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Oleg E. Kosterin & Azam Ahmadi

Odonata observed in Central Zagros, Iran, in late May 2017

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Abstract

In the period 18th – 31st May 2017, 33 localities were examined for Odonata in the Central Zagros area of Iran: 16 in Markazi Province, 14 in Lorestan Province and 3 in Esfahan Province; in 27 of those localities Odonata were found, 25 species in total. For Markazi Province, only one species, Calopteryx splendens, was previously reported (and also found by us), so of 17 species found there 16 are formally new provincial records (Epallage fatime, Lestes barbarus, Coenagrion ornatum, C. persicum, Enallagma cyathigerum, Ischnura elegans, I. intermedia, I. pumilio, Platycnemis kervillei, Anax imperator, Anaciaeschna isoeleus, Caliaeschna microstigma, Libellula depressa, Onychogomphus lefebvrii, Orthetrum brunneum, Sympetrum fonscolombii).

Of 17 species found in Lorestan, 5 are new for this province (L. barbarus, Aeshna mixta, Orthetrum taeniolatum, Sympetrum arenicolor, S. striolatum). Only two species were seen in Esfahan Province, in which little time was spent. Notes on variation and taxonomy are provided for Sympecma paedisca, C. ornatum (considered to be a senior synonym of C. vanbrinkae because of variation in the presumed main diagnostic character), E. cyathigerum, I. elegans, Gomphus schneideri (including discussion of G. amseli), as well as notes on habitats of most species and the general characteristics of the area.

Key words: Central Iran, Markazi Province, Lorestan, Esfahan Province, Odonata, dragonflies, damselflies, Coenagrion ornatum, Coenagrion vanbrinkae, Ischnura elegans subspecies, Gomphus schneideri, Gomphus amseli.

Fig. 21. Calopteryx splendens intermedia: a – an androchromatic female at a stream at Abestan village (Loc. 23), 26.05.2017; b – a teneral male, Garehchay River right floodplain (Loc. 10), 19.05.2017.

Fig. 8. The ponds of Shilanevar valley (Loc. 1) in Tafresh City env., Markazi Province, 29.05.2017; a – the middle pond, a habitat of Enallagma cyathigerum risi and Sympetrum fonscolombii; b – the lower pond, a habitat of E. cyathigerum risi, Coenagrion persicum, Ischnura intermedia, I. elegans, Anax imperator, Libellula depressa, Orthetrum brunneum, S. fonscolombii.

66 pages, 113 colour fotos (habitat, several species of dragonflies, some details for identification) 1 map of habitat locations.

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