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Remarks on the occurrence of *Kelisia perrieri*
RIBAUT from Cyprus supposed by LINDBERG 1948 (Homoptera
Fulgoromorpha Delphacidae)

by

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Abstract:

Re-examination of Kelisia-specimens from Cyprus erroneously
recorded by LINDBERG (1848) as K.perrieri RIBAUT revealed their
identity with K.yarkonensis LINNAVUORI, thus the area of
K.perrieri RIBAUT remains mainly western- and central-mediter-
ranean with its easternmost borders in Western-Greece. The ponto-

mediterranean species K.yarkonensis LV. here is recorded for the first time from Cyprus.

Kelisia perrieri was described by RIBAUT 1934 from France (Albi/Tarn: type-locality and Grepiac/Haute-Garonne), and belongs to a group of closer related taxa around Kelisia brucki FIEBER, 1878. In the year 1948 LINDBERG recorded this species from Cyprus ("Ts: Livadia, 4 Exx.") without giving any further comments. (This record was unreflectedly maintained by GEORGHIOU 1977). Later this species was published to occur also in Italy (Toscana) by SERVADEI 1967. According to these records Kelisia perrieri seemed to be a widespread species in the Mediterranean Region. Field-work in several countries during the last decade carried out by Remane, Asche and Hoch, however, revealed a different situation. K.perrieri could mainly be found in the Wester- and Central-Mediterranean Region (Spain, Portugal, Morocco, Southern France, Italy: see ASCHE 1982: 90). The easternmost occurrence of K.perrieri could be stated by us in Western parts of Greece (Corfu, Nomos Joanina in Northwestern Greece, Nomos Preveza in Central-Greece and Nomoi Ilia and Lakonia on Peloponnessos): see ASCHE & REMANE, 1982: 251; ASCHE & HOCH, 1982: 52; DROSPOULOS, ASCHE & HOCH, 1983:26.

Despite of intensive field-work K.perrieri could never proved to occur more east, e.g. in the eastern part of Greece, in Turkey (Anatolia). The species could also not be found in delpha-cid-samples seen from Syria, Lebanon, and Israel, thus the rather old record of K.perrieri from Cyprus by LINDBERG seemed quite doubtful to us. Reflecting external characters which LINDBERG might have considered for his identification at that time we could imagine that the cypriotic taxon possibly would bear only one simple median carina on frons like K.perrieri (not two like K.brucki FIEBER).

After 1948 only one more species out of the K.brucki-group with a simple fontal carina has been published: K.yarkonensis LINNAVUORI, 1962, described from Israel which - according to what we know so far - shows a pontomediterranean distribution (the westernmost findings up to now are in Western-Greece, but here only very locally: see ASCHE & REMANE 1982: 251).

In 1982 Kelisia creticola was described by ASCHE from Crete, also belonging to the brucki-group. Although this species possesses a very similar double-carinated frons like brucki, we had to keep it in consideration, too. Interpreting the perrieri-record from Cyprus we could imagine four possibilities: either brucki, or creticola, or - more likely - yarkonensis, or even a further species out of this group, which could have been a cypriotic endemic new one.

Due to the courtesy of Dr. Antti Jansson, Helsinki, the author had the opportunity to re-examine the four "perrieri"-specimens from Cyprus: 2♂♂, 1♀, 1 specimen without abdomen. All specimens bear the label: "Cyprus Troodos, Livadia, 18.6.39, Hakan Lindberg". The genitalia of the two males are conserved in Canadabalm ("Cedax") which is almost crumbled. Nevertheless the aedeagus was still visible: the taxon from Cyprus is without any doubt identical with Kelisia yarkonensis LINNAVUORI, 1962.

Moreover I could examine a female Kelisia-specimen from France kept in the Helsinki-collections, and correctly identified as Kelisia perrieri RIBAUT.

Surprisingly this specimen bears a red type-label (and is also treated by the Helsinki-museum as type): "spec.typ." (printed), "K.perrieri RIB." (obviously in LINDBERG's handwriting); it bears furthermore a white label: "Saint-Beat, coll. Ribaut", and another white label: "Mus. Zool. H: fors, spec.typ. No. 12331, Kelisia perrieri RIBAUT". It seems that LINDBERG had this specimen at hand for comparison with his cypriotic Kelisia material. The red type-label for this specimen is astonishing, - the more as - according to the data given in the original description of

perrieri by RIBAUT 1934 (see above) - it can neither be the type, nor can it belong to the type-series at all! Has this specimen probably been given to LINDBERG by RIBAUT with the remark that it was coinciding with the type, and mistaken by LINDBERG as belonging to the type-material? Anyhow, this specimen should no longer be treated as a "type". - It is also surprising that LINDBERG did not give any comments on the striking differences in size (the true perrieri is much larger) and in the extension of the black spot on the genae (in perrieri distinctly smaller) between the French female and the cypriotic specimens.

However, the result of the re-examination confirm our opinion of distribution of the Kelisia-species mentioned: K.yarkonensis LV. has to replace as a new record the old record of K.perrieri RIBAUT from Cyprus. The occurrence of yarkonensis in Cyprus fits with the idea we have developed on the pontomediterranean type of distribution of this species. Also our idea of K.perrieri RIBAUT to be a species mainly distributed in the Western- and Central-Mediterranean Region with easternmost limits in Western Greece is confirmed. K.creticola ASCHE remains endemic for Crete so far.

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