



Short note – Kurzmitteilung
 No. 1/2015 Nr. 1/2015
Faunistics – Faunistik
 Palaeartic Region – Paläarktische Region

Some new records of Conopidae (Diptera) from Morocco

[Einige neue Nachweise von Conopiden (Diptera) aus Marokko]

by

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To date there are about 25 species of Conopidae recorded from Morocco in some 22 publications which have come to our attention. Almost all of these records were published within larger geographical revisions or in lists of collections. Only SÉGUY (1930) has so far given an overview of the Conopidae of Morocco. Due to the scarcity of recent records, we decided to present details of a small number of Conopidae collected in Morocco from 2014–2015 in this short faunistic note. All of the material listed here was collected by Christian SCHMID-EGGER and is deposited as pinned material in the collections of the two authors. The species can be identified with the keys of KRÖBER (1915a–c) and MEI & STUKE (2008).

Conops nubeculipennis BEZZI, 1901

Material: MOROCCO: 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀, 12.iv.2015, 1.5 km S of Tissint [29.888°N 7.318°W]; 1 ♂, 11.iv.2015, 14 km NW of Icht, R102-R107 [29.129°N 8.950°W].

Remark: *Conops nubeculipennis* has not previously been reported from Morocco.

Melanosoma mundum CZERNY & STROBL, 1909

Material: MOROCCO: 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀, 8.iv.2015, 10 km NNW of Agadir, SE of Awir [30.483°N 9.630°W]; 4 ♂♂ 1 ♀, 9.iv.2015, 19 km W of Tiznit, Qued near beach [29.718°N 9.917°W]; 1 ♂ 4 ♀♀, 7.iv.2015, 2 km W of airport of Agadir [30.340°N 9.447°W]; 1 ♀, 15.iv.2015, 25 km NE of Tiznit, Massa River, NI [29.890°N 9.595°W]; 1 ♀, 13.iv.2015, 30 km WSW of Tata, Imitek [29.656°N 8.260°W]; 1 ♂ 1 ♀, 14.iv.2015, 55 km WNW of Tata, Issafen [29.841°N 8.535°W]; 1 ♂ 1 ♀, 16.iv.2015, 80 km NE of Agadir, Talmakant, ca. 1100 m [30.834°N 8.956°W]; 1 ♂, 7.iv.2015, airport of Agadir [30.340°N 9.447°W]; 1 ♀, 12.iv.2015, Tata [29.778°N 7.978°W].

Remarks: These records of *Melanosoma mundum* are from a wide range of locations in south-west Morocco, which covers the Anti-Atlas, the outback of the Atlantic coast and lower altitudes (below 1500 m a. s. l.) of the Atlas mountains. The species seems to avoid the dry and hot region south of the Anti-Atlas close to the Sahara desert, as well as the coastal dunes of the southern Atlantic coast. Most specimens were collected in river beds (“qued” in Moroccan), with a dense vegetation (Figs 1, 2). Some of these river beds were entirely dry, whilst others had some water in. Some of the collecting places (Imitek, Issafen, Tata) were associated with oasis gardens or small agricultural areas near villages. All of the habitats were characterized by a good range of flowering plants. *Melanosoma mundum* has previously been reported from Morocco by BECKER & STEIN (1913) and SÉGUY (1930).