Biodiversity Journal, 2023,14 (4): 689–691 https://doi.org/10.31396/Biodiv.Jour.2023.14.4.689.691

First record of *Prinobius samai* Drumont et Rejzek, 2008 for Turkish Fauna, Mardin province (Coleoptera Cerambycidae)

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ABSTRACT This paper is based on a project carried on for the purpose of studying the Coleoptera Cerambycidae Fauna of Mardin province (South East Turkey) in 2021 and 2022. Among the samples, we found a specimen of *Prinobius* Mulsant, 1842 that belongs to the species *P. samai* Drumont et Rejzek, 2008. The record is new for the Turkish Fauna and enlarges the range of this species on the North-West. This is not surprising because several species widespred in West Iran have recently been added to the South-East Turkey Fauna, especially from Mardin province.

KEY WORDS Cerambycidae; Macrotomini; Iran.

Received 29.10.2023; accepted 10.12.2023; published online 30.12.2023

INTRODUCTION

Prinobius samai Drumont et Rejzek, 2008 was known only from West Iran. In fact, it was described from 7 km. S. Ilam, 1619 m., 33°40'N - 46°29'E, Ilam province (Iran) and known from Fars province, Zagros Mts., Yasuj surroundings, 18.VII.2010, J. Dalihod legit (Rapuzzi's collection) and Fars province, Kazerun, Nowdan, VII.1975 (Rapuzzi's collection). Recently we studied several specimens of Cerambycidae collected in Mardin province (SE Turkey) and one of them belongs to this species. It is very interesting to note that the Fauna of this province is composed of elements from the Mediterranean region and from the Iranian area (Rapuzzi et al., 2021). Another interesting point about this record is that once again it shows how the Mardin region is strictly connected with the Zagros area (West Iran).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The South Eastern Anatolian Region of Turkey is known as one of the best preserved and undamaged natural habitat of Turkey. The biodiversity is high in the region probably due to the climatic heterogeneity. It is influenced by Eremial, Mediterranean and Siberian climates (Satar & Özbay 2004). Mardin province, located in the Tigris and Euphrates basins is composed of 10 counties (Artuklu, Dargeçit, Derik, Kızıltepe, Mazıdağı, Midyat, Nusaybin, Ömerli, Savur, and Yeşilli) and it is located in South Eastern Turkey's Anatolia Region. It is surrounded by Şırnak and Siirt provinces in the East, Şanlıurfa in the West, Diyarbakır and Batman provinces in the North, the southern border of the province is the state border with Syria (Fig. 1). The climate of Mardin Province is due to its geografical position. Mardin province is between the influence

of the mountains in the North part that prevent the entering of cool air masses in the region and the Syrian Desert that is open on the Southern part of the province (Demir, 2010). This situation, due to the high pressure area formed in winter in the region, leads to the cold of the winter months, while the summers are very hot and arid. The Mediterranean precipitation regime causes the effects of terrestrial climatic conditions (Atalay, 2002). "Steppe" appearance is dominant in the province lands. Oak forests are found on mountain slopes and valleys. Forest and heath areas do not exceed 15% of the provincial surface. Cultivated and planted areas are 40%, meadows and pastures are 38% (Davis, 1988).

The present study is an update of a larger study of the Mardin province's Cerambycidae Fauna (Rapuzzi et al., 2021).

Figures 1–4. *Prinobius samai* Drumont et Rejzek, 2008. Fig. 1: *Prinobius samai*. Fig. 2: *Prinobius samai* on *Prunus mahaleb* (photo by Musa Geçit). Fig. 3: map of the research area (Mardin/Turkey); red circles indicate the locality where *Prinobius samai* was collected. Fig. 4: the habitat in Mardin province where *Prinobius samai* was collected (photo by Musa Geçit).

For the identification of the specimen, we used a binocular microscope (Wild M3), with magnifications 10x6, 10x16 and 10x40. The systematic used is the same used in the Catalogue of the Palearctic Cerambycidae (Danilevsky, 2020). The picture of prepared specimen was taken with a digital camera Olympus Stylus Tough TG4, with an optical zoom 4.5–18.0 mm., 1:2.0–4.9; images of species in nature and the landscape were taken with a Canon 60D camera with optical zoom 18–135 mm. before their capture.

Material examined. 1 female (Figs. 1, 2), Turkey, Mardin Province, Artuklu-Hamzabey, 975 m, 37°22'39"N 40°42'39'"E, 01.IX.2022, M. Geçit leg. (Author's collection). Host Plant: *Prunus mahaleb* L. (Rosaceae).

RESULTS

Turkey and mainly its South East regions are a real gold mine for zoologists. In fact once again a new species for the Turkish fauna was collected there. We expect many other species, new for Science or new for the Turkish Fauna, to be found after a deep survey of the area. Many different habitats with a very rich forest composition inside the small valleys of the Mardin High Plain suggest that new discoveries can be done.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are very grateful to our friend and excellent naturalist photographer Musa Geçit (Mardin, Tureky) that collected the speciemen. We want to thank Dr. Alain Drumont (Institut Royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique, Département d'entomologie, Bruxelles, Belgium). This study was supported by the Research Fund of the Dicle University (DUBAP), (Project no: ZGEF.22.002).

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