

**NEW DATA ON THE OCCURRENCE OF STEPHANIDS (HYMENOPTERA:  
STEPHANIDAE) IN TURKEY AND GREECE**

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**ABSTRACT:** Results of collecting and rearing of stephanids in Turkey and Greece are presented. Three new species are recorded for Turkey; *Megischus anomalipes* (Foerster, 1855), *Stephanus serrator* (Fabricius, 1798), and *Afromegischus gigas* (Schletterer, 1889) as well as new record of *Foenatopus turcomanorum* (Semenov, 1891). Genera *Foenatopus* and *Afromegischus* are new for Europe while *M. anomalipes*, *F. turcomanorum*, *A. gigas* and *S. serrator* are recorded as new for Greece. Data on host and habitat of some species are presented.

**KEY WORDS:** Hymenoptera, Stephanidae, faunistic, new records, Turkey, Greece

Stephanids represent small cosmopolitan family occurring mostly in tropical and subtropical forest ecosystems where those idiobiont parasitoids are associated with wood boring beetles. In Palaearctic the family is predominantly known from southern part of the region and the same is in Europe where 2 known species are widespread mostly in Mediterranean region. Stephanids are rare in the collections and only *Stephanus serrator* (Fabricius) is recorded from many countries (van Achterberg 2002, Madl 2004). From Turkey where diversity of potential hosts of stephanids is as high as or higher than in Europe, stephanids are recorded only recently (Yildirim and Kolarov 2006). From Greece no stephanids are known so far (Madl 2004).

The material was collected during trips to Turkey in 2005 and 2009 (J. Hilszczanski), to Greece in 2000 (J. Hilszczanski), 2000 and 2008 (W. Arens), 2009 (R. Plewa, B. Bujnik), 2010 (J. Hilszczanski and R. Plewa) and 2011 (R. Królik) as well as during extensive research on oak forest saproxylic entomofauna conducted in 2006 in southern part of Turkey by Mustafa Avci

(Suleyman Demirel University, Isparta, Turkey), Mustafa Coskun (Adiyaman University, Adiyaman, Turkey) and Nicklas Jansson (Linköping University, Sweden).

In this study, a total of four species from family Stephanidae are recorded from Turkey and Greece.

***Stephanus serrator* (Fabricius, 1798)**

**Material examined:** **TR: Mersin:** Erdemli, 30.05.2005, 2 ♀♀ collected on dead deciduous tree in mixed shrub forest (300 m a.s.l.), leg. J. Hilszczański. **GR: Crete:** Omalos, 14.05.2010, emerged indoors 17-25.05.2010, 4 ♀♀ reared from dead branches of *Zelkova abelicea* infested by cerambycid *Trichoferus bergeri* Holzschuh in deciduous forest with *Quercus coccifera*, *Acer creticus* and *Z. abelicea* (1200 m a.s.l) leg. R. Plewa; **Nomos Achaia:** Kato Loussi (Peloponnese), 20-21.06.2008, 2 ♂♂ (1000 m a.s.l), leg. W. Arens. **Corfu:** Achilion, 23-24.06.2000, 1 ♀, 1 ♂ on dead deciduous tree, leg. J. Hilszczański.

New for the Turkish and Greece fauna.

**Distribution:** The most common stephanid, known from many countries, especially from southern and central Europe (van Achterberg 2002, Madl 2004).

***Foenatopus turcomanorum* (Semenov, 1891)**

**Material examined:** **TR: Mersin:** South Tarsus, 06.2009, 1 ♀ (Fig. 1) reared from the material infested by wood boring beetles without indication on locality (escaped from one of the bags with material from southern Turkey), leg. J. Hilszczański. **GR: Crete:** Kato Simi, 19-21.05.2010, 7 ♂♂ collected on cut, infested by wood borers oak branches lying on the ground in sunny place in *Q. coccifera* forest (900 m a.s.l.); 23.05.2010, 1 ♂, 14.06.2010, 1 ♀ reared from *Quercus* sp. small branch infested by cerambycids, leg. J. Hilszczański; **Crete,** Alikambos, 9.05.2009, 3 ♀♀ reared from *Quercus* sp. small branches in the following period of 2009, leg. B. Bujnik.

The genus and the species is newly recorded from Greece and Europe.

**Distribution:** The genus *Foenatopus* is known mainly from tropics and only few species are distributed in Central Asia and also in Turkey (Tobias 1988, Yildirim and Kolarov 2006, Aguiar et al. 2010). The Turkish *F. turcomanorum* is also known from Turkmenistan (Tedzhen), Tajikistan and Afganistan (Tobias 1988; Yildirim and Kolarov 2006) while *F. hesperophagus* is known only from Turkey.

**Remarks:** From Turkey two species of the genus are known *F. turcomanorum* reported by (Yildirim and Kolarov 2006) and recently described *F. hesperophagus* Aguiar (Aguiar et al. 2010). *F. turcomanorum* differs from *F. hesperophagus* by the following characters: Pronotum entirely transversely strigate, microreticulate in between, interfoveolar area is smooth and polished while in *F. hesperophagus* pronotum is crenulated. Pair of yellowish spots on T4

is small and widely spaced opposite to large and very close to each other in *F. hesperophagus*. In *F. turcomanorum* fore wing vein 1-1A is apically straight, or with short stub (as an inverted T) and vein 2-1A spectral. In case of *F. hesperophagus* fore wing vein 1-1A is apically bent upwards and vein 2-1A is absent (Aguiar et al. 2010).

Characters of the specimens listed above (8 ♂ and 4 ♀), including those from Crete collected in one locality appear to be variable (i.e. size and position of white spots on second segment of metasoma, morphology of pronotum, interfoveolar area and vein 2A1). Because of that the characters are not suitable for separation of *F. turcomanorum* from *F. hesperophagus*. However the specimens from Turkey and Crete have the set of features which place them closer to *F. turcomanorum* than to *F. hesperophagus*, so I prefer regard them here as *F. turcomanorum*.



Fig. 1. *F. turcomanorum* from Turkey (Mersin: Tarsus).

#### ***Megischus anomalipes* (Foerster, 1855)**

**Material examined :** **TR: Burdur:** Gölhisar, 01.06. 2009, 1 ♂ (Fig. 2) collected by barrier traps on old oaks with cavities, leg. M. Avci and N. Jansson; **Mersin:** Güzeloluk, 14.06.2009, 1 ♀ beaten from dead twigs of *Quercus* sp. (1200 m a.s.l.) leg. J. Hilszczański. **GR: Nomos Arkadia:** Atsiholos, Gortis (Peloponnese) 8.05.2000, 3 ♂♂, leg. W. Arens. **Drepano:** Nafplio, 20.05.2009; 1 ♂ reared from *Euphorbia dendroides* infested by *Parmena novaki* Sama (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae), leg. R. Plewa.

New for the Turkish and Greece fauna.

**Distribution:** Slovakia, Hungary, Italy, former Yugoslavia, Romania, Spain, and France (van Achterberg 2002, Madl 2004).



Fig. 2. *M. anomalipes* from Turkey (Burdur, Gölhisar).

***Afromegischus gigas* (Schletterer, 1889)**

**Material examined :** **TR: Mersin:** Gülnar, 26.08.2006, 1 ♂ (Fig. 3) collected by barrier trap on old oak, (1400 m a.s.l.), leg. M. Coscun and N. Jansson. **GR: Crete:** Azogyres, 19.05.2011, emerged indoors 06-10.2011, 2 ♀♀, 1 ♂ reared from dead branch of *Platanus* sp. infested by buprestid *Strigopteroidea margotanae* Novak, (656 m a.s.l) leg. R. Królik.

The genus and the species is new for the Turkey, Greece and European fauna.

**Distribution:** Iran (Masnadi-Yazdinejad and Lotfalizadeh 2009).



Fig. 3. *A. gigas* from Turkey (Mersin, Gülnar)

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