

Studies on the Lygaeidae s. lat. (Heteroptera) of Gilan and the adjacent provinces in northern Iran

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Abstract. A list of 91 species of Lygaeidae s. lat. (subfamilies Lygaeinae, Orsillinae, Ischnorrhynchinae, Cyminae, Blissinae, Henestarinae, Artheneinae, Heterogastrinae, Oxycareninae, Pachygronthinae, Rhyparochrominae) from Gilan and the adjacent provinces is provided. The following 12 species and one subspecies are new for Iran: *Arocatus melanocephalus* (Fabricius, 1798), *Kleidocerys privignus* (Horváth, 1894), *Cymus clavicolus* (Fallén, 1807), *C. glandicolor* Hahn, 1832, *Geocoris (Geocoris) desertorum* (Jakovlev, 1871), *Holcocranum diminutum umbrinum* Linnavuori, 1984, *Platyplax salviae* (Schilling, 1829), *Macroplox fasciata fasciata* (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1835), *Auchenodes utu* Linnavuori, 1984, *Eremocoris abietis fraternus* Horváth, 1883, *Taphropeltus contractus* (Herrich-Schaeffer, 1835), *Rhyparochromus pini* (Linnaeus, 1758), and *Pachybrachius fracticollis* (Schilling, 1829).

Key words. Heteroptera, Lygaeoidea, Iran, Gilan, faunistics, checklist, new records

Introduction

Several entomological expeditions have been done to Iran. The most important were the Czechoslovak-Iranian expeditions in 1970, 1973 and 1977 (HOBERLANDT 1974, 1981, 1983). HOBERLANDT (1954, 1959) also published two articles on material collected by Iranian entomologists. These investigations focused predominantly on central and southern parts of Iran. Only in 2001, Austrian entomologists visited the Golestan province in northern Iran (HEISS 2002). This paper is a continuation of my previous papers dealing with the true bug fauna of Gilan (LINNAVUORI & HOSSEINI 2000, LINNAVUORI 2006, 2007a,b). It is based on investigations I made together with my wife Sakineh Linnavuori in the Gilan province and adjacent areas in northern Iran since 1994; it also deals with some species found in the eastern Khorasan province.

The Gilan province (Fig. 1) (36°36' – 38°27' N, 48°30' – 50°30' E, total area 14,709 km²) is located on the southern coast of the Caspian Sea and surrounded by Ardabil, Zanjan, Ghazvin, Tehran, Mazandaran, and Golestan provinces. The Gilan province consists of coastal