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Checklist of Braconinae species of Turkey (Hymenoptera: Braconidae)

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Abstract

The Braconinae (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) species recorded from Turkey are listed, the present total number being 195. Changes with respect to the previous Turkish fauna are briefly annotated and the distributions for all the species in each of the 68 biogeographical provinces are presented. After the publication of our previous fauna, 173 species have been recorded as new to Turkey. Of these, 96 species are distributed only in Asian Turkey and 14 species are distributed only in European Turkey, while 85 species occur in both. The presented checklist covers synonyms, zoogeographical region(s), hosts, host plants of host species and parasitoid data for the species.

In total, 195 species belonging 9 genera are reported for the studied regions of Turkey. The number of species of each genus is represented by: *Atanycolus* Foester, 1862: 4, *Baryproctus* Ashmead, 1900: 1, *Bracon* Fabricius, 1804: 149, *Ceratobracon* Telenga, 1936: 1, *Coeloides* Wesmael, 1838: 2, *Glyptomorpha* Holmgren, 1868: 7, *Iphiaulax* Foerster, 1862: 9, *Pseudovipio* Szépligeti, 1896: 9, *Vipio* Latreille, 1804: 13 species. *Bracon* (*Asiabracon*) *amaculatus* Beyarslan, 1988 is synonymized with *B. (A.) quadrimaculatus* Telenga, 1936.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Ichneumonoidea, Braconidae, Turkey, synonyms, host

Introduction

Braconinae is the largest subfamily of Braconidae, comprising hundreds of genera and about 2500 species, mostly in the tropics. This subfamily includes the largest braconids with body sizes reaching 25–27 mm in the tropics. All members of the subfamily are predominantly external parasites of concealed larvae of Lepidoptera, Coleoptera, though a few are parasitic on sawflies and Cecidomyiid midges. The hosts all share a moderate degree of concealment, usually in living plant tissues and typically include inhabitants of tree barks, stems of annual and biennial plants, galls and seed heads or vessels, but some are case-bearers. Leaf rollers and endophytic hosts that are only weakly concealed such as leaf-miners, as well as those living fully concealed in hard wood, are much less regularly attacked.

Several braconines attack economically important hosts: i.e. some *Bracon* species parasitise forestry pests, and there are other *Bracon* species that attack stored products pests such as flour moths. In warm temperate climates, some *Bracon* species regularly parasitise weevil grubs and caterpillars damaging field crops like cotton and maize, including in a few cases more or less exposed noctuid larvae (Shaw & Huddleston, 1991).

Geographically, Turkey forms a natural bridge between the old world continents of Asia, Africa and Europe. The Anatolian peninsula is the western most point of Asia, divided from Europe by the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits. Thrace is the western part of Turkey on the European continent. In addition, European Turkey is one of the access points for species arriving from Europe to Anatolia during the recent glaciation, and the area provides numerous types of habitats for a wide range of plants and animals.

The Braconinae fauna of Turkey is not well known. Turkey, where different types of biotopes occur as a result of differing characteristics of the country, forms a crossroad between Asia, Europe and Africa, thus leading to presence of a diverse fauna. The first studies about Turkey Braconinae fauna were by Kohl (1905), Fahringer & Friese (1921), and Fahringer (1922, 1926). However, a number of records have been given based on material collected during touristic excursions or sent for identification.

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