

New records of Hymenoptera from Bird (Republic of Seychelles)

Michael Madl

2. Zoologische Abteilung, Naturhistorisches Museum,
Burgring 7, 1010 Wien, Austria.
michael.madl@nhm-wien.ac.at

Introduction

Recently I received from my colleague Manfred A. Jäch (curator of Coleoptera) several specimens of Hymenoptera from Bird for identification, which have been found in a box with Seychellois Coleoptera. The material contains only two species of the family Vespidae (*Delta alluaudi* (Perez, 1895), *Polistes olivaceus* (DeGeer, 1773) and one species of the family Apidae (*Xylocopa caffra* (a Linné, 1767)). *Delta alluaudi* is a first record for the fauna of Bird. The Hymenoptera of the Republic of Seychelles have been reviewed by several authors in Gerlach (2013: 230 – 342).

The small and flat coralline islands Bird (1 km²) and Denis (1,4 km²) are situated at the northern edge of the Seychelles Bank lying about 90 or 80 km North of Mahé respectively. The distance between both islands is more than 50 km. The most important papers on the fauna and flora have been published by Feare (1979), Stoddart & Fosberg (1981) and Hill *et al.* (2002a, b). The latter ones include also species lists of Hymenoptera. Both islands have a depauperate Hymenoptera fauna in relation to the larger granitic islands characterized by non endemic species. Till now 20 species have been recorded from Bird and 10 species from Denis (see table 1).

The material is deposited in the Natural History Museum in Vienna (Austria). I would like to thank Manfred A. Jäch (Natural History Museum Vienna, Austria) for making available the material for study and Manulea Vizek (Natural History Museum Vienna, Austria) for her help in many ways.

Symbols used:

§ male

\$ female

Faunistics

Family Vespidae

Subfamily Eumeninae

Delta alluaudi (Pérez, 1895)

Material examined: Bird: 3 \$\$ November 1981 leg. H. Kraus.

This first record is a surprise, because *Delta alluaudi* is not mentioned in Hill *et al.* (2002a). It was collected on Denis about 75 years ago (Meade-Waldo 1912: 43). *Delta*

alluaudi, an endemic species of the Inner Seychelles, is also known from following islands: Mahé, Round (off Mahé), Silhouette, North, Praslin, Cousin, Marianne, Aride and Denis.

Subfamily Polistinae

Polistes olivaceus (DeGeer, 1773)

Polistes olivaceus (DeGeer, 1773): Vesey-Fitzgerald 1957: 362 (Bird), Hill *et al.* 2002a: 19 (Bird).

Material examined: Bird: 3 ♂ November 1981 leg. H. Kraus.

Polistes olivaceus is widely in the southern Palaearctic, Ethiopian, Oriental and Australian Region. In the Malagasy Subregion it is known from Madagascar, Réunion, Mauritius and Rodrigues. In the Republic of Seychelles *Polistes olivaceus* is also recorded from several islands of the Inner Seychelles (Mahé, Cachée, Conception, Moyenne, Thérèse, Silhouette, North, Praslin, Aride, Curieuse, La Digue, Félicité, Grande Soeur, Marianne, Denis) and Amirantes (D'Arros, Desroches).

Family Apidae

Subfamily Xylocopinae

Xylocopa caffra (a Linné, 1767)

Xylocopa caffra (a Linné, 1767): Hill *et al.* 2002a: 18 (Bird), 19 (biology, as *Xylocopa* sp.).

Material examined: Bird: 3 §§ November 1981 leg. H. Kraus.

Xylocopa caffra is widely distributed in the Ethiopian Region and in the Malagasy Subregion it is known from Comoros (Grande Comore, Moheli, Anjouan) and Mayotte. In the Inner Seychelles *Xylocopa caffra* is also recorded from Mahé, Chauve Souris (off Mahé), Conception, Thérèse, Silhouette, North, Praslin, Cousin, Cousine, Curieuse, Félicité, Grande Sœur, Marianne, Aride and Denis. Notes on the biology have been published by Guerrieri *et al.* 2013 and Hölzler & Madl 2013.

References

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Apidae) and its symbiotic mite *Dinogamasus affinis* (Berlese, 1918) (Acari: Laelapidae) in Seychelles. *Zeitschrift der Arbeitsgemeinschaft Österreichischer Entomologen* **65**: 119-121.

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Table 1: List of Hymenoptera recorded from Bird and Denis.

Family	Subfamily	Species	Bird	Denis
Chalcididae	Chalcidinae	<i>Brachymeria lepida</i> (Masi, 1917)		X
Formicidae	Dolichoderinae	<i>Tapinonoma m. melanocephalum</i> (Fabricius, 1793)	X	
		<i>Technomyrmex albipes</i> (Smith, 1861)	X	X
	Formicinae	<i>Anoplolepis gracilipes</i> (Smith, 1857)	X	X
		<i>Brachymyrmex cordemoyi</i> Forel, 1895	X	
	Myrmicinae	<i>Cardiocondyla emeryi</i> Forel, 1881	X	X
		<i>Pheidole megacephala</i> (Fabricius, 1793)	X	
		<i>Pheidole parva</i> Mayr, 1865	X	
		<i>Pheidole punctulata</i> (Mayr, 1866)	X	
		<i>Solenopsis seychellensis</i> Forel, 1909	X	
		<i>Strumigenys emmae</i> (Emery, 1890)	X	
		<i>Tetramorium bicarinatum</i> (Nylander, 1846)	X	
		<i>Tetramorium lanuginosum</i> Mayr, 1870	X	
	Ponerinae	<i>Leptogenys maxillosa</i> (Smith, 1858)	X	X
		<i>Odontomachus simillimus</i> Smith, 1858	X	
Scoliidae	Campsomeriinae	<i>Afroscolia ruficornis</i> (Fabricius, 1793)	X	
Vespidae	Eumeninae	<i>Delta alluaudi</i> (Pérez, 1895)	X	X
	Polistinae	<i>Polistes olivaceus</i> (DeGeer, 1773)	X	X
Apidae	Xylocopinae	<i>Ceratina madecassa</i> Friese, 1900		X
		<i>Xylocopa caffra</i> (a Linné, 1767)	X	X
Halictidae	Halictinae	<i>Lasioglossum mahense</i> (Cameron, 1907)		X
Megachilidae	Megachilinae	<i>Megachile seychellensis</i> Cameron, 1907	X	