

Scientific Note

***Neomaskellia andropogonis* (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae), a new genus and species record for Iran**

A. Askarianzadeh¹ and S. Manzari²

1. Sugarcane Research Center, Ahwaz, Iran, 2. Insect Taxonomy Research Department, Plant Pests & Diseases Research Institute, P.O. Box 1454, Tehran 19395, Iran.

چکیده

سفیدبالک *Neomaskellia andropogonis* Corbett در تاریخ ۱۳۸۳/۴/۸ از شرکت کشت و صنعت امیر کبیر اهواز از روی گیاه نیشکر، *Saccharum officinarum* (Poaceae)، جمع‌آوری گردید. جنس و گونه‌ی این سفیدبالک برای اولین بار از ایران گزارش می‌شود. جنس *Neomaskellia* Quaintance & Baker متعلق به مناطق گرمسیری دنیای قدیم است و تا کنون فقط دو گونه، یعنی *N. bergii* (Signoret) و *N. andropogonis*، از این جنس توصیف شده است که هر دو گونه عمدتاً روی گیاهان تیره‌ی Poaceae فعالیت دارند.

Whitefly specimens collected on sugarcane, *Saccharum officinarum* (Poaceae), dated 21. vi. 2004 in Amirkabir Agro-Industry Company, Ahwaz, were identified as *Neomaskellia andropogonis* Corbett (Hem.: Aleyrodidae: Aleyrodinae). This whitefly, which the genus and species is newly recorded from Iran, has been reported from Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, West Malaysia (Mound & Halsey, 1978) and Hong Kong (Martin, unpublished).

Neomaskellia Quaintance & Baker is an Old World tropical genus with just two included species, *N. bergii* (Signoret) and *N. andropogonis*. The latter species can be distinguished from *N. bergii* by the presence of the groups of simple pores in the submedian area of abdominal segments V-VII (irregularly present on segments III and IV). These two hitherto described species have mainly been recorded from Poaceae (Martin, 1987).

Neomaskellia can be distinguished from the other genera of the family by the combination of the following puparial characters: puparia broadly or elongate-oval; cuticle pale to brown, often darker in median area. Margin irregularly crenulate; tracheal pore areas not differentiated from margin. Submargin with a single row of 16 pairs of long setae (including the caudal pair). Cephalic, first and eighth abdominal setae present. Longitudinal and transverse moulting sutures reaching puparial margin. Vasiform orifice transversely elliptical, elevated, normally appearing wider than long in slide-mounted examples; lingula tip exposed. Caudal furrow absent. Tracheal folds not defined (Bink-Moenen, 1983; Martin, 1987, 1999).

References

- Bink-Moenen, R. M.** (1983) Revision of the African whiteflies (Aleyrodidae), mainly based on a collection from Tchad. *Monografieën van de Nederlandse Entomologische Vereniging, Amsterdam* 10, 1-211.
- Martin, J. H.** (1987) An identification guide to common whitefly pest species of the world (Homoptera, Aleyrodidae). *Tropical Pest Management* 33, 298-322.
- Martin, J. H.** (1999) The whitefly fauna of Australia (Sternorrhyncha: Aleyrodidae), a taxonomic account and identification guide. *Technical Paper, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Entomology* 38, 1-197.
- Mound, L. A. & Halsey, S. H.** (1978) *Whitefly of the world, a systematic catalogue of the Aleyrodidae (Homoptera) with host plant and natural enemy data*. 340 pp. British Museum (Natural History), John Wiley & Sons.

Received: 21 December 2004

Accepted: 2 March 2005