

ODONATA OF THE KÖYCEĞİZ-DALYAN NATURE RESERVE AREA IN SOUTHWESTERN TURKEY, WITH *LINDENIA TETRAPHYLLA* (VANDER L.), NEW TO THE TURKISH FAUNA (ANISOPTERA: GOMPHIDAE)

The köyceğiz-Dalyan region is an important wetland zone in SE Turkey. It is legally protected since 1988. From the hydrobiological point of view, the importance of this area is mainly due to the occurrence of a wide variety of aquatic habitats, supporting a number of valuable biotic communities.

The centre of the system is the ectogenic, krenogenic and meromictic Lake of Köyceğiz, with the Dalyan Channel System between the lake and the Mediterranean Sea. Also included are 3 mesohaline lakes, connected with the Köyceğiz Lake and with the Dalyan Channel, as well as several streams, discharging into the Lake, and the small Iztuzu Lake, situated close to the shore line and characterized by fluctuations in its salinity. For an account of the complex aquatic ecosystem, reference is made to e.g. N. KAZANCI et al. (1992, *Zool. Middle East* 6: 109-126), where the bibliography is also listed. The insect fauna of the region is still largely unexplored.

The following 28 odonate species were so far evidenced:

**Calopterygidae:** *Calopteryx splendens intermedia* Sel., *C. splendens* ssp. (=hybrid "splendens" X *intermedia*), *C. virgo festiva* (Brullé).

**Euphaeidae:** *Epallage fatime* Charp.

**Platycnemididae:** *Platycnemis p. pennipes* (Pall.).

**Coenagrionidae:** *Coenagrion l. lindenii* (Sel.), *C. puella* (L.), *Ischnura elegans ebneri* Schmidt.

**Gomphidae:** *Gomphus flavipes lineatus* Bart., *G. schneideri* Sel., *Lindenia tetraphylla* (Vander L.).

**Aeshnidae:** *Caliaeschna microstigma* (Schneider), *Anaciaeschna isosceles antehumeralis* (Schneider), *Anax immaculifrons* Ramb., *A. imperator* Leach.

**Corduliidae:** *Somatochlora flavomaculata* (Vander L.).

**Libellulidae:** *Libellula fulva* L., *Orthemis b. brunneum* (B. de Fonsc.), *O. c. chrysostigma* (Burm.), *O. ramburi* (Sel.), *O. sabina* (Dru.), *O. taeniolatum* (Schneider), *Crocothemis erythraea* (Brullé), *Sympetrum f. flaveolum* (L.), *S. fonscolombii* (Sel.), *S. meridionale* (Sel.), *S. s. striolatum* (Charp.), *Trithemis festiva* (Ramb.).

With its 28 species, the Köyceğiz-Dalyan odonate assemblage represents almost a quarter of the dragonfly fauna of Turkey (cf. H.J. DUMONT, 1977, *Bull. Annls Soc. r. belge Ent.* 113: 119-171), incl. *L. tetraphylla*, which is here reported from the national territory for the first time.

Despite its protected status, the region is exposed to various environmental disturbances, such as e.g. heavy tourism, unplanned urbanization, forest and marsh fires, agricultural pollution, sewage disposal, etc. The basic idea of nature protection is the conservation of the diversity of organisms and their specific habitats. *L. tetraphylla* and *A. immaculifrons* breed in the Lake and in the adjacent stagnant water bodies. These habitats are particularly threatened by organic pollution. Consequently, the conservation of the breeding habitat of the 2 species merits priority in the Köyceğiz-Dalyan region.

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