

The jewel beetle (Coleoptera, Buprestidae) fauna of Malta – Remarks and Additions

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The jewel beetle fauna of the Maltese Islands was recently studied by Mifsud & Bílý (2002) and a total of seventeen species were recorded. The present note is intended to provide data on a new record of a buprestid for Malta and includes other information on some previously recorded species.

Acmaeoderella adpersula adpersula (Illiger, 1803)

Material examined: MALTA: Mellieha, 1 ex., (reared) emerged on 12.viii.2005 from dead twigs of *Ceratonia siliqua* collected on 20.ix.2003, leg. H. Borg Barthet.

Acmaeoderella adpersula adpersula (Illiger) represents a new record for Malta. It is a typical Mediterranean species being recorded from the following territories: Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Monaco, Portugal, Spain, Yugoslavia, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Cyprus, Israel, Syria and Turkey. The other subspecies, *A. adpersula squamiplumis* (Peyerimhoff, 1921) is distributed in Algeria, Morocco, Israel and Sinai. The species is extremely polyphagous, developing in dead branches of *Acacia* spp., *Acer monspessulanum*, *Celtis australis*, *Cistus albidus*, *Cytisus laburnum*, *Ephedra fragilis*, *Euphorbia dendroides*, *Genista corsica*, *Malus domestica*, *Pistacia lentiscus*, *Quercus* spp., *Retama retama*, *Sorbus* sp., *Spartium junceum*, *Thymelaea hirsuta*, *Ulmus* sp., *Vitis vinifera* (Curletti, 1994), *Castanea*, *Ceratonia*, *Populus*, *Rhus*, *Zygophyllum* and *Ficus carica*.

Buprestis novemaculata novemaculata Linnaeus, 1767

Material examined: MALTA, Zejtun, 19.viii.2004, 1 ex., leg. D. Mifsud.

This species was previously recorded by Curletti (1994) from Buskett. The above record represents the second one for this species in Malta. It is mainly associated with dead wood of *Pinus* spp.

Melanophila cuspidate (Klug, 1829)

Material examined: MALTA, Rabat, 1/15.x.2005, 1 ex., captured in a UV light trap, leg. P. Sammut.

This species was originally recorded for Malta by Andres (1916). A second capture from Girgenti was reported by Mifsud & Bílý (2002).

Aphanisticus pygmaeus Lucas, 1849

Material examined: MALTA, Zejtun, 12.viii.2005, 1 ex., leg. D. Mifsud

This species was previously recorded on the basis of a single record by Mifsud & Bílý (2002) from Ghajn Rihana.

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