

Studies on the family Colletidae (Hym) in Egypt

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Survey made on certain plants at different localities in Egypt gave knowledge about more hosts and aiming to find new records of species in the Egyptian fauna. This work indicates also that, the collecting host plants are related to families, Umbelliferae, Labiatae, Geraniaceae, Leguminosae, Cruciferae, Compositae, Malvaceae and Tamaricaceae; it was observed that the species of the family Colletidae visiting the blooming plants from January till April, this work indicates that the species of family Colletidae were collected from many Governorates in Egypt extending from Alexandria Governorate in north to Qena Governorate in south. The present work revealed that family Colletidae in Egypt represented by two subfamilies including sixteen species: 1. Subfamily Hylaeinae (Prospinae) includes ten species in Egypt within one genus, three species are new records: 1. *Prosopis albonotata* Walk. 2. *P. brevicornis* (Nyl.) (new record). 3. *P. cypricola* Walck. 4. *P. dinkleri* Fr. 5. *P. gibba* (Saund) 6. *P. klugi* Fr. 7. *P. nigricornis* (Fr.) 8. *P. pycnantha* Br. (new record) 9. *P. variegata* (F.) (new record) 10. *P. xanthopoda* Vach. 2. Subfamily Colletinae recorded by one genus which includes six species, three of them were first record: 1. *Colletes cariniger* Perez (new record) 2. *C. lacunatus* Deurs. 3. *C. maidli* Hosk. (new record) 4. *C. nanus* Fr. 5. *Q. perezii* Morice. 6. *Q. pumilus* Morice (new record). Keys are constructed to separate the above species based upon the external taxonomic characters of males and females. These taxonomic characters which are used for separating the Egyptian species belonging to genus *Prosopis* were, the lateral face marks that portion between orbit, clypeus, supra-clypeal area and compound eyes; frontal hook; punctures and net-like on face; wing venation; size and colour of scape; the colour of mandibles and labrum; yellow markings on collar, tegula and tubercles; yellow mark on legs. But the taxonomic characters which are used for separating the Egyptian species belonging to genus *Colletes* were, wing venation; facial fovea; punctures and net-like on face; colour of mandibles, labrum and scape of antennae; the length of the joints of flagellum; the length and colour of tarsus and the abdominal bands. The present work also reports redescription in detail of all the species belonging to the family Colletidae in Egypt including the external characters of adult, and male genitalia with illustrated plates.