

Short communication

New records of two grass fly species (Dip.: Chloropidae) from Iran

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چکیده

دو گونه از مگس‌های خانواده Chloropidae به نام‌های *Cryptonevra flavitarsis* (Meigen) و *Lipara lucens* (Meigen) از گال‌های ایجادشده در جوانه انتهایی گیاه نی، برای اولین بار از ایران گزارش می‌شوند. حشرات کامل مگس *L. lucens* از گال‌های ایجادشده در جوانه انتهایی گیاه نی، نیز از درون گال‌های *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. Ex Steudel به دست آمدند. حشرات کامل مگس *C. flavitarsis* نیز از درون گال‌های ایجادشده به وسیله مگس *L. lucens* در جوانه نی خارج شدند. این گونه گال‌زی بوده و در منطقه Palearctic انتشار دارد.

The common reed, *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. Ex Steudel, is a cosmopolitan reed, widely distributed in Europe, Asia, Africa, America and Australia (Holm *et al.*, 1977). Common reed grows in a wide range of habitats and displays high phenotypic and genotypic plasticity (Haslam, 1972; van der Putten, 1997). Phytophagous insects associated with common reed in Urmia region, were collected from the gall-bearing terminal buds of common reed in their natural habitats in September 2009. The infested buds along with their larvae were sent to Dr. M. Skuhrava (Czech Republic) for identification. The overwintering infested buds were collected in March 2010 and March 2011, and brought to the laboratory, and placed in glass boxes which were covered by fine mesh screen to obtain the adult insects.

Voucher specimens are deposited in the Natural History Museum of Urmia University and in the Hyke Mirzayans Insect Museum (Iranian Research Institute of Plant Protection).

The chloropid fly, which was responsible for bud abortion and gall induction in common reed, was identified as:

- *Lipara lucens* (Meigen) (Dip.: Chloropidae: Oscinellinae)

Material examined – West Azarbaijan: 11 ♀♀, 7 ♂♂, 20.5 km SE Urmia, vicinity of Arablū village, N 37° 24', E 45° 15', 1280 m., 2-12.iv.2010, ex: *Phragmites australis*; 16 ♀♀, 11 ♂♂, 2.5 km SW Urmia, vicinity

of Kelisā Kandī village, N 37° 29', E, 45° 01', 1600 m., 1-15.iv.2011, ex: *P. australis*.

Eleven species of *Lipara* Meigen are known from the Holarctic region (Nartshuk, 1996). The species *L. lucens* (fig. 1) is a specialist gall inducer on common reed throughout the Palearctic (Beschovski, 1984).

- *Cryptonevra flavitarsis* (Meigen) (Dip.: Chloropidae: Chloropinae)

Material examined – West Azarbaijan: 5 ♀♀, 7 ♂♂, 20.5 km SE Urmia, vicinity of Arablū village, N 37° 24', E 45° 15', 1280 m., 2-12.iv.2010, ex *P. australis*; 7 ♀♀, 4 ♂♂, 2.5 km SW Urmia, vicinity of Kelisā Kandī village, N 37° 29', E 45° 01', 1600 m., 1-15.iv.2011, ex: *P. australis*.

The species of *Cryptonevra* Lioy are mostly found in *Lipara* galls at upper parts of common reed stems (Grochowska, 2007). In *Lipara* galls, *C. flavitarsis* lives as inquiline (Grochowska, 2008). There are 12 species of this genus in the Palearctic region (Anderson, 1977; Nartshuk, 1996).

Members of grass flies (Dip.: Chloropidae), with 2456 described species in 177 genera, are distributed throughout the world. The family includes minute to small (usually 1-7 mm), smooth, rather bristleless flies, usually predominantly black or basically yellow with black to brown stripes and maculate. Grass flies occur in a variety of habitats and are fairly common in grasslands, marshes and low vegetation in forests, and are frequently collected in great numbers in fields of

gramineous plants. The larvae of most species are mainly phytophagous and saprophagous, sometimes carnivorous. Some of phytophagous species are economically important as pests of cereals (Oosterbroek, 1998; Karpa, 2001).

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Fig. 1. *Lipara lucens*: (A) a fully grown larva inside the gall on the apical bud of *Phragmites australis*, (B) adult. (Original).

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