provided and discussed. Seven subfamilies (Bryocorinae, Cylapinae, Deraeocorinae, Isometopinae, Mirinae, Orthotylinae, and Phylinae), 140 genera, and 498 species are confirmed from Iran. *Phytocoris* (*Stictophytocoris*) *meridionalis* (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1835), is newly recorded from Iran. The possible presence in the country of 28 additional species is briefly analyzed.

Key words: Hemiptera, Heteroptera, Cimicomorpha, Miroidea, Miridae, Catalog, Iran

Discussion

The distribution of Iranian Miridae by province is summarized in Table 1. Different statistics (specific richness by province, number of provinces by species, and number of endemic species) are provided. Among the 498 species recorded from Iran (Table 1), 106 (about 21 %) are presently only known from the country and were considered as endemic even if we cannot exclude that some will be found in neighboring areas in the future. With 183 recorded species, Khorasan province has the highest provincial specific richness, followed by Guilan (152 species) and Fars (121 species) provinces. *Deraeocoris punctulatus*, *Campylomma diversicornis*, *Adelphocoris lineolatus*, and *Lygus pratensis* are apparently the four species the most widely distributed in Iran, being present in 23, 22, and 20 provinces, respectively. Several species listed as “generally distributed” by Moddares-Awal (1997c) seem less common. Eleven species were erroneously cited in Iran. The reference of *Isometopus kaznakovi* and *I. mirificus* was a misinterpretation of the literature, the reference of *Alleomimus unifasciatus*, *Atomophora pantherina*, *Hadrodemus m-flavum*, *Hadrodemus nouhalieri*, *Hypsitylus prasinus*, *Megacoelum beckeri*, *Polymerus brevirostris*, *Singhalesia indica*, and *Stethoconus japonicus* were the result of misidentifications. Occurrence of 17 taxa in Iran remains unclear and should be verified in the future. These taxa are: *Calocoris affinis*, *Camptotylidea alhagii*, *C. bipunctata*, *C. vitticollis*, *Campylomma liebkechti*, *Deraeocoris signatus*, *Grypocoris ajderensis*, *Horistus infuscatus*, *Isometopiellus palliceps*, *Leptopterna ferrugata*, *Lygus punctatus*, *Oncotylus viridiflavus*, *Phytocoris chicotei*, *P. thragacanthae*, *Pinalitus rubricatus*, *Stirophylus aristidae*, and *Trigonotylus ruficornis*.

This catalog documents that the Iranian Miridae comprise a substantial fauna. However considering the species richness of plant bugs on a World-scale with more than 10,000 described species (Schuh 1995) and the diversity of geographical regions and climates in Iran, we expect that a large number of species remain to be discovered. Additional studies of Iranian fauna have the potential to increase this number.

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