

**The first record of the genus *Criorhina* MEIGEN  
(Diptera: Syrphidae) from Iran,  
with a key to the West-Palaeartic species**

[Erster Nachweis der Gattung *Criorhina* MEIGEN  
(Diptera: Syrphidae) aus dem Iran,  
mit einem Bestimmungsschlüssel für die westpaläarktischen Arten]

by

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**Abstract**

*Criorhina portschinskyi* (STACKELBERG, 1955) is recorded for the first time from Iran. The collecting data and a diagnosis for the species are presented as well as notes on its biology. A key to the West-Palaeartic species of *Criorhina* MEIGEN, 1822 is provided. Photos of *C. portschinskyi*, together with *C. asilica* (FALLÉN, 1816), *C. brevipila* LOEW, 1871 and *C. talyshensis* (STACKELBERG, 1960) are provided in order to facilitate its identification.

**Key words**

Syrphidae, *Criorhina*, Palaeartic Region, Iran, biology, first record, key

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**Zusammenfassung**

*Criorhina portschinskyi* (STACKELBERG, 1955) wird zum ersten Mal aus dem Iran gemeldet. Die Funddaten, eine Artdiagnose und Angaben zu deren Biologie werden vorgestellt. Ein Bestimmungsschlüssel für die westpaläarktischen Arten der Gattung *Criorhina* MEIGEN, 1822 wird gegeben. Fotos von *C. portschinskyi* als auch von *C. asilica* (FALLÉN, 1816), *C. brevipila* LOEW, 1871 und *C. talyshensis* (STACKELBERG, 1960) werden vorgestellt, um deren Identifikation zu erleichtern.

**Stichwörter**

Syrphidae, *Criorhina*, paläarktische Region, Iran, Biologie, Erstnachweis, Bestimmungstabelle

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**Introduction**

The genus *Criorhina* MEIGEN, 1822 with *Syrphus asilicus* FALLÉN, 1816 as type species is a Holarctic and Oriental genus of honey-bee and bumblebee mimics (VERRALL 1901, GABRITSCHESKY 1924, KATZOURAKIS et al. 2001, POLIDORI et al. 2014). The genus is placed within the Eristalinae: Milesiini (THOMPSON 1972, HIPPA 1978, ROTHERAY & GILBERT 1999, HIPPA & STÄHLS 2005) and can be differentiated from closely related genera by the combination of the following characters: pilose face; lower part of face conically projected antero-ventrally; distinct facial tubercle; basoflagellomere much wider than long, with bare arista; bare eyes, dichoptic in both sexes (albeit eyes closely approaching in males); scutellum with ventral pile fringe; pilose metasternum; postmetacoxal bridge incomplete; wing with cross vein r-m at distal quarter of discal cell; well developed ctenidium in the male genitalia (THOMPSON 1972, HIPPA 1978). The adults of *Criorhina* are found in different forested habitats (BARTSCH et al. 2009, REEMER et al. 2009, SPEIGHT 2013) and larvae live in rotting tree trunks and stumps, sometimes deep down in the stumps (ROTHERAY & STUKE 1998).

**Material and methods**

The terminology used in this paper is based on THOMPSON (1999). The photos were made with a Canon EOS 6D camera attached to a phototube on a Wild M10 stereomicroscope. Photos were stacked with Zerene Stacker