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Contribution to the knowledge of the genus *Intybia* in Pakistan (Coleoptera, Malachiidae)

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Abstract: *Intybia venusta* (ERICHSON, 1840) is recorded for the first time for Pakistan. A female specimen belonging to the *I. plagiata*-group of species is tentatively identified as *I. pakistanica* (WITTMER, 1986).

Key words: Melyridae s.l., new country record.

Introduction

Not much is known about the malachiid beetle fauna of Pakistan regarding their biology. However, we know that heretofore 27 species do occur in or have been described from this country (compare MAYOR (2007) for a checklist). In the present contribution the authors add the 28th species to the list and report another finding of a congener.

Material and methods

Four specimens were examined, which were collected with an insect net or by hand. This material was identified with a Leica MZ6 stereo-microscope by using the taxonomic works of CHAMPION (1921) and WITTMER (1986).

Results

Intybia venusta (ERICHSON)

See PLONSKI (2013: 66; 2016: 32) for a heretofore complete bibliography.

Examined material: Pakistan: Sindh: Kabir Faqeer vill. env. (Dadu distr.), 28.5.2016, 2♂♂, 1♀, leg. Z. Ahmed, det. I. Plonski, coll. Z. Ahmed (1♂, 1♀) & I. Plonski (1♂).

Distribution: The above reported material represents the first country record for Pakistan. This species was recently also reported from Turkmenistan and its chorotype was circumscribed as Northeast-African-Sindian with a northwards extension into Central Asia (PLONSKI 2016).

Intybia cf. pakistanica (WITTMER)

See PLONSKI (2013: 63) for a heretofore complete bibliography.

Examined material: Pakistan: Azad Kashmir: Kotli town env. (Kotli distr.), 15.7.2017, 1♀, leg. T. Mehmood & Z. Ahmed, det. I. Plonski, coll. Natural History Museum Vienna.

D i s s c u s s i o n : The above reported female is here tentatively identified as belonging to *I. pakistanica* (WITTMER, 1986). It might also be conspecific to a sibling species (viz. *I. afghanistanica* (WITTMER, 1956)) – both taxa are only separable in the male sex.

D i s t r i b u t i o n : *Intybia pakistanica* was described after a type series (7 specimens) originating from three localities in the Swat district of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province (WITTMER 1986).

Zusammenfassung

Intybia venusta (ERICHSON, 1840) wird das erste Mal aus Pakistan gemeldet. Ein weibliches Exemplar, welches in die *I. plagiata*-Artengruppe gehört, wurde vorläufig als *I. pakistanica* (WITTMER, 1986) bestimmt.

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