Second contribution to the knowledge of Longhorn Beetles of the Syrian Coastal Region (Coleoptera Cerambycidae)

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ABSTRACT
Knowledge relating to the Longhorn Beetles of Syria was extended in this study, with special emphasis on the Coastal Region (SCR), which was the focal point of a previous study we published last year (2015). This contribution provides a detailed account about additional species and subspecies that were collected from different areas and localities of the SCR, in as much as reporting two new species to be recorded for the first time from the Syrian territory, namely: Stenopterus atricornis Pic, 1891 and Pogonocherus barbarae Rapuzzi et Sama, 2012. Among the examined catches, one specimen was identified down to the genus level, but its species status is doubtful and its validity still needs further examination. All available faunistics, biogeographies and bionomics of all the reported species and subspecies are given. Moreover, a complete, refined and annotated checklist of the Syrian Cerambycidae was introduced, with special reference to all taxa recorded from SCR up to the time of publication of this work.

KEY WORDS
Syria; Syrian Coastal Region; Longhorn Beetles; Cerambycidae; new data; faunistics.

INTRODUCTION
The biodiversity of the Middle East (ME) is rather unique and might be one of the largest in the world, especially that ME serves as a junction between three major biogeographic regions (i.e. realms) viz. Palaeartic, Afro-tropical and Oriental (Krupp et al., 2009). In the grand scheme, entomology in ME is still inchoate, and research endeavors are still hindered by a lingering dearth of resources. However, more effort has been dedicated towards "uncovering" the Middle Eastern fauna of insects (e.g. Cerambycidae) in recent years, which yielded substantial biodiversity data reflected in the notable increase of published work relating to that region (e.g. Sama et al., 2002; Sama et al., 2010a, b; Özdikmen, 2007, 2008a, b, c; Ali et al., 2015). Situated at the heart of ME, Syria harbors an outstanding ecological diversity which gives rise to an astounding "biological richness" manifested in overwhelmingly diversified faunae and florae. In reality, the knowledge concerning that richness remains sketchy and not well established. In regards to the scope of this study, the Syrian fauna of Longhorn Beetles (Cerambycidae) is insufficiently documented, and full accounts are - basically - non existant. Meanwhile, it is worth mentioning that there is only one checklist providing a brief cross-referenced record of species and subspecies reported from the Syrian territory as a whole (Hariri, 1971). Still, given the recent surge in taxonomic
research projects targeting ME, region-wise periodically-updated databases are being issued on a regular basis. Accordingly, Syrian fauna is more likely to encompass more species and subspecies of Cerambycidae than previously reported (Danilevsky, 2012a). Furthermore, taxonomic statuses of taxa are rather dynamic and very liable to change with the course of time, which renders earlier work severely outdated and addresses a crucial need for profound amendments in order for taxonomic databases to be more accurate and attract more validity (Löble & Smetana, 2010).

In line with the novel taxonomic research outreachs in ME, our endeavor was set out to bridge the gaps inflicting the knowledge of Cerambycidae in Syria. The Syrian Coastal Region (SCR) was under our initial limelight of focus due to the typical Mediterranean climate and heterogenous geography it features, which holds an implication for a significant ecological importance in terms of biodiversity and species richness. Consequently, a detailed study of the Cerambycidae fauna of SCR was published by Ali et al. (2015), accounting for 51 species and subspecies with 9 species (including subspecies) to be recorded for the first time from the Syrian territory.

In this study, we meant to build upon the previous contribution, and provide an account for new species and subspecies collected from Syria, with new taxa to be recorded for the first time as well. In light with recent insecurity situations engulfing vast stretches of the country, a comprehensive survey of Cerambycidae fauna covering the whole land of Syria was technically unfeasible. Nevertheless, we provide an up-to-date checklist of Syrian Cerambycidae with reference to the taxa recorded from the region of concern i.e. SCR.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Study area

The study area is a small "strip" of land with a heterogenous geography; ranging from low plains to rocky highlands and mountains reaching more than 1000 m of elevation. The area features a typical Mediterranean climate, with mildly cold winters and relatively hot and wet summers. The clement weather combined with the highly diversified flora provide ideal ecological micro-habitats for many fauna communities to diversify, and insects in this regards are a core component of the Syrian fauna.

Collection, preservation, and identification

Specimens of adult Cerambycidae were collected by the first author (if not mentioned otherwise) from many areas and localities situated across the SCR between early February and late August throughout 2014–2015. Furthermore, collections pertaining to fellow researchers, which included specimens originating from Syria were also examined.

Interested readers can refer to Ali et al. (2015) for a detailed account concerning collection methodology, handling and curation techniques.

Specimens were identified according to: Bense, 1995, Özdikmen & Turgut, 2009, Rapuzzi & Sama, 2012, Rapuzzi & Sama, 2013b.

Each identified specimen was pictured using an Olympus SP 800 UZ digital camera, and all specimens were permanently preserved in the Entomology Laboratory belonging to the Plant Protection Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Tishreen University, Syria.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During this study a total of 5 species including 2 subspecies belonging to 5 genera in 5 tribes were reported. The species status of one specimen was uncertain and further examination is still needed to determine its validity.

A detailed list of the identified taxa is given below. With the following order:

The classification scheme follows Danilevsky (2012a).

Collection sites and localities with their geographical data (e.g. latitude, longitude, and altitude) are provided in alphabetical order.

Global distribution data are given in alphabetical order, based on Danilevsky (2012a).

Chorotypes were based on the geographic range of distribution based on Danilevsky (2012a); with a further reference where appropriate.

Bionomics, when available, are given, based on:
An up-to-date checklist of Syrian Cerambycidae is provided (with special reference to species reported from SCR) based on: Breuning, 1962; Öz dik men, 2008; Löble & Smetana, 2010; Kotán & Sama, 2011; Danilevsky, 2012a, b; Rapuzzi et al., 2011, Rapuzzi & Sama, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013a, b; Sama & Rapuzzi, 2011; Öz dik men et al., 2012, 2014; Ali et al., 2015, in addition to data obtained from examining collections belonging to some fellow researchers.

Family CERAMByCIDAE Latreille, 1802

Subfamily PRIONINAE Latreille, 1802

Genus Mesoprionus Jakovlev, 1887

Type species: Prionus asiaticus Faldermann, 1837

1. Mesoprionus lefebvrei (Marseul, 1856)

EXAMINED MATERIAL. Latakia Province. Latakia Area: Bisnada, 21.0 m, 35°48’14.97"E, 35°32’52.65"N, 23. IX. 2014 (1 female)/ Qismin, 191.0 m, 35°54’18.6"E, 35°38’1.2"N, 17. IX. 2014 (1 male)/ Latakia, 20.0 m, 35°46’51.7"E, 35°31’47.1"N, 3. V. 2015 (1 male)/ Serskieh, 55.0 m, 35°55’10.40"E, 35°42’19.84"N, 10. VIII. 2015 (1 female).

Tartus Province. Baniyas Area: Al-Qadmus, 919.0 m, 36° 9’40.13"E, 35° 9.53"N, 30. XI. 2014 (1 female). Safita Area: Safita: 310.0 m, 36° 7’5.14"E, 34° 49’1.75"N, 16. X. 2014 (1 male).

CHOROTYPE. Turano-Mediterranean / Balkano-Anatolian (Özdikmen et al., 2012).

DISTRIBUTION. Europe (Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Macedonia, European-Turkey, Serbia and Montenegro); Asia (Cyprus and Turkey).

BIONOMICS. Polyphagous on deciduous plants (e.g. Acacia mollissima Willd., Ligustrum ovalifolium Hassk., Quercus ithaburensis Deene., Platanus sp., Ficus sp.); life cycle usually takes 2–3 years; adults are usually encountered between June–August.

REMARKS. Specimens were collected by the hand from trunk and branches of some deciduous trees, and some specimens were collected from light traps situated near forest sites, and it is considered as a forester species.

Subfamily CERAMBYCINAЕ Latreille, 1802

Tribe Cerambycini Latreille, 1802

Genus Cerambyx Linnaeus, 1758

Type species: Cerambyx cerdo Linnaeus, 1758

2. Cerambyx cfr. dux Faldermann, 1837

EXAMINED MATERIAL. Latakia Province. Jableh Area: Qutaolabyah, 215.0 m, 36° 1’8.98"E, 35° 17’13.14"N, 16. V. 2014 (1 male); 27. VI. 2015 (1 male).

CHOROTYPE. Unknown.

DISTRIBUTION. Unknown.

BIONOMICS. Unknown.

REMARKS. Our first encounter with this species was in 2014, and it is rather rare in SCR. We were unable to verify the species status; therefore, further examination is needed. Specimens were encountered on the branches of oak trees (Quercus sp.).

Tribe Purpuricenini J. Thomson, 1861

Genus Purpuricenus Dejean, 1821

Type species: Cerambyx kaehleri Linnaeus, 1758

3. Purpuricenus interscapillatus interscapillatus Plavilstshikov, 1937

EXAMINED MATERIAL. Latakia Province. Jableh Area: Mazar Al-Qatria: 142.0 m, 35°55’32.1"E, 35°30’56.0"N, 16. VIII. 2015 (1 male, 1 female).

CHOROTYPE. E-Mediterranean / Palestino-Cypriot-Taurian (Rapuzzi & Sama, 2013).

DISTRIBUTION. Asia (Syria and Turkey) [Type: “Syria”].

BIONOMICS. Oligophagous on some deciduous trees (e.g. Quercus calliprinos Webb., Rhamnus palaeasta Boiss., Prunus sp.); life cycle usually takes 2–3 years; adults are usually encountered between May–August.
REMARKS. Not frequently encountered in SCR, specimens were found on the trunk of an oak tree (Quercus sp.).

Subfamily LAMIINAE Latreille, 1825
Tribe Pogonocherini Mulsant, 1839
Genus Pogonocherus Dejean, 1821
Type species: Cerambyx hispidus Linnaeus, 1758

5. Pogonocherus barbarae Rapuzzi et Sama, 2012

EXAMINED MATERIAL. Latakia Province. Latakia Area: Wadi Qandil: 48.0 m, 35°50'28.9"E, 35°43'20.7"N, 13. VI. 2014 (1 male).

CHOROTYPE. Unknown.

DISTRIBUTION. Turkey and Syria.

BIONOMICS. Usually associated with Pinus nigra J.F. Arnold.

REMARKS. This is the first record of this species from Syria. It is very rare in SCR; the specimen was found on a branch of the host plant.

Tribe Phytoeciini Mulsant, 1839
Genus Phytoecia Dejean, 1835
Type species: Cerambyx cylindricus Linnaeus, 1758
Subgenus Phytoecia Dejean, 1835
Type species: Cerambyx cylindricus Linnaeus, 1758

4. Phytoecia caerulea caerulea (Scopoli, 1772)

EXAMINED MATERIAL. Tartus Province. Baniyas Area: Blawzeh: 462.0 m, 36° 1'5.23"E, 35° 8'59.40"N, 23. V. 2015 (2 males, 1 female).

CHOROTYPE. Turano-European (Özdikmen, 2008).

DISTRIBUTION. Europe, Asia (Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan).

BIONOMICS. Oligophagous on some herbaceous plants (e.g. Sinapis sp., Sisymbrium sp., Rapistrum sp.); life cycle usually takes one year; adults are usually encountered between March–June.

REMARKS. Frequently encountered in SCR, especially during early spring (April); specimens were collected by sweeping some herbaceous plants.

CONCLUSIONS

In total, and in accordance with new data provided in this study, the Cerambycidae fauna of SCR comprises: 139 species including 39 subspecies, belonging to 76 genera, in 35 tribes allocated to 5 subfamilies. The proposed checklist below, and relevant databases will be updated as more progress towards building the complete Cerabycidae fauna of Syria is achieved.

As a final point, the diversity in SCR that has been uncovered up to now is significantly high, which highlights the faunistic importance of the longhorn beetles in Syria. Interestingly, the SCR account for approximately 85% of all species and subspecies reported from Syria (as can be inferred from the checklist), and this further enhances our discussion about the high ecological importance of SCR, but this does not negate the need for further studies to be carried out in order to obtain more data and "excavate" more species that are waiting to be discovered from other regions, especially that SCR represents - roughly speaking - only about 2.5% of the total area of Syria.

CHECKLIST OF CERAMBYCIDAE OF SYRIA

The species marked by * are recorded from the area examined in this paper (SCR).

Subfamily PRIONINAE Latreille, 1802
Tribe Aegosomatini J. Thomson, 1861
Genus Aegosoma Audinet-Serville, 1832
*scabricorne (Scopoli, 1763)

Tribe Ergatini Fairmaire, 1832
Genus Callergates Lameere, 1904
*gaillardoti (Chevrolat, 1854)

Genus Ergates Audinet-Serville, 1832
*faber faber (Linnaeus, 1760)

Tribe Macrotomini J. Thomson, 1861
Genus Prinobius Mulsant, 1842
*myardi atropos (Chevrolat, 1854)
Tribe Prionini Latreille, 1802

Genus Mesoprionus Jakovlev, 1887
* lefebvrei (Marseul, 1856)
Genus Prionus Geoffroy, 1762
[coriarius (Linnæus, 1758)]
*komiyai (Lorenc, 1999)

Tribe Remphanini Lacordaire, 1868

Genus Rhæsus Motschulsky, 1875
*serricollis (Motschulsky, 1838)

Subfamily APATOPYSEINAE Lacordaire, 1869
Tribe Apatophyseini Lacordaire, 1869

Genus Apatophysis Chevrolat, 1860
Subgenus Apatophysis Chevrolat, 1860
*katbehi Rapuzzi et Sama, 2013

Subfamily LEPTURINAE Latreille, 1802
Tribe Lepturini Latreille, 1802

Genus Anastrangalia Casey, 1924
*montana montana (Mulsant et Rey, 1863)

Genus Grammoptera Audinet-Serville, 1835
Subgenus Grammoptera Audinet-Serville, 1835
*baudii pistacivora Sama, 1996
*grammopteroides (Pic, 1892)

Genus Pachytodes Pic, 1891
*erraticus erraticus (Dalman, 1817)

Genus Pedostrangalia Sokolov, 1897
Subgenus Neosphenalia Löbl, 2010
*emmipoda (Mulsant, 1863)
riccardoi riccardoi (Holzschuh, 1984)

Genus Pseudovadonia Lobanov, Danilevsky et Murzin, 1981
*livida livida (Fabricius, 1777)

Genus Stenurella Villiers, 1974
*bifasciata nigrosuturalis (Reitter, 1895)

Genus Stictoleptura Casey, 1924
Subgenus Stictoleptura Casey, 1924
*benjamine hedenensis Sama et Rapuzzi, 2000
*cordigera cordigera (Fuessly, 1775)

*excisipes (K. Daniel et J. Daniel, 1891)
*heydeni (Ganglbauer, 1889)
*sambucicola (Holzschuh, 1982)

Genus Vadonia Mulsant, 1863
*unipunctata syricola Holzschuh, 1993

Tribe Rhagiini Kirby, 1837

Genus Anisorus Mulsant, 1862
*heterocerus (Ganglbauer, 1882)

Genus Cortodera Mulsant, 1863
*colchica colchica Reitter, 1890
*longipilis Pic, 1898
*semilivida Pic, 1892
syriaca syriaca Pic, 1901

Genus Rhagium Fabricius, 1775
Subgenus Megarhagium Reitter, 1913
*syriacum Pic, 1892

Genus Rhamnusium Latreille, 1829
*bicolor praeustum Reitter, 1895

Subfamily SPONDYLIDINAE Audinet-Serville, 1832
Tribe Anisarthrini Mamaev et Danilevsky, 1973

Genus Alocerus Mulsant, 1862
*moesiacus (Frivaldszky von Frivald, 1837)

Tribe Asemini J. Thomson, 1861

Genus Arhopalus Audinet-Serville, 1834
*ferus
*syriacus (Reitter, 1895)

Subfamily CERAMBYCINAE Latreille, 1802
Tribe Achrysonini Lacordaire, 1868

Genus Icosium P.H. Lucas, 1854
*tomentosum atticum Ganglbauer, 1882

Tribe Brachypteromini Sama, 2008

Genus Brachypteroma Heyden, 1863
*holtzi Pic, 1905

Tribe Callichromatini Swainson, 1840
Genus *Aromia* Audinet-Serville, 1834  
*moschata ambrosiaca* (Steven, 1809)

Tribe Callidiini Kirby, 1837

Genus *Callidium* Fabricius, 1775  
Subgenus *Callidium* Fabricius, 1775  
*syriacum* Pic, 1892

Genus *Leioderes* L. Redtenbacher, 1849  
*teurki* (Ganglbauer, 1886)  
*fasciatus* Villers, 1789

Subgenus *Phymatodes* Mulsant, 1839  
*testaceus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Genus *Pyrrhidium* Fairmaire, 1864  
*sanguineum* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Genus *Ropalopus* Mulsant, 1839  
Subgenus *Ropalopus* Mulsant, 1839  
*eleonorae* Sama et Rapuzzi, 2002  
*leederi wittmeri* Demelt, 1970

Genus *Semanotus* Mulsant, 1839  
*russicus russicus* (Fabricius, 1777)

Tribe Cerambycini Latreille, 1802

Genus *Cerambyx* Linnaeus, 1758  
*cerdo cerdo* Linnaeus, 1758  
*dax* (Faldermann, 1837)  
*nodulosus* Germar, 1817  
*scopoli nitidus* Pic, 1892  
*welensii* Küster, 1845

Genus *Neoplocaederus* Sama, 1991  
laszlokatani* Kotán et Sama, 2011

Tribe Certallini Fairmaire, 1864
Genus *Stromatium* Audinet-Serville, 1834
*unicolor* (Olivier, 1795)

Genus *Trichoferus* Wollaston, 1854
*fasciculatus fasciculatus* (Faldemann, 1837)
*griseus* (Fabricius, 1792)
*kotschyi* (Ganglbauer, 1883)

Tribe Hylotrupini Zagajkevitch, 1991

Genus *Hylotrupes* Audinet-Serville, 1834
*bajulus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Tribe Molorchini Gistel, 1848

Genus *Glaphyra* Newman, 1840
*kiesewetteri hircus* (Abeille de Perrin, 1881)

Genus *Molochrus* Fabricius, 1792
*juglandis* Sama, 1982

Tribe Nathriini Arnett, 1962

Genus *Nathrius* Brèthes, 1916
*brevipennis* (Mulsant, 1839)

Tribe Phoracanthini Newman, 1840

Genus *Phoracantha* Newman, 1840
*recurva* Newman, 1840
*semipunctata* (Fabricius, 1775)

Tribe Purpuricenini J. Thomson, 1861

Genus *Purpuricenus* Dejean, 1821
Subgenus *Purpuricenus* Dejean, 1821
*budensis* (Göttz, 1783)
*dalmatinus* Sturm, 1843
*desfontainii inhumeralis* Pic, 1891
*interscapillatus interscapillatus* Plavilstshikov, 1937
*interscapillatus hermonensis* Rapuyzzi et Sama, 2013

Tribe Stenopterini Gistel, 1848

Genus *Callimus* Mulsant, 1846
*angulatus angulatus* (Schrank, 1789)

Genus *Lampropterus* Mulsant, 1862
Subgenus *Lampropterus* Mulsant, 1862
*femoratus* (Germar, 1824)

Genus *Procallimus* Pic, 1907
*egregius* (Mulsant et Rey, 1863)

Genus *Stenopterus* Illiger, 1804
*atricornis* Pic, 1891
*flavicorns* Küster, 1846
*rufus syriacus* Pic, 1892

Subfamily LAMIINAE Latreille, 1825
Tribe Acanthocinini Blanchard, 1845

Genus *Acanthocinus* Dejean, 1821
*griseus* Fabricius, 1792

Tribe Acanthoderini J. Thomson, 1860

Genus *Leiopus* Audinet-Serville, 1835
*syriacus* Ganglbauer, 1884
*wrzecionkoi* Sama et Rapuzzi, 2011

Tribe Agapanthini Mulsant, 1839

Genus *Agapanthus* Audinet-Serville, 1835
Subgenus *Agapanthia* Audinet-Serville, 1835
*frivaldszkyi* Ganglbauer, 1884
*lais* Reiche et Saulcy, 1858
*suturalis* (Fabricius, 1787)

Subgenus *Epoptes* Gistel, 1857
*coeruleipennis* Frivaldszky, 1878
*kirbyi* Gylenhal, 1817
*pustulifera* Pic, 1905

Genus *Calamobius* Guérin-Méneville, 1847
*filum* (Rossi, 1790)

Tribe Apodasyini Lacordaire, 1872
Genus *Anaesthetis* Dejean, 1835  
*anatolica* Holzschuh, 1969

Tribe Batocerini J. Thomson, 1864

Genus *Batocera* Dejean, 1835  
*rufomaculata rufomaculata* (De Geer, 1775)

Tribe Dorcadionini Swainson et Shuckard, 1840

Genus *Dorcadion* Dalman, 1817  
Subgenus *Cribдорожion* Pic, 1901  
*boucardi* Pic, 1942  
*drusoides* Breuning, 1962  
*halepense* Kraatz, 1873  
*impressicolle* Kraatz, 1873  
[koechlini* Pic, 1898]  
*libanoticum* Kraatz, 1873  
*saucyj saucyj* J. Thomson, 1865  
[syriense Breuning, 1943]

Tribe Monochamini Gistel, 1848

Genus *Monochamus* Dejean, 1821  
Subgenus *Monochamus* Dejean, 1821  
*galloprovincialis* Olivier, 1795

Tribe Phytoeciini Mulsant, 1839

Genus *Coptosia* Fairmaire, 1864  
Subgenus *Barbarina* Sama, 2010  
*nepholoides* (Sama, 1997)

Subgenus *Coptosia* Fairmaire, 1864  
*brunnerae* Sama, 2000  
*compacta sancta* Reiche, 1877  
*ganglbaueri* Pic, 1936

Genus *Mallosia* Mulsant, 1862  
Subgenus *Eumallosia* Danilevsky, 1990  
*imperatrix* Abeille de Perrin, 1885

Subgenus *Semnosia* K. Daniel, 1904  
*baiocchii* Sama, 2001

Genus *Oberea* Dejean, 1835  
Subgenus *Amauvostoma* J. Müller, 1906  
*erythrocephala erythrocephala* (Schrank, 1776)

Subgenus *Oberea* Dejean, 1835  
*oculata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Genus *Opsilia* Mulsant, 1862  
*coerulescens* (Scopoli, 1763)

Genus *Oxyia* Mulsant, 1862  
*argentata languida* (Ménétrés, 1839)

Genus *Phytoecia* Dejean, 1835  
Subgenus *Blepsianis* Pascoe, 1866  
*vittipennis leuthneri* (Ganglbauer, 1886)

Subgenus *Helladia* Fairmaire, 1864  
*alziari* Sama, 1992  
*armeniaca armeniaca* Frivaldszky, 1878  
*ferrugata* Ganglbauer, 1884  
*humeralis* (Waltl, 1838)  
*insignata* Chevrolat, 1854  
*orbicollis adelpha* Ganglbauer, 1886  
*paulesi bludanica* Sama, 2000  
*pontica* Ganglbauer, 1884  
*preatextata nigricollis* Pic, 1891  
*pretiosa* Faldermann, 1837

Subgenus *Musaria* J. Thomson, 1864  
*astarte astarte* Ganglbauer, 1886  
*wachanrui* Mulsant, 1851

Subgenus *Neomusaria* Plavilstshikov, 1928  
inapicalis Pic, 1905  
*alepenis* Pic, 1931  
*merki* Ganglbauer, 1884  
*mesopotamica* Breuning, 1948  
*walti* Sama, 1991

Subgenus *Phytoecia* Dejean, 1835  
*asiatica asiatica* Pic, 1891  
*caerulea caerulea* Scopoli, 1772  
*kabateki* Sama, 1997  
*manicata* Reiche et Saulcy, 1858  
*pubescens* Pic, 1895  
*rufipes latior* Pic, 1895  
*virgula* (Charpentier, 1825)

Genus *Pilemia* Fairmaire, 1864  
*griseomaculata* Pic, 1891  
*hirsutula hirsutula* (Frölich, 1793)  
*vagecarinata* Pic, 1952
Figs. 1–3. Akbes (now Akbez), Hatay province (SE Turkey).
Genus Pygoptosia Reitter, 1895
*speciosa* (Frivaldszky, 1884)

Tribe Pogonocherini Mulsant, 1839

Genus Exocentrus Dejean, 1835
*adspersus* Mulsant, 1846
*ratae* Sama, 1985

Genus Pogonocherus Dejean, 1821
*anatolicus* K. Daniel et L. Daniel, 1898
*barbarae* Rapuzzi et Sama, 2012

Tribe Pteropliini J. Thomson, 1860

Genus Niphona Mulsant, 1839
Subgenus Niphona Mulsant, 1839
*picticornis* Mulsant, 1839

Tribe Saperdini Mulsant, 1839

Genus Saperda Fabricius, 1775
*quercus ocellata* Abeille de Perrin, 1895

Tribe Tetropini Portevin, 1927

Genus Tetrops Stephens, 1829
*paeustus praestus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Notes on the checklist

The records of *Prionus coriarius* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Löbl & Smetana, 2010) need to be confirmed. It is more likely that all the records of *Delius fugax* (Oliver, 1790) must be referred to the recently described species *D. kadleci rugosicollis* Rapuzzi et Sama, 2012. *Dorcadion boucardi* and *Do. syriense* Breuning, 1943 are described from Amanos Mountains (Turkey) and never reported from Syria, so they are extraneous to the Syrian fauna. The real status of *Do. koechlini* Pic, 1898 needs to be checked. It was described from “Syria” by Pic (1898) and compared with *Do. triste* Frivaldszky, 1845. Later Breuning (1962) transferred it as a “morpha” of *Do. divisum* Germar, 1839.

*Stenopterus atricornis* Pic, 1891 is recorded for the first time from Syria on the basis of specimens preserved in Kadlec collection (National Museum Praha, Czech Republic) with the following data: “W Syria: 28 Km S Jisr ash Sughur, Qal at Burzay, 4.VI.1999, Kadlec lgt.”.

Some species were erroneously recorded from Syria, e.g. *Rosalia alpina syriaca* Pic 1895, 1892; *Sictoplepta scutellata inscutellata* (Pic, 1892); *Isotomus syriacus* (Pic, 1902) and so on, because the type locality “Syria, Akbes”. It is due to a mistake in the correct identification of this locality. For long time it was regarded as village somewhere in Syria but only recently right situated in Turkey.

Akbes (now Akbez) is a small village in Hatay province (SE Turkey) not far from the Syrian border and here, in the 1881, was build an abbey (Notre-dame-des-Neiges) by several French trappist monks. One of them was father Delagrange, entomologist, that for long time collected insects in the area around the abbey and sent them to European specialists (Pic and Reitter for example) who described many new taxa from his stuff. This abbey was abandoned during the First World War and the monks went back to France. In that time this territory was under the Ottoman administration inside the Alep province. After the war the abbey started again its activity but, during the kurdish revolt in 1926, was definitively destroyed and closed.

One of the authors (P. Rapuzzi) had the opportunity to travel several times in that area and found the correct place of this abbey, now presidium of the red crescent. Of the old abbey remains only the stone walls and the orchards (Figs. 1–3). The place now is called Salman Uşağı and is located close to the village of Akbez (Hatay province).

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