THE ANTHOCORIDAE OF ISRAEL (HETEROPTERA)

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Data are presented on the 26 species of Anthocoridae of Israel, five of which are new to this country. Five species are abundant; two of them (both monophagous) reduce significantly the populations of their preys — *Elatophilus hebraicus* Per. feeding on *Matsucoccus josephi* (Coccoidea: Margarodidae), a destructive pest of Aleppo pine, and *Montandoniola moraguesi* (Put.) feeding on *Gynaikothrips ficorum* (Thysanoptera), deforming the leaves of *Ficus microcarpa*; the three other abundant species are *Anthocoris nemorális* (F.) — preying mostly on psyllids and aphids, *Scoloposcelis pulchella* (Zett.) — destroying the young stages of pine bark beetles, and *Cardiastethus nazarenus* Reut. — feeding on many groups of small arthropods.

KEY WORDS: Anthocoridae, new records; natural enemies; Israel.

INTRODUCTION

The present knowledge on the Anthocoridae of Israel is summarized herein. This paper is based on previously published information (3,4,7–13) and on material collected by the junior author (J.H.) in the course of entomofaunistic research on forest and ornamental trees and shrubs.

The identifications were made by the late E. Wagner (EW) of Hamburg (in 1971–75), by R.E. Linnavuori (RL) of Somersoja, Finland (in 1975–82), and by the senior author (JP) (in 1984–88). The identified material is deposited in the collections of the above persons and in the Dept. of Zoology, Tel-Aviv University, Ramat Aviv, Israel.

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The 26 species listed are arranged alphabetically in two sub-families. Species new to Israel are marked by asterisks.

The following abbreviations were used for the regions of Israel: Ar, Arava Valley; Ca, Mt. Carmel; CN, Central Negev; CP, Coastal Plain; Go, Golan; HV, Hula Valley; JM, Judean Mts.; LG, Lower Galilee; NN, Northern Negev; Sa, Samaria; Sh, Shefela (Judean Foothills); UG, Upper Galilee; YV, Yizre’el Valley; months are indicated by Roman numerals; a.y.r. stands for all year round.

ENUMERATION OF ANTHOCORIDAE

Anthocorinae

1. *Anthocoris confusus* Reuter

Sede Nehemya (HV), 15.V.1974, on *Laurus nobilis* infested with *Trioza alacris* (Psylloidea); Shoval (NN), 22.IX.1974, on *Populus alba* infested with *Chaitophorus populeti* (Aphidoidea). Det. EW.

2. *Anthocoris minki* ssp. *pistaciae* E. Wagner

Frequently found on *Pistacia atlantica* and *P. palaestina*, feeding on gall-forming aphids; rare on *Populus alba* and *Quercus ithaburensis*; HV, UG, LG, YV, Sa; IV-X. Det. EW, RL, JP.

3. *Anthocoris nemoralis* (F.)

Recorded by Bodenheimer (4) and Linnavuori (11). Common on broadleaved trees and shrubs: *Acacia*, *Cercis*, *Crataegus*, *Ficus*, *Laurus*, *Olea*, *Phillyrea*, *Pistacia*, *Platanus*, *Populus*, *Pyrus*, *Quercus*, *Rhamnus*, *Styrax*; rare on *Pinus*. Feeding mainly on psyllids (?) and aphids, partly of economic importance, occasionally also on leaf miners such as *Phyllonorycter* spp. (Lepid.: Gracillariidae); Go, HV, LG, Ca, YV, Sa, CP, Sh, JM; I–X. Det. EW, RL, JP. (Fig. 1a).

4. *Dokkiocoris bicolor* Miller

Recorded by Linnavuori (10).