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Clovis Quindroit. – **Presence of *Dicranomyia* (*Melanolimonia*) *hamata* Becker, 1908, in continental France (Diptera, Limoniidae)**

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Abstract. – *Dicranomyia* (*Melanolimonia*) *hamata* Becker, 1908, is mentioned in mainland France for the first time, in the Var department.

Résumé. – **Présence de *Dicranomyia* (*Melanolimonia*) *hamata* Becker, 1908, en France continentale (Diptera, Limoniidae)**. *Dicranomyia* (*Melanolimonia*) *hamata* Becker, 1908, est mentionnée en France continentale pour la première fois, dans le département du Var.

Limoniidae are a family of Nematocera (Diptera) found all over the world, except in Antarctica. This family is quite numerous, with about 760 known species in west Palearctic and 268 in France (Oosterbroek, 2020). New species are frequently described, even in Europe. This family has been little studied in France, as evidenced by the small number of related publications over the last century. Therefore, new species to the French fauna are regularly reported, (Kramer & Langlois, 2019; Quindroit, 2019, 2020) even outside the high endemic areas. The genus *Dicranomyia* belongs to the subfamily Limoniinae. In France, it includes 40 species distributed in six subgenera (Oosterbroek, 2020). This brief note reports for the first time the presence of *Dicranomyia* (*Melanolimonia*) *hamata* Becker, 1908, in continental France.

Materials and methods

As part of the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory in the Golf de Vidauban (Vidauban, Var department), in Mediterranean France, in the Plaines des Maures, a highly diverse hotspot, the Limoniidae species have been examined. The golf course has a 126-hectare surface, with 40 hectares of lawn, and the surface of the domain is 830 ha. The vegetation is composed of bushes forming a maquis vegetation, and the wooded area is dominated by parasol pines (*Pinus pinea* L.) and cork oaks (*Quercus suber* L.). The other part of the areas consists in temporary streams and pools, dry and wet grasslands, rocks and anthropic areas (playground, former fields) (Daugeron, 2014).

Material was collected from four Malaise tents disposed in the same type of habitat, from spring to summer 2015 (Gourdain *et al.,* 2017). Malaise traps were sampled by Pierre-Alexis Rault.

Results

Ten species of Limoniidae are reported in this study: *Dicranomyia* (*Dicranomyia*) *mitis* (Meigen, 1830), *D.* (*Melanolimonia*) *hamata* Becker, 1908, *Dicranophragma adjunctum* (Walker, 1848), *Dicranoptycha fuscescens* (Schummel, 1829), *Ellipteroides* (*Ellipteroides*) *lateralis* (Macquart, 1835), *Limonia maculipennis* (Meigen & Wiedemann, 1818), *L. phragmitidis* (Schrank, 1781), *Molophilus griseus* (Meigen, 1804), *Neolimonia dumetorum* (Meigen, 1804) and *Phylidorea ferruginea* (Meigen, 1818).

Dicranomyia (*Melanolimonia*) *hamata* Becker, 1908, is reported from sample running from 29.III to 17.IV.2015. The specimens of *D.* (*M.*) *hamata* Becker, 1908, are deposited in the collection of the author.

Discussion and conclusion

Limoniidae are nematocerous species that show their highest diversity in wet or marshy areas. This explains the low number of species found in this study. Moreover, one must add that the absence of capture during autumn lowers this number. It is worth noting that the Golf de Vidauban is one of the rare French stations of the Tipulidae *Nephrotoma saccai* (Mannheims, 1951), reported by Tillier (2019) from the same sampling.

Dicranomyia hamata had already been observed in France, but exclusively in Corsica (Edwards, 1928, under the name *D. thyrrhenica* Edwards, 1928). Its presence in continental France is not surprising, as this species, previously exclusively known from islands in Europe (Corsica, Azores and Canary), Maghreb and Turkey, has been recorded in continental Portugal and Spain (Stary, 2014). In these last two countries, this species has been found in the undergrowth of a pine forest, on the border of an artificial lake or in vegetation along brook (Stary, 2014).

Dicranomyia (*Melanolimonia*) *hamata* is morphologically close to *D.* (*M.*) *rufiventris* (Strobl, 1900), differing only by some details in the structure of the male genitalia (fig. 1-2), such as the shape of aedeagus in lateral view. However, its habitat is quite different, as *D.* (*M.*) *rufiventris* lives in wet temperate areas (mires, springs and headwater streams) (Salmela, 2011).

Fig. 1-2. – *Dicranomyia* (*Melanolimonia*) *hamata* Becker from Golf de Vidauban (Var department), genitalia. – **1**, Dorsal view. – **2**, Lateral view.

This note brings new evidence of the substantial lack of knowledge on Limoniidae in France. It suggests that a lot of work remains to be done, especially in the high endemism areas such as the Mediterranean area. This data is the northernmost for this species, as well as for *Nephrotoma saccai,* emphasizing the potential of the massif des Maures for the species diversity in France and their conservation.

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