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Vespidae and Sphecidae from the Seychelles (Insecta, Hymenoptera)

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Abstract: Records of five species of Vespidae and nine species of Sphecidae are dealt with. *Rhynchium brunneum* FABRICIUS, *Subancistrocerus sichelii* SAUSSURE (Vespidae) and *Liris haemorrhoidalis jocotarsa* SAUSSURE (Sphecidae) are recorded as new to the Seychelles.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Vespidae, Sphecidae, Seychelles

Introduction

The knowledge of the aculeate Hymenoptera of the Seychelles is mainly based on the results of the Mission Alluaud 1892 (PÉREZ 1895) and of the Percy Sladen Trust Expeditions 1905 (CAMERON 1907) and 1908//09 (TURNER 1911, MEADE WALDO 1912). In addition, VESEY FITZGERALD published his records of 1936-38 in 1956.

This paper is based on the material collected by the authors on Mahé, Praslin and Silhouette. Five species of Vespidae and nine species of Sphecidae were collected. *Rhynchium brunneum* FABRICIUS, *Subancistrocerus sichelii* SAUSSURE (Vespidae) and *Liris haemorrhoidalis jocotarsa* SAUSSURE (Sphecidae) are recorded as new to the fauna of the Seychelles. Up till now five species of Vespidae and 15 species of Sphecidae are recorded from the Inner Seychelles.

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Faunistic records

Vespidae

Polistes olivaceus (DEGEER 1773)

Examined material:

Mahé: La Gogue Reservoir 4 ♀♀ 23.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Morne Seychellois NP, Danzil – Anse Major 3 ♀♀ 20.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl; near Grand St. Louis river 1 ♀ 30.10.1991 leg. Madl, 5 ♀♀ 21.-25.5.1996 leg. Schödl – Port Glaud, near L'Islette river 1 ♀ 23.10.1991 leg. Madl, 2 ♀♀ 24.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Cascade, footpath N church (basketball ground) 2 ♀♀ 14.10.1991 leg. Madl – Anse aux Pins, La Roussette Hotel 2 ♀♀ 13.-31.10.1991 leg. Madl – Montagne Brulée 1 ♀ 20.10.1991, 2 ♀♀ 28.-31.10.1995 leg. Madl, 7 ♀♀ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 4 ♀♀ 28.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Bougainville – Val d'Endor 1 ♀ 18.10.1991 leg. Madl – Anse Marie Louise, coconut plantation 5 ♀♀ 17.-18.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Anse Marie Louise – Petite Boileau 1 ♀ 26.10.1991 leg. Madl

Praslin: Nouvelle Decouverte Estate 4 ♀♀ 29.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Plaine Hollandaise 1 ♀ 3.11.1995 leg. Madl.

Distribution: Mahé, Praslin, Bird, Amirantes (D'Arros, Desroches, Poivre).

A common species around the Indian Ocean.

Delta alluaudi (PEREZ 1895)

Examined material:

Mahé: La Gogue Reservoir 3 ♂♂ 23.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Morne Seychellois NP, Danzil – Anse Major 3 ♀♀ 20.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl; near Grand St. Louis River 1 ♂, 1 ♀ 21.-26.5.1996 leg. Madl – Cascade, footpath N church (basketball ground) 1 ♀ 14.10.1991 leg. Madl – Anse aux Pins, La Roussette Hotel 1 ♀ 13.-31.10.1991, 1 ♂ 29.10.1995 leg. Madl, 1 ♀ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Schödl – Montagne Brulée 1 ♂ 20.10.1991, 3 ♂♂ 29.10.1995 leg. Madl, 1 ♂, 14 ♀♀ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 2 ♀♀ 16.10.1991 leg. Madl, 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ 28.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Bougainville – Val d'Endor 1 ♂ 18.10.1991 leg. Madl – anse Marie Louise, coconut plantation 1 ♀ 17.-18.5.1996 leg. Madl – Anse Marie Louise – Petite Boileau 1 ♀ 26.10.1991 leg. Madl

Praslin: Nouvelle Decouverte Estate 1 ♀ 29.5.1996 leg. Madl

Distribution: Mahé, Praslin, Cousin, Silhouette, Denis.

Endemic to the Inner Seychelles. Introduced to Glorieuses (BEQUAERT 1921).

Euodynerus seychellensis (DALLA TORRE 1904)

Examined material:

Mahé: La Gogue Reservoir 1 ♀ 23.5.1996 leg. Madl – Victoria, Botanic Garden 1 ♂ 22.10.1991 leg. Madl – Cascade, footpath N church (basketball ground) 1 ♂ 14.10.1991 leg. Madl – Anse aux Pins, La Roussette Hotel 2 ♀♀ 13.-31.10.1991, 1 ♀ 29.10.1995 leg. Madl, 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 1 ♀ 26.10.1991 leg. Madl.

Distribution: Mahé, Praslin, Silhouette, Amirantes (D'Arros, Poivre).

Endemic to the Inner Seychelles. Probably introduced to the Amirantes.

***Rhynchium brunneum* (FABRICIUS 1773)**

Examined material:

Mahé: La Gogue Reservoir 2♂♂ 1♀ 23.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Anse aux Pins, La Roussette Hotel 1♂ 13.-31.10.1991, 4♀♀ 1♂ 29.10.1995, 1♀ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Madl – Montagne Brulée 1♀ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Schödl – Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 1♀ 16.10.1991 leg. Madl, 1♂ 1♀ 28.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl.

Praslin: Nouvelle Decouverte Estate 1♂ 29.5.1996 leg. Madl

Distribution: Mahé, Praslin.

New to the fauna of the Seychelles. A widespread species of the Oriental Region.

***Subancistrocerus sichelii* (SAUSSURE 1854)**

Examined material:

Mahé: Anse aux Pins, La Roussette Hotel 2♀♀ 13.-31.10.1991 leg. Madl, 7♂♂ 3♀♀ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Anse La Mouche, Anchor Cafe 1♀ 18.5.1996 leg. Madl – Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 1♀ 28.5.1996 leg. Madl

Praslin: Grande Anse 1♀ 29.5.1996 leg. Madl.

New to the fauna of the Seychelles. Widely distributed in the Oriental Region.

Sphecidae

General distribution data mainly follow BOHART & MENKE (1976).

***Chalybion madecassum* (GRIBODO 1883)**

Examined material:

Mahé: La Gogue Reservoir 1♀ 23.5.1996 leg. Schödl – Morne Seychellois NP, Danzil – Anse Major 1♂ 1♀ 20.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl; Morne Blanc 1♀ 27.-28.5.1996 leg. Madl – Port Glaud, near L'Islette River 2♀♀ 24.5.1996 leg. Madl – Cascade, footpath N church (basketball ground) 1♂ 14.10.1991 leg. Madl – Anse aux Pins, La Roussette Hotel 1♂ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Schödl – Montagne Brulée 2♀♀ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Madl – Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 1♂ 16.10.1991 leg. Madl.

Distribution: Mahé, Praslin, Silhouette.

Widely distributed in the Malagasy Subregion.

***Sceliphron fuscum* KLUG 1801**

Examined material:

Mahé: Morne Seychellois NP, Danzil – Anse Major 3♀♀ 20.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Port Glaud, near L'Islette River 3♂♂ 24.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Cascade, footpath N church (basketball ground) 1♂ 14.10.1991 leg. Madl – Anse aux Pins, La Roussette Hotel 1♀ 13.-31.10.1991, 1♀ 29.10.1995 leg. Madl, 2♀♀ 18.-24.5.1996 leg. Schödl – Montagne Brulée 3♀♀ 28.10.1995 leg. Madl – Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 2♂♂ 1♀ 16.10.1991 leg. Madl – Anse Marie Louise, coconut plantation 4♀♀ 17.-18.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl.

Praslin: Nouvelle Decouverte Estate 2♂♂ 4♀♀ 29.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Plaine Hollandaise 2♀♀ 3.11.1995 leg. Madl

Silhouette: La Passe 1♀ December 1995 leg. Matyot.

Distribution: Mahé, Praslin, Silhouette.

Widely distributed in the Malagasy Subregion.

***Sphex rufinervis* PEREZ 1895**

Examined material:

Mahé: Morne Seychellois NP, near Grand St. Louise River 1♂ 21.-26.5.1996 leg. Schödl – Montagne Brulée 2♀♀ 20.10.1991 leg. Madl

Silhouette: La Passe 1♀ December 1995 leg. Matyot.

Distribution: Mahé, Praslin, Silhouette.

Endemic to the Inner Seychelles.

***Liris haemorrhoidalis jocotarsa* SAUSSURE 1887**

Examined material:

Mahé: Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 1♀ 16.10.1991 leg. Madl.

Silhouette: La Passe 1♀ December 1995 leg. Matyot.

Distribution: Mahé, Silhouette.

New to the fauna of the Seychelles. Originally described from Madagascar. The nominate species is known from the Southern Palearctic, Afrotropical and Oriental Region (India, Sri Lanka).

***Liris seychellensis* (CAMERON 1907)**

Examined material:

Mahé: Morne Seychellois NP, Morne Blanc 1♀ 27.-28.5.1996 leg. Madl.

Silhouette: La Passe 1♀ December 1995 leg. Matyot.

Distribution: Mahé, Silhouette.

Endemic to the Inner Seychelles.

***Pison argentatum* SHUCKARD 1838**

Examined material:

Mahé: Port Glaud, near L'Islette River 4♀♀ 24.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 1♀ 16.10.1991 leg. Madl

Praslin: near Pasquiere River 1♀ 29.5.1996 leg. Madl

Distribution: Mahé, Praslin, Aldabra.

This species is recorded from the Malagasy Subregion, Oriental Region and several Pacific Ocean Islands (Marianas, Samoa, Fiji, Carolines, Solomons, Hawaii).

***Trypoxylon errans* SAUSSURE 1867**

Examined material:

Mahé: Montagne Brulée 1 ♂ 20.10.1991 leg. Madl

Distribution: Mahé, Long, Coetivy.

This species is recorded from the Afrotropical Region (Zanzibar, Malagasy Subregion) and Oriental Region, Japan, Guam and Hawaii.

***Trypoxylon scutifrons* SAUSSURE 1892**

Examined material:

Mahé: Port Glaud, near L'Islette River 1 ♂ 23.10.1991 leg. Madl, 5 ♀ ♀ 24.5.1996 leg. Madl & Schödl – Baie Lazare – Val d'Endor 2 ♀ ♀ 16.10.1991, 1 ♀ 28.5.1996 leg. Madl

Praslin: Plaine Hollandaise 1 ♂ 3.11.1995 leg. Madl – near Pasquiere River 1 ♀ 29.5.1996 leg. Madl

Distribution: Mahé, Praslin, Aldabra, Astove.

Widely distributed in the Malagasy Subregion. This species was split in four subspecies by TSUNEKI (1978), two of which, *T. scutifrons aldabranum* (Aldabra) and *T. scutifrons seychellense* (Inner Seychelles) occur in the Seychelles. The status of the subspecies is doubtful.

***Dasyproctus scotti* (TURNER 1911)**

Examined material:

Mahé: Morne Seychellois NP, near Grand St. Louis River 1 ♂ 30.10.1991 leg. Madl – Cascade, footpath N church (basketball ground) 1 ♀ 14.10.1991 leg. Madl.

Distribution: Mahé, Silhouette.

Endemic to the Inner Seychelles.

Zusammenfassung

Vespidae und Spheciade von den Seychellen (Insecta, Hymenoptera) – Die Funddaten von fünf Arten der Vespidae und neun Arten der Spheciade werden mitgeteilt. *Rhynchium brunneum* FABRICIUS, *Subancistrocerus sichelii* SAUSSURE (Vespidae) und *Liris haemorrhoidalis jocotarsa* SAUSSURE (Spheciade) sind neu für die Fauna der Seychellen.

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