ON THE DRAGONFLIES OF THE ETHIOPIAN PLATEAU AND LAKE TANA

Quite a few dragonfly species from Africa have been first described from Ethiopia, and two major recent papers (C. CONSIGLIO, 1978, *Problemi att. Sci. Cult.*, III, 243: 27-51; — E. PINHEY, 1981, *loc.cit.*, VI, 252: 5-56, pl.1 excl.) both augment and review the odonate fauna of that country, bringing the total number of species recorded up to 38 Zygoptera and 63 Anisoptera.

When going over the geographical distribution of the records, however, one finds that virtually none pertain to the Central plateau and to the surroundings of Addis Abada. Even from Lake Tana, the "source" lake of the Blue Nile, there is not more than a single record of one Trithemis species (T. donaldsoni: R. KITCHING, 1967, *Ent. mon. Mag.* 103: 268-272).

For these reasons, it appears justified to record here the results of some casual dragonfly collecting, effected during a limnological reconnaissance trip to Ethiopia in May 1982. I collected around Addis Abada, around Ambo (ca 120 km W of Addis Abada), in some rift valley lakes to the South-East of Addis Abada, in the Debre Birhan area (North of Addis Abada), and, finally, on the shores of Lake

Tana at Bahar Dar, near the outlet of the Blue Nile.

The following is a list of the localities (May, 1982): (1) Rivulet 70 km W. of Addis Abada, on Ambo road (13.05); — (2) Ambo: outflow of series of hot springs in swampy plain. Mentha sp. common (14.05); — (3) Pools in marshy valley near Debre Sina (15.05); — (4) Bishoftu crater lakes at Debre Zeyit near Addis Abada: Lake Hora, 16.05; Lake Bishoftu, 19.05; Lake Paolo,19.05; — (5) Littoral of Lake Awassa (Rift valley) and its outlet (black river), 18.05; — (6) Temporary pool ca 15 km South of Lake Shala (Rift valley), 18.05; — (7) Shores of Lake Shala (hot springs), 18.05; — (8) River Fanta at Akaki near Addis Abada, 19.05; — (9) Crater lake at Zengana (100 km North of Bahar Dar), 23.05; — (10) Lake Tana at Bahar Dar, 22.05.

The species recorded are: (Zygoptera) *Agriocnemis inversa* Karsch: loc. 5 (common), - *Enallagma sinuatum* Sel.: loc. 4, - *E. subfurcatum* Sel.: loc. 1,2 (common), 8, - *Ceriagrion glabrum* (Burm.): loc. 5, - *Ischnura senegalensis* (Ramb.): loc.10, - *Pseudagrion massaicum* Sjoest.: loc. 4, 5 10, - *P. s. spernatum* Sel.: loc. 1, 2 (common), 8, 9 - *P. s. sublacteum* (Karsch): loc. 10, - *P. t. torridum* Sel.: loc. 5, 6 - *Elattoneura glauca* (Sel.): loc. 10, - *Platycypha caligata* (Sel.): loc. 10, — (Anisoptera) *Paragomphus genei* (Sel.): loc. 7, - *Anax imperator* Leach: loc. 4, 6, 10, - *Brachythemis leucosticta* (Burm.): loc. 4, 5, 7, 10, - *Crocothemis erythraea* (Brullé: loc. 10, - *Nesciothemis farinosa* (Burm.): loc. 10, - *Orthetrum brachiale* (P. de Beauv.): loc.10, - *O. c. caffrum* (Burm.): loc. 8, - *O. c. chrysostigma* (Burm.): loc. 10, - *Orthetrum* sp. (♀ immat.): loc. 10, - *Pantala flavescens* (Fabr.): loc. 7, - *Trithemis annulata* (P.de Beauv.): loc. 5, 7, 10 - *T. furva* Karsch: loc. 8, and - *T. stictica* (Burm.): loc. 8.

Agriocnemis inversa and *Enallagma sinuatum* are first records for Ethiopia. They are, however, widespread in East and South-East Africa and are thus no unexpected finds. *Pseudagrion sublacteum* which occurs (as a different, relict subspecies) in the Levant, is here recorded for the first time from the Nile system. Importantly, not less than 13 species are recorded from Laka Tana, bringing the total for this lake up to 14 species.

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