

## An annotated catalogue of the Iranian Anthocoridae (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Cimicomorpha)

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**Abstract.** A total of 47 anthocorid species (Heteroptera: Anthocoridae) from 10 genera, including *Amphiareus* Distant, 1904, *Anthocoris* Fallén, 1814, *Buchananiella* Reuter, 1884, *Cardiastethus* Fieber, 1860, *Dufouriellus* Kirkaldy, 1906, *Elatophilus* Reuter, 1884, *Lyctocoris* Hahn, 1836, *Orius* Wolff, 1811, *Temnostethus* Fieber, 1860, and *Xylocoris* Dufour, 1831, are catalogued from Iran. The following five species are new for Iran: *Elatophilus (Euhadrocerus) hebraicus* Péricart, 1967, *Buchananiella continua* (White, 1880), *Cardiastethus fasciiventris* (Garbiglietti, 1869), *Orius (Heterorius) strigicollis* (Poppius, 1915), and *Orius (Dimorphella) tantillus* (Motschulsky, 1863). *Buchananiella pseudococci* (Wagner, 1951), comb. nov., is transferred from the genus *Cardiastethus*.

**Keywords.** Hemiptera, Heteroptera, Anthocoridae, new combination, faunistics, Iran, Palaearctic Region

### Introduction

The minute pirate bugs (Heteroptera: Anthocoridae *sensu lato*) are small in size (1.5–5 mm) and modest in the number of species, with approximately 450 species world-wide (PÉRICART 1972), although SCHUH & SLATER (1995) suggested a slightly lower number (they mentioned 50 Lasiochilidae, nearly 250 Anthocoridae and an unspecified number of Lyctocoridae). The diversity of this family is better known in the Northern Hemisphere than in the Southern Hemisphere. HENRY (1988) listed 23 genera and 89 species for America north of Mexico and HERRING (1976) provided a key for all American genera. CARPINTERO (2002) listed 37 genera



Figure 1. Map of Iran with boundaries of provinces.

and 132 species for the Neotropics and CASSIS & GROSS (1995) catalogued 16 genera and 29 species from Australia. The West Palaearctic fauna was treated in the comprehensive monograph by PÉRICART (1972), who also provided a wonderful introduction to all aspects of the family and keys for all taxa. The Chinese Anthocoridae *sensu lato* were recently monographed by BU & ZHENG (2001). The fauna of the Palaearctic Region comprising 28 genera and 181 species was catalogued by PÉRICART (1996).

SCHUH (1986) and SCHUH & ŠTYS (1991) presented a cladistic analysis of the Cimicomorpha of the world based on morphological characters and presented a new classification. The traditional family Anthocoridae *sensu lato* was divided into three families: Anthocoridae, Lasiochilidae, and Lyctocoridae. SCHUH & SLATER (1995) published a compact overview of the taxa in their book on the true bugs of the world following this classification. This classification was recently tested in total evidence analysis of pooled morphological and molecular data (SCHUH et al. 2009).

Most of the known species of Anthocoridae are predaceous as nymphs and adults (CARAYON 1961, PÉRICART 1972) but some species (e.g., *Paratriphleps laeviusculus* Champion, 1900) appear to be chiefly if not entirely phytophagous (BACHELER & BARANOWSKI 1975). Other taxa, while largely predaceous, are able to survive on plant matter and pollen, e.g., *Orius* WOLFF, 1811 (SALAS-AGUILAR & EHLER 1977) and *Lyctocoris* Hahn, 1836 (CHU 1969), although complete reliance on these sources of food may have a detrimental effect on their repro-

ctive potential. In the latter genus, at least the cosmopolitan species *Lyctocoris campestris* (Fabricius, 1794) is known also as a facultative blood sucking ectoparasite on birds, rodents and eventually humans (e.g., ŠTYS & DANIEL 1958).

However, the Anthocoridae are in general important predators of phytophagous mites and mite eggs, insect eggs and various soft-bodied insects. These beneficial insects may be found on a number of important crops including most fruit trees, corn, cotton, soybeans, alfalfa, and grape vine. In orchards they can play a role as predators of the European red mite (*Panonychus ulmi* (C. L. Koch, 1836)), two-spotted mite (*Tetranychus urticae* C. L. Koch, 1836), thrips *Frankliniella occidentalis* Pergande, 1895 and *Thrips tabaci* (Lindemann, 1888), and most aphids. This is particularly significant and economically important to pest managers and integrated control programs. The Anthocoridae feed occasionally on other predators and may also occasionally fall prey to general predators such as spiders and lacewing larvae, but this is a minor problem that does affect their role in pest management programs (e.g., HERRING 1966, 1967; PÉRICART 1971, 1972; RIUDAVETS 1995; SCHUH & SLATER 1995; CARPINTERO 2002).

The Iranian fauna of the Anthocoridae has been little studied. PÉRICART (1996) listed 13 species from Iran. The most important studies on the Iranian Anthocoridae were conducted by OSTOVAN (1998), LINNAVUORI & MODARRES (1998), LINNAVUORI & HOSSEINI (2000), OSTOVAN & NIAKAN (2000), HEISS (2002), GHAHARI et al. (2004), LINNAVUORI (2004a,b), ERFAN & OSTOVAN (2005), OSTOVAN & MIRHELLI (2005), ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI (2006), GHAHARI & OSTOVAN (2006), MIRAB-BALOU et al. (2007, 2008), GHAHARI et al. (2008) and FALAMARZI et al. (2009). This paper provides a catalogue of all anthocorid species known from Iran.

## Material and methods

The specimens were collected from various cultivated plants and weeds in different locations of Iran. In addition, all literature data on Iranian Anthocoridae were revised. All specimens were identified by the authors.

To collect and identify specimens of *Orius*, the following technique was used: plants or parts of plants were placed in transparent plastic bags. The predators were collected from these bags and stored in vials containing 70% alcohol. Their identification was based on patterns of the wings, body and male and female genitalia that are the most reliable structures for taxonomic identification (KELTON 1963, HERRING 1966, PÉRICART 1972). In males, entire abdomen was removed, macerated in 10% KOH, and boiled in a water bath for approximately 20 minutes. Afterwards it was transferred to distilled water, the genitalia dissected, placed in clove oil for 15 minutes and subsequently mounted on slides with Hoyers solution and sealed with varnish. Female genitalia were prepared following the methodology given by Luciana Tavella (Università degli Studi di Torino, Italy; pers. comm.), who recommends the genital pore (abdominal sternite VIII) as a reliable structure for female identification. Abdominal sternite VIII can be mounted on a slide and observed with a clearing solution.

The system, nomenclature, synonymy, and distribution follow mainly PÉRICART (1996). Exact references are given for later additions and changes. The distribution in Iran is listed according to provinces (Fig. 1) (HANGAY et al. 2005).

## Results

A total of 47 anthocorid species from 10 genera (*Amphiareus* Distant, 1904, *Anthocoris* Fallén, 1814, *Buchananiella* Reuter, 1884, *Cardiastethus* Fieber, 1860, *Dufouriellus* Kirkaldy, 1906, *Elatophilus* Reuter, 1884, *Lyctocoris* Hahn, 1836, *Orius* Wolff, 1811, *Temnostenus* Fieber, 1860, and *Xylocoris* Dufour, 1831) classified in four anthocorine tribes (Anthocorini, Cardiastethini, Oriini, and Xylocorini) and two subfamilies (Anthocorinae and Lyctocorinae) have been recorded in Iran. These include five species new for Iran: *Elatophilus (Euhadrocerus) hebraicus* Péricart, 1967, *Buchananiella continua* (White, 1880), *Cardiastethus fasciiventris* (Garbiglietti, 1869), *Orius (Heterorius) strigicollis* (Poppius, 1915), and *Orius (Dimorphella) tantillus* (Motschulsky, 1863).

### **Family ANTHOCORIDAE Fieber, 1836**

#### **Subfamily Anthocorinae Fieber, 1836**

Tribe Anthocorini Fieber, 1836

#### **Genus *Anthocoris* Fallén, 1814**

##### ***Anthocoris angularis* Reuter, 1884**

**Distribution in Iran.** Tehran (GHAHARI et al. 2004).

**General distribution.** Azerbaijan (doubtful record), Kazakhstan, Kirgizia, Mongolia, Tadzhikistan, Uzbekistan (PÉRICART 1996).

##### ***Anthocoris butleri* Le Quesne, 1954**

**Distribution in Iran.** Mazandaran (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006).

**General distribution.** Western and central Europe (PÉRICART 1996).

##### ***Anthocoris confusus* Reuter, 1884**

**Distribution in Iran.** Golestan (GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006), Guilan (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000), Hamedan (MIRAB-BALOU et al. 2007, 2008, as *A. confusus* and *A. confuses*, respectively), Mazandaran (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006).

**General distribution.** Holarctic (PÉRICART 1996, HENRY 1988).

##### ***Anthocoris flavipes* Reuter, 1884**

**Distribution in Iran.** Golestan (GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006), Kerman (GHAHARI et al. 2004), Mazandaran (GHAHARI et al. 2004, GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006).

**General distribution.** Kazakhstan (Asian part), Armenia (doubtful record), China (Western Plateau), Kirgizia, Tadzhikistan, Indian Tibet (PÉRICART 1996).

##### ***Anthocoris gallarumulmi* (De Geer, 1773)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Golestan (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006), Khorasan (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Semnan (MODARRES AWAL 1997, ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006).

**General distribution.** Widely distributed in Europe, Morocco (doubtful record), Turkey, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan (PÉRICART 1996).

*Anthocoris guentheri* Péricart, 2007

**Distribution in Iran.** Khorasan (PÉRICART 2007).

**General distribution.** Endemic to Iran.

*Anthocoris limbatus* Fieber, 1836

**Distribution in Iran.** Isfahan (GHAHARI et al. 2004).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe (from Great Britain to Russia) and northern parts of Palaearctic Asia (PÉRICART 1996).

*Anthocoris minki minki* Dohrn, 1860

**Distribution in Iran.** Ardabil (MODARRES AWAL 1987), East Azarbaijan (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Fars (OSTOVAN & NIAKAN 2000), Golestan (GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006), Mazandaran (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006, GHAHARI et al. 2008).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe (from Great Britain to Russia), North Africa (Morocco, Tunisia), and Palaearctic Asia (Central Asia, Asian part of Turkey) (PÉRICART 1996).

*Anthocoris minki pistaciae* Wagner, 1957

**Distribution in Iran.** Ardabil (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000), Fars (FALAMARZI et al. 2009), Kerman (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Khorasan (LINNAURO & MODARRES AWAL 1998), Sistan & Baluchestan (MODARRES AWAL 1997).

**General distribution.** Eastern Europe (Greece, Ukraine, and South European Territory of Russia), North Africa (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia) and Central Asia (PÉRICART 1996).

*Anthocoris nemoralis* (Fabricius, 1794)

**Distribution in Iran.** Ardabil (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000), East Azarbaijan (HASSANZADEH et al. 2009a,b), Fars (MODARRES AWAL 1997, OSTOVAN & NIAKAN 2000), Golestan (GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006), Guilan (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000), Isfahan (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Khorasan (HEISS 2002), Markazi (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Mazandaran (GHAHARI et al. 2008), Tehran (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Zanjan (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe (from Great Britain to Russia), North Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia), and Central Asia. Introduced to North America (PÉRICART 1996, HENRY 1988).

*Anthocoris nemorum* (Linnaeus, 1761)

**Distribution in Iran.** East Azarbaijan (HASSANZADEH et al. 2009a,b), Fars (MODARRES AWAL 1997, OSTOVAN & NIAKAN 2000), Golestan (GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006), Guilan (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000, ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006), Hamedan (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Isfahan

(MODARRES AWAL 1997), Markazi (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Kermanshah (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Kordestan (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Mazandaran (GHAHARI et al. 2008), Semnan (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Tehran (MODARRES AWAL 1997), West Azarbaijan (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Yazd (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Zanjan (MODARRES AWAL 1997, ASKARI et al. 2009).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe (from Great Britain to Russia) and Palaearctic Asia (from Iran to China) (PÉRICART 1996).

### *Anthocoris pilosus* (Jakovlev, 1877)

**Distribution in Iran.** Ardabil (LINNAVUORI & HOSSEINI 2000), Fars (ERFAN & OSTOVAN 2005, FALAMARZI et al. 2009), Gilan (LINNAVUORI & HOSSEINI 2000), Khorasan (LINNAVUORI & MODARRES AWAL 1998), Mazandaran (HEISS 2002), Semnan (JAKOVLEV (1877): Shahrud (holotype, as *Tetraphleps pilosus*); KIRITSHENKO (1949)), Tehran (LINDBERG 1938).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe and Palaearctic Asia (PÉRICART 1996).

### *Anthocoris poissoni* Kiritshenko, 1952

**Distribution in Iran.** West Azarbaijan (GHAHARI et al. 2004).

**General distribution.** Kirgizia and Tadzhikistan (PÉRICART 1996).

### *Anthocoris simillimus* Poppius, 1909

**Distribution in Iran.** Gilan (GHAHARI et al. 2004).

**General distribution.** Kirgizia and Tadzhikistan (PÉRICART 1996).

### *Anthocoris visci* Douglas, 1889

**Distribution in Iran.** Kordestan (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006).

**General distribution.** Europe and Asian part of Turkey (PÉRICART 1996).

## Genus *Dufouriellus* Kirkaldy, 1906

### *Dufouriellus ater* (Dufour, 1833)

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (FALAMARZI et al. 2009).

**General distribution.** Widely distributed in the Palaearctic, Nearctic, and southern Neotropical Regions (HENRY 1988, PÉRICART 1996, CARPINTERO 2002, CAROINTERO & DELLAPÉ 2008).

**Comment.** The generic placement of *Dufouriellus* was revised recently by CARPINTERO & DELLAPÉ (2008).

## Genus *Elatophilus* Reuter, 1884

Subgenus *Elatophilus* Reuter, 1884

### *Elatophilus nigricornis* (Zetterstedt, 1838)

**Distribution in Iran.** Kordesatan (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe (from Great Britain to Russia), Turkey, Cyprus, and Israel (PÉRICART 1996).

Subgenus *Euhadrocerus* Reuter, 1884

***Elatophilus hebraicus* Péricart, 1967**

**Material examined.** EAST AZARBAJAN: Arasbaran, 780 m a.s.l., August 2004, 1 ♂, M. Havaskary leg., D. L. Carpintero det. New record for Iran.

**General distribution.** Cyprus, Israel (PÉRICART 1996).

**Genus *Temnostethus* Fieber, 1860**

Subgenus *Ectemnus* Fieber, 1860

***Temnostethus reduvinus parilis* (Horváth, 1891)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Ardabil (LINNAUORI & HOSSEINI 2001), Khorasan (LINNAUORI & MODARRES AWAL 1998), Fars (FALAMARZI et al. 2009).

**General distribution.** Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran (PÉRICART 1996).

Subgenus *Montandoniella* Puton, 1888

***Temnostethus dacicus* (Puton, 1888)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (ERFAN & OSTOVAN 2005).

**General distribution.** Central and eastern Europe, Turkey, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan (PÉRICART 1996).

Subgenus *Temnostethus* Fieber, 1860

***Temnostethus gracilis* Horváth, 1907**

**Distribution in Iran.** Guilan (LINNAUORI & HOSSEINI 2000).

**General distribution.** Eurosiberian, also found in Canada (PÉRICART 1996, HENRY 1988).

***Temnostethus longirostris* (Horváth, 1907)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (ERFAN & OSTOVAN 2005).

**General distribution.** Central and eastern Europe, Turkey (PÉRICART 1996).

Tribe Cardiastethini Carayon, 1972

Dufouriellini Van Duzee, 1916: 35 (partim). Type genus: *Dufouriellus* Kirkaldy, 1906.

Cardiastethini Carayon, 1972: 338. Type genus: *Cardiastethus* Fieber, 1860. Synonymized by ŠTYS (1975: 161); restored by CARPINTERO & DELLAPÉ (2008: 506).

**Genus *Amphiareus* Distant, 1904**

***Amphiareus obscuriceps* (Poppius, 1909)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Iran (PÉRICART 1996, no exact locality mentioned). Guilan (LINNAUORI & HOSSEINI 2000).

**General distribution.** Eastern Asia, Nepal, Kazakhstan, Kirgizia, Iran, Georgia, recently spreading as alien species in Europe and North America (PÉRICART 1996, YAMADA & HIROWATARI 2003, RABITSCH 2008, HENRY et al. 2008).

**Genus *Buchananiella* Reuter, 1884*****Buchananiella continua* (White, 1880)**

**Material examined.** MAZANDARAN: Amol, 198 m a.s.l., October 2003, 2 ♂♂ 3 ♀♀, H. Sakenin leg., D. L. Carpintero det. New record for Iran.

**General distribution.** Mediterranean, tropical Africa, tropical America, and Australia (PÉRICART 1996, CASSIS & GROSS 1995, CARPINTERO 2002).

***Buchananiella pseudococci pseudococci* (Wagner, 1951) comb. nov.**

**Distribution in Iran.** Bushehr (LINNAVUORI 2004a).

**General distribution.** Egypt, Iran, India (YAMADA et al. 2008). The subspecies *B. pseudococci occidentalis* Carayon, 1957 is distributed in tropical Africa, Madagascar, and Réunion (PÉRICART 1996).

**Comments.** This species is transferred to *Buchananiella* because of the shape of male genitalia, which is typical of *Buchananiella* and differs from that of the members of *Cardiastethus* (see PÉRICART 1972).

**Genus *Cardiastethus* Fieber, 1860*****Cardiastethus fasciiventris* (Garbiglietti, 1869)**

**Material examined.** MAZANDARAN: Savadkooh, 550 m a.s.l., September 2004, 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀, M. Tabari leg., D. L. Carpintero det. New record for Iran.

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe and North Africa (PÉRICART 1996).

***Cardiastethus nazarenus* Reuter, 1884**

**Distribution in Iran.** Guilan (LINNAVUORI & HOSSEINI 2000), Mazandaran (HEISS 2002).

**General distribution.** Mediterranean (PÉRICART 1996).

Tribe Oriini Carayon, 1958

**Genus *Orius* Wolff, 1811**

Subgenus *Dimorphella* Reuter, 1884

***Orius agilis* (Flor, 1860)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Khorasan (GHAHARI et al. 2004).

**General distribution.** Eurosiberian, reaching from central Europe to Russian Far East and north China (PÉRICART 1996).

***Orius albidipennis* (Reuter, 1884)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (MODARRES AWAL 1997, OSTOVAN 1998, OSTOVAN & NIAKAN 2000, GANJI 2007, FALAMARZI et al. 2009), Golestan (GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006), Guilan (LINNAVUORI & HOSSEINI 2000), Hormozgan (LINNAVUORI 2004a), Isfahan (MODARRES AWAL 1997, GHAHARI & HATAMI 2000), Khorasan (HADDAD SABZEVAR 2007), Khuzestan (AFSHARI et al.

2000), Mazandaran (GHAHARI et al. 2008), Semnan (NIKNAM 2000), Sistan & Baluchestan (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006).

**General distribution.** Spain, Africa (southwards to Nigeria), Near East, Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, Iran, Central Asia, and Pakistan (PÉRICART 1996).

### *Orius tantillus* (Motschulsky, 1863)

**Material examined.** KERMAN: Jiroft, 725 m a.s.l., April 2003, 2 ♂♂, H. Ghahari leg., D. L. Carpintero det. **New record for Iran.**

**General distribution.** Oriental Region, southern China, Taiwan, Japan, Australia, Micronesia; widely distributed over the Indo-Pacific Region (GHAURI 1972, CASSIS & GROSS 1995, YASUNAGA 1997b, PÉRICART 1996).

**Comment.** YASUNAGA (1997b) treated *O. tantillus* as a member of *Dimorphella*.

Subgenus *Heterorius* Wagner, 1952

### *Orius bulgaconus* Ghauri, 1972

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (OSTOVAN & NIAKAN 2000, OSTOVAN & MIRHELLI 2005), Khorasan (HADDAD SABZEVAR 2007), Mazandaran (GHAHARI et al. 2008), Semnan (NIKNAM 2000).

**General distribution.** Pakistan (GHAURI 1972), Iran.

### *Orius horvathi* (Reuter, 1884)

**Distribution in Iran.** Ardabil (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000), Chaharmahal & Bakhtiari (ES-FANDIARI 2000), Fars (MODARRES AWAL 1997, OSTOVAN & NIAKAN 2000, OSTOVAN & MIRHELLI 2005, GANJI 2007, FALAMARZI et al. 2009), Guilan (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000), Kerman (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Khorasan (LINNAURO & MODARRES AWAL 1998, HADDAD SABZEVAR 2007), Kuhkoloyeh & Boyerahmad (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006), Mazandaran (GHAHARI et al. 2008), Semnan (NIKNAM 2000).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe (from France to Russia), Morocco, and Palaeoarctic Asia (from Turkey to China) (PÉRICART 1996).

### *Orius laticollis discolor* (Reuter, 1884)

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (FALAMARZI et al. 2009), Guilan (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000), Khorasan (LINNAURO & MODARRES AWAL 1998), Tehran (BABMORAD et al. 2000).

**General distribution.** Spain, Romania, eastern Europe, north-west Africa, Israel, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Central Asia (PÉRICART 1996).

### *Orius majusculus* (Reuter, 1879)

**Distribution in Iran.** Guilan (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000), Kermanshah (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006).

**General distribution.** Palaearctic Region, recently introduced to Canada (PÉRICART 1996, HENRY 2008).

***Orius minutus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (MODARRES AWAL 1997, OSTOVAN 1998, OSTOVAN & NIAKAN 2000, OSTOVAN & MIRHELLI 2005), Guilan (LINNAUORI & HOSSEINI 2000), Hamedan (MODARRES AWAL 1997; MIRAB-BALOU et al. 2007, 2008), Isfahan (MODARRES AWAL 1997, ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006), Kermanshah (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Khorasan (SHOJAI et al. 1996, MODARRES AWAL 1997), Kordestan (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Markazi (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Mazandaran (GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006), Semnan (MODARRES AWAL 1997, NIKNAM 2000), Tehran (MODARRES AWAL 1997), West Azarbaijan (MODARRES AWAL 1997).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe and Palaearctic Asia, introduced to North America (PÉRICART 1996, HENRY 1988).

***Orius strigicollis* (Poppius, 1915)**

**Material examined.** EAST AZARBAIJAN: Arasbaran, 790 m a.s.l., August 2004, 1 ♂, M. Havaskary leg., D. L. Carpintero det. New record for Iran.

**General distribution.** Southern China, Taiwan, Japan (PÉRICART 1996, YASUNAGA 1997a).

**Comments.** PÉRICART (1996) did not attribute this species to one of the subgenera. YASUNAGA (1997a) accommodated *O. strigicollis* in the subgenus *Heterorius*.

***Orius vicinus* (Ribaut, 1923)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (ERFAN & OSTOVAN 2005, FALAMARZI et al. 2009), Guilan (LINNAUORI & HOSSEINI 2000), Isfahan (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006), Khorasan (LINNAURO-RI & MODARRES AWAL 1998; HADDAD SABZEVAR 2007), Mazandaran (GHAHARI et al. 2008), Tehran (ESFANDIARI 2000).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe (from France to Russia) and Palaearctic Asia (from Turkey to north China) (PÉRICART 1996).

Subgenus *Orius* Wolff, 1811***Orius laevigatus laevigatus* (Fieber, 1860)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (OSTOVAN & NIAKAN 2000, OSTOVAN & MIRHELLI 2005, FALAMARZI et al. 2009), Khorasan (LINNAUORI & MODARRES AWAL 1998).

**General distribution.** Europe, western Asia to Pakistan (PÉRICART 1996).

***Orius niger* (Wolff, 1811)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Ardabil (LINNAUORI & HOSSEINI 2000), East Azarbaijan (MODARRES AWAL 1987, 1997; SADEGHI et al. 2009), Fars (OSTOVAN 1998, OSTOVAN & NIAKAN 2000, GANJI 2007, FALAMARZI et al. 2009), Guilan (LINNAUORI & HOSSEINI 2000), Hamedan (EGHBALIAN et al. 2008), Isfahan (MODARRES AWAL 1987, 1997), Kerman (KIRITSHENKO 1966, as *O. niger* var. *ullrichi*), Khorasan (LINNAUORI & MODARRES AWAL 1998, HADDAD SABZEVAR 2007), Mazandaran (GHAHARI et al. 2008), Semnan (NIKNAM 2000, ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006), West Azarbaijan (MODARRES AWAL 1987, 1997).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Europe (from Great Britain to Russia), North Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia), and Palaearctic Asia (from Turkey to India and China) (PÉRICART 1996).

***Orius pallidicornis* (Reuter, 1884)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (OSTOVAN 1998, OSTOVAN & MIRHELLI 2005, GANJI 2007), Golestan (GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006), Mazandaran (GHAHARI & OSTOVAN 2006), Semnan (ABD-RABOU & GHAHARI 2006).

**General distribution.** South Europe (Spain, France, Italy, Croatia, Greece), North Africa (Madeira, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya), and Near East (Israel, Iraq, Turkey) (PÉRICART 1996).

***Orius perpunctatus* (Reuter, 1884)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Fars (ERFAN & OSTOVAN 2005).

**General distribution.** Widespread in Neotropics (CARPINTERO 2002).

Tribe Xylocorini Carayon, 1972

**Genus *Xylocoris* Dufour, 1831**

Subgenus *Arrostelus* Kirkaldy, 1906

***Xylocoris flavipes* (Reuter, 1875)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Hormozgan (LINNAURO 2004b), Khuzestan (MOHAGERY et al. 1998).

**General distribution.** Cosmotropical, predator of common pests of stored grain, occasionally introduced to storages in Europe (PÉRICART 1996, HENRY 1988, CASSIS & GROSS 1995, CARPINTERO 2002).

Subgenus *Proxyllocoris* Carayon, 1972

***Xylocoris confusus* Carayon, 1972**

**Distribution in Iran.** Bushehr (LINNAURO 2004a).

**General distribution.** North Africa (extending to the Sudanese subregion of Africa), Saudi Arabia, Yemen, and Kuwait (GHAURI 1985, PÉRICART 1996).

***Xylocoris galactinus* (Fieber, 1836)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Guilan (LINNAURO & HOSSEINI 2000).

**General distribution.** Holarctic (PÉRICART 1996, HENRY 1988).

Subgenus *Xylocoris* Dufour, 1831

***Xylocoris cursitans* (Fallén, 1807)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Iran (PÉRICART 1996; no exact locality mentioned).

**General distribution.** Holarctic (PÉRICART 1996, HENRY 1988).

***Xylocoris obliquus* A. Costa, 1853**

**Distribution in Iran.** ‘S Persia’ [= southern Iran] (REUTER 1884); Kerman (SEIDENSTÜCKER 1958, as *X. obliquus orientalis*).

**General distribution.** Mediterranean and Eastern Europe, North Africa, Near East, Transcaucasia, and Central Asia (PÉRICART 1996).

### **Subfamily Lyctocorinae Reuter, 1884**

Tribe Lyctocorini Reuter, 1884

#### **Genus *Lyctocoris* Hahn, 1836**

Subgenus *Lyctocoris* Hahn, 1836

#### ***Lyctocoris campestris* (Fabricius, 1794)**

**Distribution in Iran.** Khuzestan (MODARRES AWAL 1997), Tehran (LINDBERG 1938).

**General distribution.** Cosmopolitan. Introduced to the Nearctic, Neotropical, Afrotropical, Oriental, Australian, and Pacific Region (PÉRICART 1996, HENRY 1988, CASSIS & GROSS 1995, CARPINTERO 2002).

## **Discussion**

The results of this study indicate that the fauna of Anthocoridae in Iran is diverse. Iran is a large country with complex geography (Fig. 1) and varying climate and we expect that additional species remain to be discovered during future studies of this important insect group in Iran.

During the last 25 years, various studies were devoted to clarify the taxonomy of Anthocoridae *sensu lato* (see SCHUH & SLATER 1995). As a result the family has been divided into three families: Anthocoridae, Lasiochilidae and Lyctocoridae. Although we agree with the methodology used in the papers, we do not agree with the list of characters used included in the analysis and with polarization of some states. During the last 10 years, one of us discovered a series of new characters useful to clarify the phylogenetic position of some doubtfully placed taxa (CARPINTERO & DELLAPÉ 2006, 2008). For these reasons, we follow the traditional concept of a single family Anthocoridae *sensu lato* divided into three subfamilies. We believe that a new phylogenetic analysis using a more complete list of characters will bring more light to the relationships among members of this controversial group in the future.

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