

First record of *Sphedanolestes cingulatus* (Fieber, 1864) (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Reduviidae) in Greece

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ABSTRACT: The first record of *Sphedanolestes cingulatus* (Fieber, 1864) for Greece is reported. Information on the known distribution of this species in the Mediterranean Region is summarized and discussed.

KEYWORDS: *Sphedanolestes cingulatus*, first record, distribution, Mediterranean Region.

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INTRODUCTION

The genus *Sphedanolestes* Stål, 1867 belongs to the subfamily Harpactorinae of the Reduviidae (Hemiptera: Heteroptera). *Sphedanolestes cingulatus* (Fieber, 1864), a red and dark-coloured reduviid of 10 to 12 mm in length, has been assumed to be endemic to mainland Italy and the Italian island of Sicily (Ippolito, 1990; Putshkov & Putshkov, 1996; Putshkov & Moulet, 2009; Dioli et al., 2020).

The known distribution area of this species has been expanded, as a specimen of *S. cingulatus* was found on the Greek island of Corfu.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

On 26.06.2010, Vladimir Deulin photographed a specimen of *S. cingulatus* in the village of Liapades at the western coast of Corfu (Fig. 1). The specimen was found on a flowering *Myrtus communis* L. (Myrtaceae) about one meter above the ground (Vladimir Deulin, personal communication). The photo was published in the online database iNaturalist (Deulin, 2019).

DISCUSSION

The island of Corfu is located near the Italian coast. Thus, *S. cingulatus* was probably transported “accidentally” to

Corfu by a ship coming from Italy. As *S. cingulatus* has not been reported for Greece in scientific publications yet, the record reported in this note is the first one for this country.

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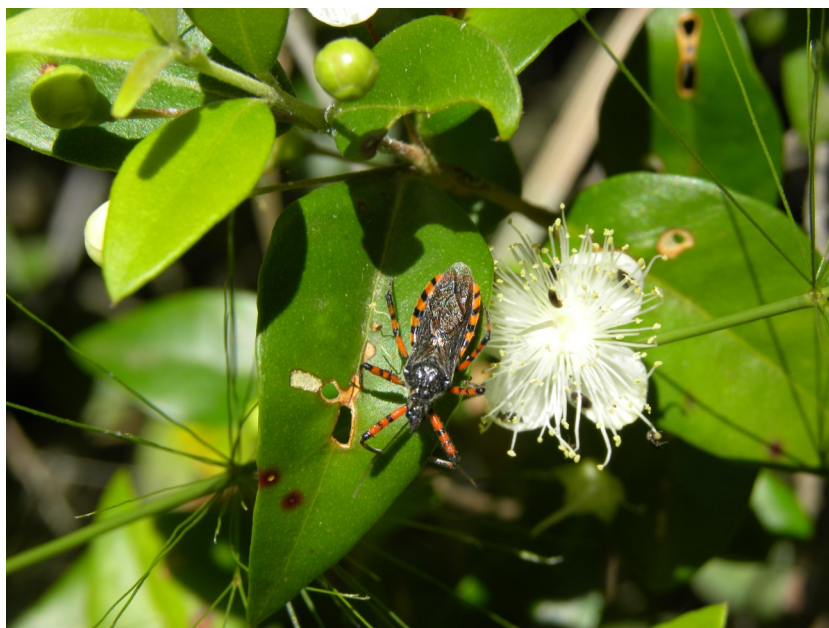


Figure 1. Specimen of *Sphedanolestes cingulatus* (Fieber, 1864), Liapades, Corfu, Greece, 26.06.2010. (Photo: Vladimir Deulin).