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## TWO SPECIES OF TIPULIDAE NEW FOR ITALY (Insecta, Diptera)

**SUMMARY** - *Tipula (Savtsbenkia) tulipa* Dufour, 1983 and *Dolicho-peza (Dolicho-peza) hispanica* Mannheims, 1951, recently collected in Western Piedmont (NW Italy), are recorded for the first time for the Italian fauna. Ecological notes on the collecting localities of these two species are briefly reported.

**RIASSUNTO** - *Due specie di Tipulidae nuove per l'Italia (Insecta, Diptera).*

Viene segnalata per la prima volta in Italia la presenza di *Tipula (Savtsbenkia) tulipa* Dufour, 1983 e *Dolicho-peza (Dolicho-peza) hispanica* Mannheims, 1951. Entrambe le specie sono state recentemente rinvenute in Piemonte occidentale, rispettivamente nell'alta Valle Po e sulla Collina di Torino; gli autori forniscono brevi notizie ecologiche sui siti di raccolta.

The most recent checklist for Italy mentions 174 species and subspecies of Tipulidae (Oosterbroek & Starý, 1995); this number of taxa is higher than in the surrounding countries (Spain 143, France 165, Switzerland 152, former Yugoslavia 152, Greece 164) and as such a good example of the high biodiversity of Italy, as found in other groups of organisms as well (Oosterbroek, 1994).

Among material recently collected by the junior author in NW Italy (Piedmont, provinces of Cuneo and Torino), two more species of Tipulidae were found which are new to the fauna of Italy. All the specimens here reported are now stored in the collections of the Zoological Museum, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

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### **Tipula (Savtshenkia) tulipa** Dufour, 1983

This species was described after two males, from two xerothermic localities in Switzerland (Dufour, 1983). During his very detailed study of the Swiss Tipulidae fauna, Dufour analysed over 33.000 specimens, but additional material of *T. tulipa* was not found (Dufour, 1986; Dufour, in litteris, 1999).

It therefore came as a surprise to find another male of this apparently very rare species among material of Tipulidae collected in Piedmont. The two Swiss localities (Vuisse, Valais, 518 m above sea level, and Clegia Schlucht, Engadine, 1580 m, see also Dufour, 1986: map 52) are both warm continental with precipitations below 1000 mm.

The male from Italy was collected in an alpine grassland at the Pian della Regina, about 1700 m above sea level, near Crissolo (Cuneo province) (fig. 1). The locality Pian della Regina is placed in the protected area of the regional park "Parco del Po, tratto cuneese". In the high Po valley, contrary to the previously known localities of *T. tulipa*, xerothermic biotas are absent and the atmospheric humidity is very high by the absence of steady winds; the annual rainfall is between 1000 and 2000 mm (De Biaggi *et al.*, 1990).

*T. tulipa* is a summer species, collected in Engadine on July 6, 1979, in Valais between August 3-8, 1980, and in the Po valley on July 16, 1991. On the two last-mentioned dates the species was collected at light, so apparently it is active during the late evening or night.

### **Dolichozepeza (Dolichozepeza) hispanica** Mannheims, 1951

This species was known from Morocco (High Atlas), Spain and southern France (Pyrénées Orientales and Var). Italian material comes from two localities in central Piedmont and lying in the province of Torino (1 male, 1 female: San Sebastiano da Po, along Leona torrent, about 165 m above sea level, July 23, 1999; 1 female: Pecetto Torinese, Tetti Rosero, 430 m above sea level; August 28, 1999). These two localities are included in the eco-geographical sector named Collina di Torino: in this hilly area the forest cover is remarkable, particularly on its northern sides (De Biaggi *et al.*, 1990).

Members of the subgenus *Dolichozepeza* are in general confined to moist shadowrich places where the larvae feed on mosses and liverworts. The two Italian collecting sites are both damp and shaded biota, too: at San Se-

bastiano da Po a couple was collected along a stream having on either side *Alnus viridis* and *Salix alba*, whereas the specimen from Pecetto Torinese lived in a dense, shadowrich and mixed broad-leaved wood formed by *Castanea sativa*, *Robinia pseudacacia*, *Quercus* spp., *Acer campestre*, *Prunus* sp. and *Carpinus betulus*, with shrubs of *Corylus avellana* and *Sambucus nigra*.



Fig. 1 - Crissolo (CN), Pian della Regina, the collecting site of *Tipula (S.) tulipa* (photo G.B. Delmastro, 09.VI.1999).

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