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Panorpa similis (Mecoptera: Panorpidae), a new species to the scorpionfly fauna of Turkey

Panorpa similis (Mecoptera: Panorpidae), nový druh srpice pro faunu Turecka

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Mecoptera, Panorpidae, Turkey, Caucasus, distribution, new record

Abstract. The first records of the scorpionfly *Panorpa similis* Esben-Petersen, 1915 from Turkey are presented. The known distribution of two scorpionfly species, *P. similis* and *P. connexa* McLachlan, 1869 in northernmost Turkey is briefly discussed.

Panorpa similis Esben-Petersen, 1915

Material examined. Turkey, Artvin prov., 8 km E Şavşat, 1930 m, Karagöl Sahara Nat. Park, 41°13.5′N, 042°27.1′E, forest (dominant *Picea*, *Abies*), on stumps with slime moulds (Myxomycetes), 4.–5.vii.2004, 1 ♂, J. Hájek & J. Růžička leg., L. Dvořák det. et coll.; Turkey, Ardahan prov., 10 km S Posof, Ilgardaği Geçidi [pass], 2460–2700 m, 41°24.9–25.4′N, 042°43.2–44.9′E; valley nr. brook, tall vegetation, 5.–6.vii.2004, 1 ♂, J. Hájek & J. Růžička leg., L. Dvořák det. et coll.

Panorpa similis was described from "Caucasus" by Esben-Petersen (1915) and is considered to be a common species throughout the Caucasus (Martynova 1957); up to now, there have been no records from Turkey (Martynova 1957, Willmann 1975, 1978). Two males from Artvin and Ardahan provinces are the first records of *P. similis* from Turkey or outside the Caucasus. The distance of the Turkish localities for *P. similis* from the border with Georgia is only 23.5 and 11.0 km. It is difficult to judge if *P. similis* is common in northwest Turkey or not, because only scattered records from the Caucasus are known. The available material of scorpionflies from the region is predominantly from Armenia and Georgia, and there is almost no material from northwestern Turkey. Recent published data on *Panorpa* spp. from the Caucasus are also lacking. Shchurov & Makarkin (2017) state that no paper dealing with the occurrence of *P. similis* was published since the work of Martynova (1957).

The very similar and closely allied species *P. connexa* McLachlan, 1869 was also considered to be an endemic species to the Caucasus, but Willmann (1975, 1978) reported more records from northernmost Turkey by the Black Sea, but not deeply inland. Close to the Caucasus, only a few records from Artvin and Rize provinces are known (see Fig. 1).

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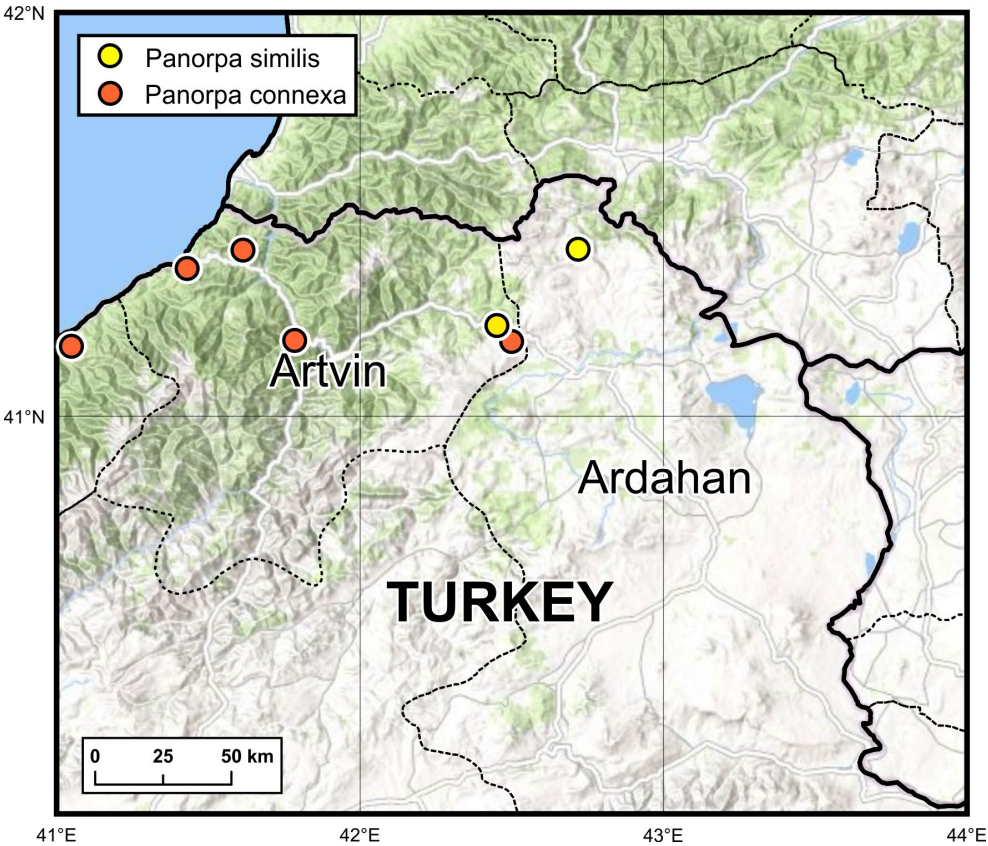


Fig. 1. Location of records of *Panorpa similis* Esben-Petersen, 1915 and *P. connexa* McLachlan, 1869 from northernmost Turkey. Orig. Jan Růžička.
Obr. 1. Lokalizace nálezů *Panorpa similis* Esben-Petersen, 1915 a *P. connexa* McLachlan, 1869 z nejsevernějšího Turecka. Orig. Jan Růžička.

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SOUHRN

Srpice *Panorpa similis* Esben-Petersen, 1915 je významným kavkazským endemitem, kde patří mezi nejhojnější druhy (Martynova 1957). Podobná je situace u druhu *P. connexa* McLachlan, 1869, který byl též považován za kavkazského endemita (Martynova 1957), ovšem později byla potvrzena také ze severovýchodního Turecka na pobřeží Černého moře Willmann (1975, 1978). Proto není žádným překvapením, že *P. similis* byla také nalezena v Turecku 23,5 a 11 km od hranic s Gruzií. Zde předkládané nálezy představují první údaje *P. similis* z Turecka.