

On the Miridae fauna of the Middle East (Heteroptera, Miridae)

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The taxonomy of the genera *Tuponia* Reuter, 1875, and *Cyrtopeltis* Fieber, 1860, is discussed. New species: *Tuponia semele* and *T. filomele* spp. n. (Israel). New combination: *Tarajala brevicornis* (Reuter, 1879) = *Tuponia brevicornis* (Reuter, 1979). New synonymies: *Tuponia annulata* Wagner, 1974 = *T. carayoni vulnerata* Linnavuori, 1961, *T. dentifer* Wagner, 1974 = *T. macedonica* Wagner, 1957, *T. sodomita* Wagner, 1974, = *T. guttata* Wagner, 1950, and *Cyrtopeltis khalafi* Seidenstücker, 1964 = *C. pygmaea* Wagner, 1956.

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The article is based on my field work in Israel in 1986, during which special attention was paid to the highly interesting Negev desert. The material collected is the property of the American Museum of Natural History, but is at present in the author's collection at Raisio.

Phylinae

Tuponia (Tuponia) carayoni vulnerata Linnavuori, 1961
(Fig. 1a–b)

Tuponia lethierryi vulnerata Linnavuori 1961:24–25.
Tuponia vulnerata Drapolyuk 1980:54.
Tuponia carayoni vulnerata Linnavuori 1986:183.
Tuponia hungarica Benedek & Jászai 1968:10–13
(Drapolyuk 1980:54).
Tuponia annulata Wagner 1974:143–144, syn. n.

Material: Israel: many exx from Be'er Mashabbim, 22.IV.1986; Be'er Sheva, 29.IV.1986; Dishon, 6.V.1986; 'Ein Avdat, 10.VIII.1986; Elifaz near Timna, 19.IV.1986; 'En Aqrabbim, 31.VII–9.VIII.1986; Hazeva, 15.IV.1986; Mt. Ramon, Es Saharonim, 9–10.VII.1986; Nahal Arugot, 22.VII.1986; Neot Hakikkar, 16–20.VII.1986; Newe Zohar, 28.IV.1986; Yad Hashmona near Qiryat Anavim, 10.VI.1986;

Yeroham, 20.IV.1986; 10–15 km N Yotvata, 23.IV.1986, Linnavuori. Palestine: Jericho, 1 ex, 5.V.1962, Eckerlein. Jordan: Wadi Mujib, 1 ex, 1.V.1962, Eckerlein.

A well-known species, descriptions in Drapolyuk 1980:54–56 and Linnavuori 1961:25 and 1986:181–183 not repeated. Easily recognized by the shape of the vesica (Fig. 1a).

Discussion: Wagner (1974:143–144) described *T. annulata* on the basis of the circularly curved vesica. In the Neot Hakikkar population studied one male has a circularly curved vesica as in Wagner's original illustration (Fig. 1b), while in five other males it is of the regular shape of *vulnerata*. Likewise, in an immature male collected from the vicinity of Yotvata it is nearly circular, in the other specimens of the usual *vulnerata* shape. Since no other morphological differences between *annulata* and *vulnerata* were found, both taxa are regarded as conspecific. The circularly curved vesica is undoubtedly anomalous and apparently caused by immaturity.

Biology: On *Tamarix*.

Distribution: A common Pontomediteranean species.