

New records of Tachinidae (Diptera) from Turkey

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ABSTRACT

Three tachinid species, *Gonia picea* (Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830), *Heliozeta pellucens* (Fallén, 1820) and *Leucostoma nudifacies* Tschorsnig, 1991 (Diptera, Tachinidae), are recorded for the first time in Turkey. The collection records and distribution of the species are presented.

Key words: Diptera, Tachinidae, records, Turkey.

INTRODUCTION

The species belonging to the family Tachinidae are considered to be the most important family of Insecta because of their parasitoid affect on insect populations (Swan, 1964; Askew, 1971). They are, almost without exception solitary, endoparasites, and no hyperparasitic species are known (Askew, 1971). The members of this family are important parasitoids that suppress not only forest pests but also the pests present in agricultural areas (Tschorsnig, 1985). The members of the subfamily Phasiine attack only Heteroptera species and suppress their populations (Tschorsnig & Herting, 1994). Exoristinae subfamily members are parasitoids of Lepidoptera caterpillars. These species are also parasitoids on Coleoptera and Diptera larvae and adults, Hymenoptera larvae and Dermaptera species (Clausen, 1940; Tschorsnig & Herting, 1994).

Ziegler (1992) enumerates 1552 species in the Palearctic Region of which 750-800 species are known from Europe. Approximately 120 species have been recorded from Turkey up to now (Öncüer, 1991; Kara, 1998). This number is expected to be enlarged in the future.