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Oleg E. Kosterin & Azam Ahmadi

Odonata observed in Central Zagros, Iran, in late May 2017

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Abstract

In the period 18th – 31st May 2017, 33 localities were examined for Odonata in the Central Zagros area of Iran: 16 in Markazi Province, 14 in Lorestan Province and 3 in Esfahan Province; in 27 of those localities Odonata were found, 25 species in total. For Markazi Province, only one species, *Calopteryx splendens*, was previously reported (and also found by us), so of 17 species found there 16 are formally new provincial records (*Epallage fatime*, *Lestes barbarus*, *Coenagrion ornatum*, *C. persicum*, *Enallagma cyathigerum*, *Ischnura elegans*, *I. intermedia*, *I. pumilio*, *Platycnemis kervillei*, *Anax imperator*, *Anaciaeschna isoceles*, *Caliaeschna microstigma*, *Libellula depressa*, *Onychogomphus lefebvrei*, *Orthetrum brunneum*, *Sympetrum fonscolombii*). Of 17 species found in Lorestan, 5 are new for this province (*L. barbarus*, *Aeshna mixta*, *Orthetrum taeniolatum*, *Sympetrum arenicolor*, *S. striolatum*). Only two species were seen in Esfahan Province, in which little time was spent. Notes on variation and taxonomy are provided for *Sympecma paedisca*, *C. ornatum* (considered to be a senior synonym of *C. vanbrinkae* because of variation in the presumed main diagnostic character), *E. cyathigerum*, *I. elegans*, *Gomphus schneideri* (including discussion of *G. amseli*), as well as notes on habitats of most species and the general characteristics of the area.

Key words: Central Iran, Markazi Province, Lorestan, Esfahan Province, Odonata, dragonflies, damselflies, *Coenagrion ornatum*, *Coenagrion vanbrinkae*, *Ischnura elegans* subspecies, *Gomphus schneideri*, *Gomphus amseli*.



Fig. 21. *Calopteryx splendens intermedia*: a – an androchromatic female at a stream at Abestan village (Loc. 23), 26.05.2017 b – a teneral male, Garehchay River right floodplain (Loc. 10), 19.05.2017.

66 pages, 113 colour fotos (habitat, several species of dragonflies, some details for identification) 1 map of habitat locations.

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Fig. 8. The ponds of Shilanevar valley (Loc. 1) in Tafresh City env., Markazi Province, 29.05.2017 a – the middle pond, a habitat of *Enallagma cyathigerum risi* and *Sympetrum fonscolombii* b – the lower pond, a habitat of *E. cyathigerum risi*, *Coenagrion persicum*, *Ischnura intermedia*, *I. elegans*, *Anax imperator*, *Libellula depressa*, *Orthetrum brunneum*, *S. fonscolombii*.