

Records on the dragonfly fauna of northwestern Albania (Odonata)

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received: 5 January 2000

Summary

A total of 24 Odonata species were recorded in June and July 1996. The characters of the ssp. of *Lestes virens* conform with neither with ssp. *virens* nor with ssp. *vestalis*. As expected the specimens of *Lestes viridis* belong to the ssp. *parvidens*.

Zusammenfassung

Libellenfunde im nordwestlichen Albanien (Odonata) – Im Juni und Juli 1996 wurden im nordwestlichen Albanien 24 Arten nachgewiesen. Die Exemplare von *Lestes virens* entsprechen in ihren Merkmalen weder der Unterart *virens* noch der Unterart *vestalis*. Wie erwartet, gehören die Exemplare von *Lestes viridis* zur ssp. *parvidens*.

Introduction

The dragonfly fauna of Albania is very poorly explored. In total not more than 310 records (one species at one locality) of Albanian dragonflies are known. An overview of the Albanian records is given by BILEK (1966). Additional records, collected during a survey in 1993 are presented in DUMONT et al. (1993). In this article additional records of 24 species collected during 1996 are presented.

Methods

The records presented here were collected during two different expeditions in 1996:

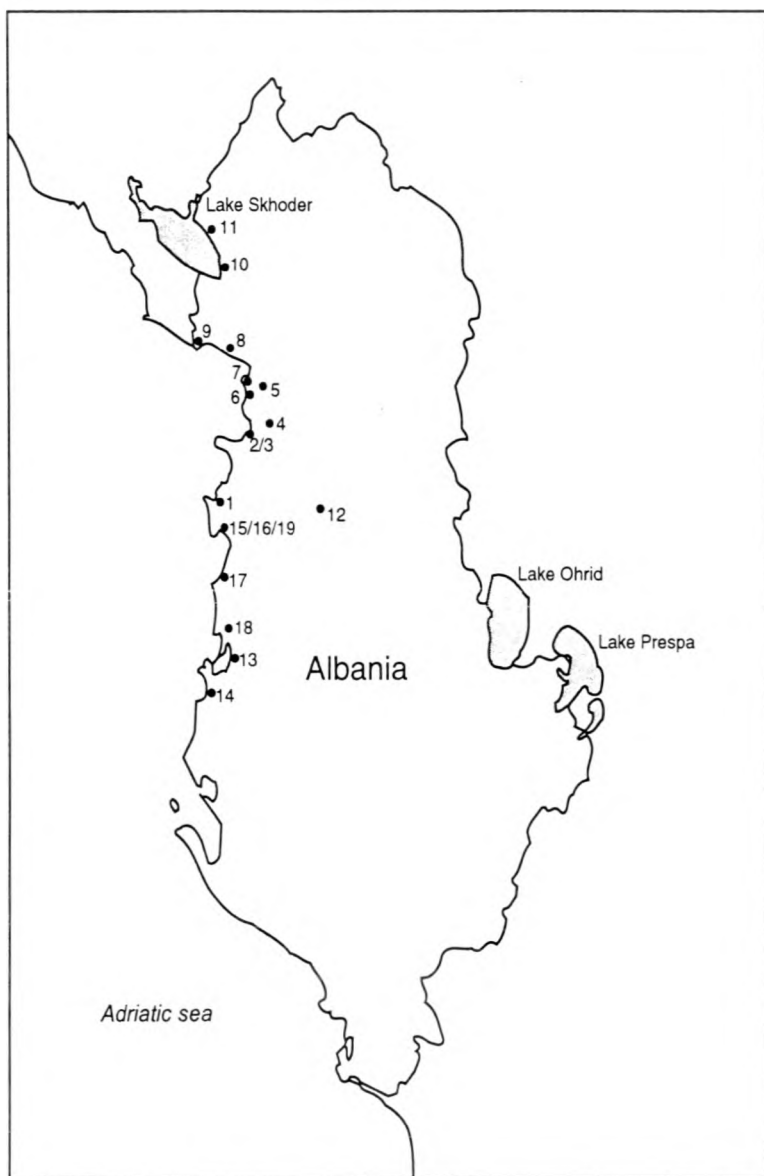


Fig. 1. Topographic situation of the localities. The numbers refer to the list of localities.

9-VI to 27-VI-1996: During this period the author visited the northern part of Albania for a survey of breeding waterbirds. During the survey dragonflies were also recorded. Most identification was done on sight, only difficult species were caught for closer examination. No dragonflies were collected. Most of the visited areas are coastal wetlands.

2-VII to 7-VII-1996: During this period Roy KLEUKERS assisted in a research on grasshopper outbreaks in Albania. Dragonflies were collected at five sites in the surroundings of Dürres. The identification of these specimens have been performed by the author and Klaas-Douwe B. DIJKSTRA and have been deposited in the private collection of R. KLEUKERS.

At each locality different kinds of habitat were visited. For this reason no information on habitat is given.

List of localities

Localities (Fig. 1) visited by V.J. KALKMAN (coordinates are given with five minutes precision).

- (1) Wetland Lalzi, N Rinia, (41°20'N, 19°25'E): 09/10-VI-1996.
- (2) Patok south (wetland), (41°35'N, 19°35'E): 10-VI-1996.
- (3) Patok north (wetland), (41°35'N, 19°35'E): 13-VI-1996.
- (4) Lac, (41°35'N, 19°40'E): 13-VI-1996.
- (5) Lezhe, (41°45'N, 19°35'E): 14-VI-1996.
- (6) Drin Delta south, (41°40'N, 19°30'E): 15-VI-1996.
- (7) Drin Delta north, (41°45'N, 19°35'E): 15/16-VI-1996.
- (8) Torowice, (41°50'N, 19°30'E): 16-VI-1996.
- (9) Velipoja wetland, (41°50'N, 19°20'E): 18/19-VI-1996.
- (10) Lake Shkoder, (42°05'N, 19°25'E): 21/22-VI-1996.
- (11) Lake Shkoder, (42°10'N, 19°20'E): 22-VI-1996.
- (12) Dajti, (41°20'N, 19°55'E): 24-VI-1996.
- (13) Karavastas (wetland), (40°50'N, 19°30'E): 26-VI-1996.
- (14) Delta of the Seman, (40°50'N, 19°25'E): 27-VI-1996.

Localities visited by R. KLEUKERS

- (15) Vrrin, 5 km N Dürres, (41°22'N, 19°27'E): 02-VII-1996.
- (16) Sukht, 8 km NE Dürres, (41°23'N, 19°31'E): 03-VII-1996.
- (17) Qerret, 10 km S Dürres, (41°13'N, 19°31'E): 04-VII-1996.
- (18) Divjakë, 30 km S Dürres, (41°00'N, 19°31'E): 04-VII-1996.
- (19) S Dürres, near the sea, (41°19'N, 19°29'E): 07-VII-1996.

List of recorded species

The species names are followed by the locality number. The numbers between brackets refer to the number of recorded (locality 1-14) or collected (locality 15-19) individuals.

- *Calopteryx virgo* (Harris): 9
- *Lestes barbarus* (Fabricius): 1 (10), 10, 14, 15 (4 males), 18 (1 male, 1 female), 19 (1 female)
- *Lestes virens* ssp. (Charpentier): 13, 18 (2 females)
- *Lestes viridis parvidens* Artobolevskii: 7 (10)
- *Lestes macrostigma* (Eversmann): 14
- *Platycnemis pennipes nitidula* (Brullé): 1 (10), 6 (10), 9 (50), 10, 16 (1 male)
- *Erythromma viridulum* (Charpentier): 3 (100), 7 (30)
- *Ischnura elegans* (Vander Linden): 1 (25), 2 (5), 3 (10), 7 (10), 9 (50), 10, 13, 14, 19 (1 male)
- *Cercion lindenii* (Selys): 11 (1 male)
- *Anax imperator* Leach: 3 (2), 9 (1), 10
- *Anax parthenope* (Selys): 3 (1), 7 (1), 9, 10 (2), 14, 15 (1 male)
- *Aeshna isosceles* (Müller): 1 (1), 2 (10), 3 (1), 7 (2), 5 (5), 8, 9 (1)
- *Aeshna affinis* Vander Linden: 1 (10 males), 2 (5 males), 3 (10)
- *Caliaeschna microstigma* (Schneider): 12 (1 male)
- *Libellula fulva* Müller: 7 (10), 8, 9
- *Orthetrum coerulescens* (Fabricius): 3 (10), 4 (10), 17 (1 male, 1 female)
- *Orthetrum brunneum* (Fonscolombe): 2 (15 males, 1 female)
- *Orthetrum cancellatum* (Linnaeus): 7 (10), 9
- *Orthetrum albistylum* (Selys): 1 (4), 2 (2), 3 (1 female), 9 (25), 10, 14, 15 (1 female)
- *Crocotthemis erythraea* (Brullé): 1 (5), 3 (10), 7 (20), 9 (10), 10
- *Sympetrum meridionale* (Selys): 3 (5), 9, 13, 15 (1 female)
- *Sympetrum striolatum* (Charpentier): 2 (1)
- *Sympetrum sanguineum* (Müller): 9, 18 (1 male)
- *Gomphus vulgatissimus/schneiderii*: 9 (2)

Remarks to some species

A total of 24 species was recorded of which none is new for the Albanian fauna. The fact that seven of these were new for the Albanian dragonfly fauna

in 1993 (DUMONT et al. 1993) stresses the fact that the Albanian dragonfly fauna has been very poorly explored.

Lestes virens ssp.

The characters of the specimens collected at locality 18 do not conform with the ssp. *virens* or ssp. *vestalis*. They probably form an intermediate between ssp. *vestalis* and a yet undescribed eastern ssp. (JÖDICKE pers. comm.).

Lestes viridis parvidens

Earlier notes on the occurrence of this (sub)species only mention the name of the species and do not reveal the identity of the (sub)species (BILEK 1966, DUMONT 1993). As suspected (JÖDICKE 1997) the (sub)species recorded in Albania is *L. viridis parvidens*.

Gomphus vulgatissimus/schneideri

The gomphids which were seen flying in the vicinity of the Montenegro border are presented as *Gomphus vulgatissimus/schneideri*. The known distribution of these species (LOPAU & WENDLER 1995) makes it likely that they were *G. vulgatissimus*.

Orthetrum coerulescens

The shape of the of the lamina anterior of the single male collected near Querret is in between those of ssp. *coerulescens* and spp. *anceps*. It looks most like the phaenotypes 2 and 3 as described in MAUERSBERGER (1994).

Acknowledgements

Dr. R. Jödicke kindly gave comments on the identity of the ssp. of *Lestes virens*.

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