

# Distribution, biology and ecology of cicadas from Istria and the adjacent maritime country (Homoptera: Cicadidae and Tibicinidae)

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**ABSTRACT** The investigated area comprises the Supramediterranean and Mediterranean region from Gorizia (Gorica), the gulf of Trieste (Trst), all Istria (Istra), the coast of northern Dalmatia from Rijeka to Novi, to the large islands of Kvarner. The study on the morphology, and in some cases the genital morphology, of the cicadas is based on 330 specimens from several collections, including the author's. Taxonomy and nomenclature are brought up to date. 10 species of the families Cicadidae and Tibicinidae are found. 10 distribution maps also show those parts of the investigation area which are favoured by temperature and vegetation. Biogeography and ecology (e.g. phenology and links of adults to certain strata) are discussed. Low soil temperatures in winter seem to restrict 9 species with root sucking larvae to their area of distribution. The evergreen deciduous forests in the southern part of Istria and on the large islands of Kvarner with their balanced and mild climates, provide the biotopes richest in cicada species.

**IZVLEČEK** Območje raziskav obsega supramediteransko in mediteransko regijo od Gorice, Tržaškega zaliva, vse Istre do obale severne Dalmacije od Reke do Novega in do velikih Kvarnerskih otokov. Morfološka študija, ki obsega ponekod tudi morfologijo genitalij, temelji na 330 primerik iz različnih zbirk, vključno z avtorjevo. Taksonomija in nomenklatura sta posodobljena. Avtor je ugotovil 10 vrst iz družin Cicadidae in Tibicinidae. Prikazal je tudi 10 zemljevidov razširjenosti z oznakami območij, ki so klimatsko in floristično za skržate najugodnejša. Avtor navaja tudi biogeografske in ekološke podatke. Izgleda, da je nizka zimska temperatura zemlje omejuje razširjenost devetih vrst skržatov z ličinkami, ki sesajo na koreninah. Biotopi, najbogatejši s skržati so zimzeleni in listnati gozdovi v južnih delih Istre in na velikih Kvarnerskih otokih s svojim milim podnebjem.

## References

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