

## FURTHER ADDITIONS TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE ODONATE FAUNA OF THE ISLAND OF CORFU, GREECE

S.G. BUTLER

Red Willow, All Stretton, Shropshire SY6 6HN, United Kingdom

**Abstract** — 19 spp. were recorded (June 1998). *Lestes viridis*, *Aeshna isosceles*, *Anax parthenope*, *Brachytron pratense* and *Sympetrum meridionale* are new additions to the fauna of the island.

### Introduction

M. HÄMÄLÄINEN (1983) listed for Corfu 23 species. The list was compiled from specimens taken in 1965, 1977, 1978, 1981 and 1982 and from reviews done in 1940 and 1950.

From June 9<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 1998, a search was made in parts of the island of Corfu, where permanent water could be found. In common with some other Mediterranean countries, water is extracted for agricultural or development purposes making the

search for permanent waterbodies difficult. Rivers which were both marked and named on an ordinary tourist map, were targeted and proved to be more fruitful.

Larvae of some species were brought back to UK and subsequently reared.

### Records

Small streams were searched at Pyrgi, Regina and Ropa – the latter being a lowland stream divided into a series of reedy pools, running through agricultural land, where larvae and adults of the previously unrecorded species *Sympetrum meridionale* were found. Regina, north of Khorepiskopi, proved most fruitful of all with a total of 12 species, in-

cluding 3 – *Lestes viridis*, *Aeshna isosceles* and *Brachytron pratense*, previously not recorded from Corfu. Also larvae and exuviae of *Gomphus schneideri* and *Somatochlora m. meridionalis* were found in a shadier section, one adult male of the former species was also captured here (for full details of specimens found see Tab. I).

A small section of the river Melissoudi was searched at Livadi east of Sidhari and large colonies of *Lestes viridis* and *Platycnemis pennipes nitidula* were found, the former being new for Corfu. Several males of *Anax parthenope* (also new for Corfu) were closely observed patrolling the river, though no adults, larvae or exuviae were

Table I — Annotated review of record, June 1998 – [+ indicates large uncounted numbers; – \* species observed closely but not collected; – \*\* species observed but not collected]

Species	Larvae		Exuviae		Adults		Place/Date
	♂	♀	♂	♀	♂	♀	
<i>C. virgo festiva</i>	3	1	-	-	4	2	Regina 11/VI; Ano Messongi 10/VI
<i>C. splendens</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>L. viridis</i>	50+	50+	13	7	50+	50+	Pyrgi 9/VI; Sidhari 9/VI; Regina 11/VI
<i>L. virens</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>L. macrostigma</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Platycnemis p. nitidula</i>	50+	50+	10	12	50+	50+	Sidhari 9/VI; Regina 11/VI
<i>Pyrrhosoma n. elisabethae</i>	-	-	-	-	2	1	Regina 11/VI
<i>Erythromma viridulum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Coenagrion pulchellum</i>	-	-	-	-	3	-	Sidhari 9/VI
<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	-	-	-	-	2	1	Sidhari 9/VI
<i>Aeshna affinis</i>	5	4	10+	10+	10+	1	Sidhari 9/VI; Regina 11/VI; Ropa 13/VI
<i>A. isosceles</i>	-	-	-	-	4	1	Korission 10/VI; Regina 11/VI
<i>Anax imperator**</i>	-	-	-	-	1**	-	Tembloni 13/VI; Ropa 13/VI
<i>A. parthenope*</i>	-	-	-	-	5*	-	Sidhari 9/VI
<i>Brachytron pratense</i>	-	-	-	-	1	-	Regina 11/VI
<i>Caliaeschna microstigma</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Gomphus vulgatissimus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>G. schneideri</i>	4	2	3	2	1	-	Regina 11/VI
<i>Onychogomphus forcipatus</i>	-	-	-	-	1	-	Regina 11/VI
<i>Somatochlora m. meridionalis</i>	2	1	1	1	-	-	Regina 11/VI
<i>S. flavomaculata</i>	2	1	-	-	2*	-	Korission 10/VI
<i>Libellula fulva</i>	10+	10+	10+	10+	50+	3	Sidhari 9/VI; Korission 10/VI; Regina 11/VI
<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>O. anceps</i>	2	1	-	-	2	-	Korission 10/VI; Regina 11/VI
<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	-	-	-	-	4	2	Sidhari 9/VI; Ropa 13/VI
<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	10+	10+	10+	10+	5	1	Sidhari 9/VI; Regina 11/VI; Ropa 13/VI
<i>S. meridionale</i>	2	-	-	-	2	-	Ropa 13/VI
<i>S. fonscolombi</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>S. sanguineum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

actually captured. Also found here were *Ischnura elegans*, *Coenagrion pulchellum*, *Aeshna affinis*, *Libellula fulva*, *Crocothemis erythraea* and *Sympetrum striolatum*.

A tiny ditch running through scrub into the north-western shore of the large and brackish Lake Korission was searched and larvae of *Somatochlora flavomaculata* and *Orthetrum anceps* were found. Adults of both species were flying together with those of *Aeshna isosceles* and *Libellula fulva*.

One male *Anax imperator* was observed flying through scrub land near a refuse tip at Tembloni and another on the stream at Ropa, both were too large to be *Aeshna affinis* the only other blue/green aeshnid observed, but neither stayed

long enough to be identified with complete certainty.

#### Discussion

Our search was mainly confined to hill streams above the level where water was being extracted for agricultural purposes, and 19 species were recorded. *Lestes viridis*, *Aeshna isosceles*, *Anax parthenope*, *Brachytron pratense* and *Sympetrum meridionale* had not been previously recorded in the island.

**Reference** — HÄMÄLÄINEN, M., 1983. *Notul. odonatol.* 2(2): 25-26.

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