
Fauna of hoverflies (Diptera: Syrphidae) of less explored Mediterranean mountains in Montenegro

Suzana Malidžan*^{†1}, Milica Ranković², Snežana Radenković², and Ante Vujić²

¹Natural History Museum of Montenegro, Podgorica, Montenegro – Montenegro

²University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Biology and Ecology, Novi Sad, Serbia – Serbia

Abstract

The fauna of hoverflies of Montenegro is rich with currently 386 registered species (Malidžan et al, in prep.), and a significant number of rare and endemic species. However, many parts of the country are still poorly explored, including some protected areas. There are 76 protected areas in Montenegro, which occupies 11.42% of the territory.

National Park Durmitor is the only well-studied protected area, while data for other ones are scarce and sporadic. This paper will provide an overview of the hoverflies fauna of the Mediterranean mountains Orjen and Lovćen, which have been the subject of research in the last few years. Orjen is a mountain in the southwest of Montenegro, located in the hinterland of the Bay of Kotor, and is under the direct influence of the Mediterranean climate. Researched sites on this mountain belong to the Nature Park Orjen. Lovćen mt rises from the borders of the Adriatic coast in the southwest of the country, and the influence of the Mediterranean is particularly strong on their southern parts. The central part of the Lovćen mountain belongs to the National Park Lovćen, as well as the researched localities. A total of 130 species, from 44 genera, have been registered in the investigated areas so far. Moreover, 15 species are recorded for the first time in Montenegro. Comparison of the similarity and differences of the species diversity between these two protected areas, as well as an overview of rare, endangered (of the European Red List), and endemic species are provided.

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*Speaker

[†]Corresponding author: suzana.malidzan@gmail.com