

## Studies on the Acanthosomatidae, Scutelleridae and Pentatomidae (Heteroptera) of Gilan and the adjacent provinces in northern Iran

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**Abstract.** A list of the Acanthosomatidae (3 species), Scutelleridae (13 species) and Pentatomidae (76 species) from the Iranian province of Gilan and adjacent provinces is published. The following eight species are recorded from Iran for the first time: *Cyphostethus tristriatus* (Fabricius, 1787), *Arma custos* (Fabricius, 1794), *Alloeoglypta pretiosa* Kiritshenko, 1952, *Sciocoris cursitans cursitans* (Fabricius, 1794), *Sciocoris macrocephalus* Fieber, 1851, *Ventocoris (Selenodera) bulbifer* Seidenstücker, 1964, *Podops (Opocrates) annulicornis* Jakovlev, 1877, and *Tarisa virescens* Herrich-Schaeffer, 1851.

**Key words.** Heteroptera, Pentatomoidea, Acanthosomatidae, Scutelleridae, Pentatomidae, Iran, Gilan, faunistics, checklist, new records

### Introduction

This paper is the last one in a series of papers dealing with the true bug fauna of the Gilan province in northern Iran (LINNAVUORI & HOSSEINI 2000; LINNAVUORI 2006, 2007a,b,c). It is based on investigations I have been carrying out together with my wife Sakineh Linnavuori in the province and adjacent areas since 1994.

The Gilan province (Fig. 1) (36°36'-38°27' N, 48°30'-50°30' E, total area 14,709 km<sup>2</sup>) 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 and central plains (-25 m a.s.l. at Astara up to about 1,000 m a.s.l.), which are bordered by the Talesh, Masuleh and Poshtehkuh mountain ranges in the west and the Elburz Mts. in the south (maximum altitude about 3,000 m a.s.l.). The mountain ranges are traversed by the Safid Rud valley in Central Gilan (LINNAVUORI & HOSSEINI 2000).

Owing to the influence of the Caspian Sea and the topography, the climate in Gilan is unique in the Middle East. The annual rainfall is about 1,300 mm in Rasht in the central plain and even surpasses 2,000 mm or more on the sea-facing mountain slopes. The rainfall decreases rapidly on the inland-facing slopes (e.g., the annual rainfall at Rudbar was only 351 mm in