

# Cixiidae and Delphacidae (Homoptera - Fulgoroidea) from Lebanon - a preliminary synopsis

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In the past the Auchenorrhyncha fauna not only of Lebanon, but of the whole Near East had scarcely been investigated (Haupt, 1927; Linnavuori, 1962). Concerning Fulgoromorpha only 2 (widespread) Delphacid-species and no single Cixiid-species were mentioned to be recorded from Lebanon (Nast, 1972).

By the extraordinary geographic position of Lebanon (here faunal elements of the Palearctic, Oriental and Ethiopian Region may meet) and its particular orological situation (Mt. Lebanon, reaching up to more than 3.000 m., may provide ideal conditions for the

development of endemics as well as serve as a refugial area) a far richer fauna (not only for the Lebanese state territory which is rather small, but for the whole Near East) was to be expected.

The examination of Fulgoroid-specimens collected by H. Abdul-Nour gave a first idea of how rich the Delphacid and Cixiid-faunas of this area are: we could identify 21 delphacid and 15 cixiid-species, some of them not only being new to Lebanon, but new to science (Table 1). Descriptions of these species as well as detailed locality data are on work and will be published in separate papers.

Table 1. List of species of Delphacidae and Cixiidae found so far in Lebanon.

## Delphacidae

1. *Asiraca clavicornis* (Fabr.)
2. *Kelisia guttula* (Germ.)
3. *Kelisia guttulifera* (Kbm.)
4. *Kelisia ribauti* Wgn. (mediterranean form)
5. *Stenocranus minutus* (Fabr.)
6. *Eurysa libira* Remane & Asche
7. *Remanodelphax cedroni* Dros.
8. *Laodelphax striatellus* (Fal.)
9. *Javesella dubia* (Kbm.)
10. *Javesella pellucida* (Fabr.)
11. *Megadelphax sordidulus* (Stål)
12. *Toya obtusangula* (Linn.)
13. *Toya propinqua* (Fieb.)
14. *Florodelphax leptosoma* (Flor)
15. *Sogatella vibix* (Haupt)
16. *Ribautodelphax* spec., *R. collinus*-group
17. *Muellerianella* spec. cf. *fairmairei* (Perris)
18. *Pseudaraeopus lethierryi* (Muls. & Rey)
19. *Chloriona ponticana* Asche
20. *Conomelus* spec. cf. *odryssius* Dlab. (females)
21. *Dicranotropis beckeri* Fieb.

## Cixiidae

1. *Cixius remotus* Edws.
2. *Cixius pallipes* Fieb.
3. *Cixius* spec.
4. *Tachycixius* spec. 1
5. *Tachycixius* spec. 2
6. *Tachycixius* spec 3
7. *Tachycixius* spec. 4
8. *Reptalus horridus* (Linn.)
9. *Reptalus* spec. 2
10. *Reptalus* spec. 3
11. *Pentastiridius* spec. 1
12. *Pentastira major* Kbm.
13. *Hyalesthes obsoletus* Sign.
14. *Hyalesthes hani* Hoch
15. *Hyalesthes mavromoustakisi* Dlab.

The occurrence of some of these species in Lebanon seems to be quite remarkable, e.g. the finding of the Delphacid *Megadelphax sordidulus* (Stål) in Lebanon forms the southernmost point of its distribution; the species was recorded from South Russia and Turkey, but is still missing in Greece. *Remanodelphax cedroni* Dros., until recently considered to be endemic for Greece, was found in Lebanon (Abdul-Nour, 1983). A new *Eurysa* s. str.-species so far found only in Iraq was described by Remane & Asche (1986). In contrast, all cixiid taxa considered by us to be new species are so far endemic for Lebanon.

Considering the fact that faunistic studies in Lebanon have started only recently, we may expect a species number both in Delphacidae and Cixiidae at least double as high as known so far.

## References

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