



## Description of *Nasocoris lautereri* sp. nov. from the Balkan peninsula, with a review of the genus *Nasocoris* (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Miridae: Phylinae)

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### Abstract

*Nasocoris lautereri* sp. nov., from Greece and Croatia, is described and illustrated. This is the first record of the genus *Nasocoris* Reuter, 1879, in the Balkan peninsula, linking its two previously known disjunct areas of distribution (the Western Mediterranean and the area from Ukraine and Israel to Mongolia). All 15 known species of the genus are reviewed and information on their distribution, host plants, and life cycle is summarized. The first precise records of *Nasocoris platycranoides* Montandon, 1890 from Spain are added.

**Key words:** Insecta, Hemiptera, Heteroptera, Miridae, Phylinae, *Nasocoris*, taxonomy, new species, Balkan peninsula, Croatia, Greece, Spain, *Ephedra*, host plant, catalogue

### Introduction

The genus *Nasocoris* was established by Reuter (1879) to accommodate a single species, *N. argyrotrichus* Reuter, 1879, from Central Asia. Several other species were described later from two disjunct distributional areas — the Western Mediterranean (northwestern Africa, the Iberian peninsula, Sardinia, and Sicily) and the area of steppes and semi-deserts from Ukraine and Israel to the Arabian peninsula, Central Asia, and Mongolia. Schuh (1995) and Kerzhner & Josifov (1999) catalogued the ten species known at that time. However, Linnavuori (1999, 2004) described additional four species from the Near and Middle East. In this paper, another new species – *Nasocoris lautereri* sp. nov. – is described, the first species known from the Balkan peninsula. This record thus links the two formerly disjunct areas of distribution of the genus. All the 15 currently known species of *Nasocoris* are reviewed here, including the relevant literature; and information on their distribution, host plants (various species of *Ephedra*), and life cycle is summarized.

### Material and methods

The following collection acronyms are used in the text:

AMNH	American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA;
JBSC	Josef Bryja collection, Studenec, Czech Republic;
MGAB	Muzeul de Istoria Naturala „Grigore Antipa“, București, Romania;