Book Review

Annotated Catalogue of the Ampulicidae, Sphecidae, and Crabronidae (Insecta: Hymenoptera) of Turkey


Annotated Catalogue of the Ampulicidae, Sphecidae, and Crabronidae (Insecta: Hymenoptera) of Turkey. Pensoft Series Faunistica No. 71, Sofia-Moscow, 316 p., 551 maps, English, ISSN 1312-0174

Studies of digger wasps (families Ampulicidae, Crabronidae, and Sphecidae) in Turkey have been carried out for more than 160 years. However, for first time two authors have generalized all published data in a complete Catalogue.

The catalogue is written in English and consists of preface, two introductory chapters, acknowledgments, systematic part, references, and index. In the Chapter ‘Preface’ the authors indicate the reasons for making this investigation and give historical notes of the studies of digger wasps in Turkey. The principal part of the book (pp. 9-299) contains a list of all subfamilies, tribes, subtribes and 715 nominal names proposed for 530 species and 19 subspecies from 78 genera. The family group-taxes are arranged according to the latest view of phylogenetic relationships of Apoidea while the species group-taxes follow alphabetical order. Citations of the original description (including the original binomen or trinomen) are represented for each valid species and subspecies. A chronological list of references to records from Turkey is given as each item includes page reference and announcement of the provinces where the species have been recorded. In addition, 551 maps illustrating provincial distribution are provided for each species and subspecies. The Catalogue contains also some nomenclatorial acts made in accordance with the rules of the last issue of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature: a) the spellings of eight species names are rectified; b) for one species the correct year of original description is given; c) two species are synonymized; d) one species is revalidated; e) lectotypes are designated for four taxa from the species-group. One genus and species, previously cited from the country is excluded from Turkish fauna for patria falsa. The Catalogue includes 138 reference titles and full index of the names from the genus and species taxa-groups.

The book is addressed to all worldwide specialists of digger wasp and anyone interested in Turkish fauna.

Borislav V. Guéorguiev
National Museum of Natural History, BAS