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A new *Corononcodes* Speiser from the Palaearctic Region, with a key to species (Diptera: Acroceridae)

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Abstract

Corononcodes zieglerei spec. nov. is described and illustrated based on material from Iran. The species represents the second Palaearctic representative of this panopine genus. In addition, *C. siculus* Bezzi is recorded from Fuerteventura (Canary Islands, Spain) for the first time. An identification key to the Palaearctic species of *Corononcodes* is presented. Additional faunistic records for the Iranian fauna comprise *Acrocera orbiculus* (Fabricius) and an apparently undescribed species of *Ogcodes* Latreille. DNA-barcodes for all Iranian taxa are provided.

Key words: Panopinae, new species, DNA-barcoding, Iran, identification key

Introduction

Currently, Acroceridae, or small-headed flies (about 522 species), are classified as having three subfamilies and comprise 55 genera (Winterton & Gillung 2012, Schlinger *et al.* 2013, Kehlmaier & Almeida 2014). Synopses of the family's life history were presented by Nartshuk (1997) and Schlinger (2003). A first detailed phylogenetic reconstruction was published by Winterton *et al.* (2007).

The Iranian fauna of acrocerid flies is poorly known. Nartshuk (1988) listed eight species: *Oligoneura murina* (Loew), *Acrocera (Acrocerina) trifasciata* Pleske, *Ogcodes asiaticus* Nartshuk, *O. formosus* (Loew), *O. guttatus* (A. Costa), *O. hirtus* (Sack), *O. reginae* (Trojan) and *O. zonatus* Erichson. Two of these were originally described from Iran: *Acrocera trifasciata* from Shakov [=Shah-kuh] on the south-facing slope of the Elburs [= Alborz] Mountains at about 3000 m, and *O. formosus* from Sharud [= Schahrud, Semnan province]. Pleske (1930) additionally listed *Ogcodes varius* Latreille from Persia, without providing any locality data. Here, we describe a new species of *Corononcodes* Speiser (the first record of the genus from Iran) and report three additional acrocerid species, based on recently collected material.

Corononcodes is a species-poor genus placed within the Panopinae. The genus was originally described from South Africa by Speiser (1920) and four species are currently known from the Afrotropics (*C. coronatus* Speiser, *C. dimorpha* Barraclough, *C. homalostemma* Barraclough, and *C. manningi* Barraclough). All are South African endemics and described in detail and illustrated by Barraclough (1984, 2001). Soon after the original description, Bezzi (1923) described *Corononcodes siculus* Bezzi based on a single male from the island of Sicily (Italy). Frey (1936) then recorded a male from Tenerife (Canary Islands, Spain) that he attributed to this species. Recently, Carles-Tolrá (2008) characterised the female sex of *C. siculus* based on a specimen collected in southern Spain, and studied two additional males from Tenerife, which were mentioned by Barraclough (2001).

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