

Short communication

The first report of *Aulacidea acroptilonica* and *Isocolus cirsii* (Hym.: Cynipidae) from Iran

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چکیده

دو گونه از زنبورهای خانواده‌ی Cynipidae شامل *Aulacidea acroptilonica* Tyurebaev و *Isocolus cirsii* Diakontshuk از ارومیه جمع‌آوری شد که گزارش جدید برای فون ایران محسوب می‌شوند. گیاهان میزبان، تعدادی از ویژگی‌های مهم شکل‌شناسی و زیست‌شناسی این زنبورها ارائه شده است.

During the study on cynipid wasps associated with herbaceous plants in West Azerbaijan, two species were collected and identified. For this purpose, matured seed heads of *Acroptilon repens* (L.) and *Cirsium arvense* (L.) (Asteraceae) were collected in mid-March 2005 and kept in laboratory conditions in the glass boxes covered by muslin. In late May, two species of Cynipidae, *Aulacidea acroptilonica* Tyurebaev and *Isocolus cirsii* Diakontshuk, emerged from the seed heads of *A. repens* and *C. arvense*, respectively. These species are newly recorded from Iran. Specimens were deposited in the Systematic Parasitoid Laboratory, Köszeg, Hungary and Natural History Museum of Urmia University. Diagnostic characters and biological information of these species are as follows:

- *Aulacidea acroptilonica* Tyurebaev

POL 2.0 times as long as OOL; F2 nearly 2.0 times as long as F1; the median mesoscutal line is very narrow, indistinct, reach to half length of scutum; scutellum is more elongated, scutellar foveae strongly elongated, longer than broad, with smooth, shining bottom, antero-medially reach one another; dorsellum medially 3.0-4.0 times as high as height of ventral impressed area; metasomal tergite II with a posterior band of punctures, occupying its half length; male antenna 13-segmented. This species most closely resembles *Aulacidea ascanica* Diakontshuk.

Middle Asian and Iranian populations of *A. acroptilonica* differ by much lighter flagellomeres, legs and light brown metasoma. Specimens collected in southern part of Ukraine characterized by dark brown F1-F2, F1 and proximal flagellomeres usually slightly

longer. Earlier this species was known from south of Ukraine, European part of Russia, Kazakhstan, Kirgistan, Turkmenistan, Tadjikistan, Uzbekistan (Zerova *et al.*, 1988; Kovalev & Diakontshuk 1986). Only the sexual generation is known; monovoltine. Eggs are laid into *Acroptilon* stem and young sprouts; a stem swelling already visible in a few days after ovipositing. Part of adults emerges at the beginning of summer. Majority of larvae overwinter in the gall and pupate in March-April. Adults emerge by the end of April in Middle Asia and beginning of May in Kazakhstan and Ukraine (Zerova *et al.*, 1988). The only known host plant is *A. repens*, however, it is quite likely that galls can be induced on a closely related species, *A. australe* Iljin. (Kovalev & Diakontshuk 1986).

- *Isocolus cirsii* Diakontshuk

This species belongs to a group of *Isocolus* species with metasomal tergite II posteriorly densely punctuates. Internotauli area and parapsides in the posterior 2/3 with strong, raised shining striae, interspaces are finely coriaceous, 2.0 or more times longer than the width of striae; the areolet in the forewing is absent or very indistinct; the metapleural sulcus reaching mesopleuron in the upper 1/3 of its height, never lower. Earlier the galls were only found in flower heads of *Cirsium ukrainicum* (Diakontshuk, 1987). Only the sexual generation is known; monovoltine. Adults emerge from late April until June-August (Diakontshuk 1987, Zerova, *et al.*, 1988).

References

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