SCEINTIFIC NOTE

First Record of the Predatory Species *Wesmaelius navasi* (Andreu, 1911) (Neuroptera: Hemerobiidae) in Egypt

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ABSTRACT

The hemerobiid predatory species *Wesmaelius navasi* (Andreu, 1911) (Neuroptera: Hemerobiidae) was recorded for the first time in Egypt on apricot and peach trees associated with the aphid, *Hyalopterus pruni* (Geoffroy) at El-Khattara district, Sharkia Governorate, Egypt in years 2010 and 2011. The species was identified by the Natural History Museum of London, UK. Relative high numbers of the predator were observed mainly in May. The species was recorded in Europe, Asia and the USA but it has not been found before in the afrotropic region according to the geographical distribution map no. 106 provided by the Natural History Museum of London 2013.

Key words: Chrysemosa jeanneli (Navás, 1914), Aphids, New record, Egypt.

The lacewing predatory species *Chrysemosa jeanneli* (Navás, 1914) (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae) was recorded for the first time in Egypt associated with the aphids; *Hyalopterus pruni* (Geoffroy) infesting apricot trees and *Aphis gossypii* (Glov.) infesting mango trees at El-Khattara district, Sharkia Governorate, Egypt in years 2010 and 2011. Samples from the predatory immature stages were collected; pictured (Fig. 1) and specimens were preserved in alcohol 70% for identification. Larvae were reared under laboratory conditions till adults’ emergence, preying on aphids. Specimens were sent to the Center Manager and Manager, Identification and Advisory Service. Angela Marmont, Centre for UK Biodiversity, Natural History Museum (NHM) of London for identification. The species was identified by Prof. Dr. Hannah Cornish, Research Entomologist Systematic Entomology Department Communications (NHM).

Fig. (1): Different stages of the chrysopid predator *Chrysemosa jeanneli* (Navas).
SYNONYMS

Boriomyia navasi Andreu, 1911
Boriomyia persica, 1921
Hemerobius navasi (Andreu, 1911)
Kimminia navasi (Andreu, 1911)
Kimminia neimenica C. –k. Yang, 1980

W. navasi was found associated with H. pruni on apricot and peach trees during the months of April, May and June in the two years 2010 and 2011. Relative high population of the predator was recorded in May in both years but extended up to mid-June in the second year.

Hemerobids are known as predators of small soft-bodied arthropods such as mealybugs, and also of insect eggs (Neuenschwander et al., 1975, New, 1975 and Oswald, 2013). Both larvae and adults are predacious. The lacewing is brown in color and small to medium-sized insect (forewing length 3 to 9 mm) (Fig.1). W. navasi has been recorded in Europe (Madera, Malta, Makaronesien, Creta, Marruecos, Canary, France), in Asia (Anatolia, Iraq, Israel, Afghanistan, Pakistan, China, Iran, Lebanon, Armenia, Palestine), and in America (California, USA). The predator was recorded earlier in Palestine in 1932 (Esben and Peteren, 1932), in France in 1931 (Tjeder, 1931) and in Ultimo in 1980 (Aspock and Holzel, 1980).

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REFERENCES