

## **Insect biodiversity of the Socotra Archipelago – underlined and counted**

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**Abstract.** Altogether, 1,564 species taxa (identified at least to the genus level) from 25 orders of Hexapoda have been recorded from the Socotra Archipelago to date. In addition, members of Diplura and Ephemeroptera are known from the archipelago as well, but they have not been identified so far. The most speciose order in Socotra are beetles (Coleoptera) with 540 species. The total number of endemic taxa described from the archipelago is 662 species, which represents 42% of all known species. The vast majority of species is known from the main Socotra Island (1,520 species, 635 endemic taxa). The diversity of insects in Socotra is briefly commented on and compared with the nearest archipelago – the Seychelles.

**Key words.** Hexapoda, biodiversity, endemism, insect survey, Socotra, Yemen

### **Introduction**

An extensive research of invertebrate diversity of the Socotra Archipelago in the last 20 years resulted in numerous publications containing descriptions of new taxa as well as new faunistic records from Socotra. The majority of these outputs were based on research of Czech naturalists realised between 1999–2012 and published in HÁJEK & BEZDĚK (2012, 2014). Due to that, the numbers of known species occurring in the archipelago were doubled for some groups (e.g. Neuroptera, Diptera, Hymenoptera), or even multiplied (e.g. Psylloidea, Coleoptera), since the last published summation (WRANIK 2000).

With the present third ‘Supplementum’, we virtually close our research of insect biodiversity of the Socotra Archipelago – with the exception of Hemiptera, the vast majority of material collected during the Czech expedition has been processed and the results have been published – therefore we take advantage of this occasion to summarise our knowledge

about insects living in Socotra. Rather than an exhaustive checklist of all taxa, we focus on total numbers of species and the portions of endemic taxa, and a brief summary of what was achieved in different insect orders based on the excerption of available literature – thus the specialists can easily find all relevant information for the groups of their interest. Moreover, the work is supplemented with a brief summary of the history of entomological research of the archipelago.

## Material and methods

For this publication, we treat insects in the broad sense as the whole Hexapoda. The numbers of recorded species were compiled based exclusively on published sources. For each group, we mention: 1) all references containing information about the occurrence of insect species (identified at least to the genus level) in the Socotra Archipelago; 2) information about the total numbers of species recorded from Socotra; 3) information about numbers, eventually also a list of endemic taxa. For the evaluation purpose, the fauna of insects of the Socotra Archipelago is compared with the nearest archipelago of continental origin in the Indian Ocean – the Seychelles (see also BATELKA 2012a).

### The history of biological exploration of the Socotra Archipelago

In this section we provide a brief summary of the entomological (biological) research on the Socotra Archipelago. Due to problematic accessibility as well as frequent political instability of the region, the biological research of the archipelago can be divided to several more or less distinct periods.

**Period pre-1850.** Pioneer biological visits of Socotra. The biological exploration of Socotra began in 1834, when lieutenants Charles J. Cruttenden, Stafford B. Haines, and James R. Wellsted landed at Socotra Island on the survey ship *Palinurus*, made some notes about the fauna and flora, collected some plants and published the first modern map of Socotra Island (WELLSTED 1835, BOXHALL 1966).

Crew of the ship *La Prévoyante* with the French officer Georges Charles Cloué and the botanist Auguste Pervillé from the Paris museum visited Socotra on December 1–8, 1841 (JACKSON 1892a,b). From the material collected by Cloué and Pervillé, the first three Socotran beetles were described: *Julodis clouei* Buquet, 1843 (Buprestidae), *MalloDON arabicum* Buquet, 1843 (Cerambycidae), and *Histeromorphus plicatus* Kraatz, 1865 (Tenebrionidae) (BUQUET 1843a,b; KRAATZ 1865).

**Period 1880–1899.** An era of the first, more or less specialized, biological expeditions. The team of Isaac Bayley Balfour spent 48 days on the island in 1880, making zoological, geological and above all botanical collections (BALFOUR 1888, WRANIK 2003). Only one year later, two German naturalists, Georg August Schweinfurth and Emil Riebeck, spent six weeks on Socotra in April and May 1881 (NEUMANN & GEDEON 2009).

When Socotra became a British Protectorate in 1886, the number of visits of the island remarkably increased. The archaeologists Mabel Virginia Anna Bent and her husband James

Theodore Bent accompanied Ernest N. Bennett, stayed two months in turn of years 1896/1897 in Socotra and collected one hundred specimens of insects (WRANIK 2003).

Until 1898, no purely zoological expedition was made on Socotra. The first dedicated zoological research trip was led by William Robert Ogilvie-Grant from the British Museum and Henry Ogg Forbes from Liverpool Museum. They reached the archipelago on December 3, 1898 and spent about three months not only in Socotra but visited also Abd el Kuri and Samha (FORBES 1903a).

In 1899, an Austrian expedition, under the lead of the linguist David Heinrich Müller landed on the west coast of Socotra. The members of team were also the entomologist Oskar Simony and Stefan Paulay, the ship's surgeon with a special interest in botany. Among the recorded animals brought to Vienna were about 4,000 insects (of about 500 species) (MÜLLER 1907, WRANIK 2003). After this Austrian expedition in 1899, there was about a half-century gap in biological research of the archipelago.

**Period 1953–1967.** After the World War Two, a new stage of Socotra exploration began in January 1953 when the British entomologist George Popov visited Socotra and studied the locusts for the Desert Locust Survey in Nairobi. Popov himself published a review of the desert locusts of Socotra (POPOV 1959), a revision of saltatorian fauna (UVAROV & POPOV 1957) and systematically described the Socotran vegetation (POPOV 1957).

The University of Oxford Expedition in 1956, led by Douglas Botting, aimed to carry a general scientific reconnaissance. The party of six experts conducted ethnographic, archeological and medical research, collected flora and fauna, and did vegetation surveys of parts of the island visited (BOTTING 1958).

The major multidisciplinary Middle East Command Expedition in spring 1967 was the most important in this period. Zoological observations were carried out by Kenneth M. Guichard and G. Frazer Jenkins. Guichard himself collected large amounts of material of various invertebrates, which became an important resource of specimens for subsequent entomological publications (WRANIK 2003).

The British withdrew from Yemen in 1967 and Socotra became closed to further biological exploration.

**Period 1982–2014.** Modern biological exploration is closely connected with activities of the German zoologist Wolfgang Wranik from the University of Rostock. In 1982, experts from the Geographical and Biological Departments of the University of Aden accompanied by Wranik visited Socotra. After that, Wranik himself visited Socotra Island many times between 1982 and 2005 under various projects and collaborated with many specialists in various zoological fields. In 1998 and 1999, experts visited Socotra (e.g. Hans Pohl, Kay Van Damme) under the UNDP/GEF project 'Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Biodiversity of Socotra Archipelago'.

During the years 2007 and 2010, six scientific expeditions were organized by the University of Pavia to collect data under the framework of the 'Socotra Conservation and Development Project', funded by the Italian Cooperation – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and under the auspice of the United Nations Development Programme. Important material of invertebrates was collected also by Antonius van Harten during his three visits in 1993, 1999, and 2000.

In this period we include also the short trips conducted by various enthusiastic collectors whose visited the archipelago either as tourists or associated with some project. We can mention for example Petr Zabransky (1993), Jean-Guy Canu (1993, 1997), Pietro Lo Cascio and Flavia Grita (2009), Aidias Saldaitis (2008–2010), Attilio Carapezza (2006, 2008, 2014), Ron & Rob Felix (2009, 2010), and Mostafa R. Sharaf (2014).

**Czech biological research 1999–2012.** The Czech expeditions are listed separately as the material collected by the Czech specialists became the basis for modern quantification of Socotran insects. Special collecting methods like sifting, beating, collecting at light during the whole night, suction sampling, were used to collect the insects. Czech specialists visited Socotra under various projects and grants, here we are listing the projects, their participants and years of visit:

The first zoological trips to Socotra were realised under the framework of the ‘Czech development aid provided for the Yemen Republic’, organised by the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague. The participants collecting insects were Vladimír Bejček and Karel Šťastný (1999–2004), Jan Farkač, Petr Kabátek, and David Král (2003), and Antonín Reiter (2004).

Three trips were organised under the project of the European Union structural funds ‘Management of natural resources in tropics and subtropics – innovation of study programmes at Faculty of Forestry and Wood technology, Mendel University in Brno’. Vladimír Hula (2009), Luboš Purchart, and Jan Vybíral (2009, 2010) participated in this project.

Finally, the three latest, and the most focused on arthropod biodiversity, expeditions were organised under the project of Vladimír Hula ‘Participation of young scientists of MZLU Brno to the research activities of IUFRO – the global network for forest science cooperation’. The following specialists took part in the trips: Vladimír Hula and Jana Niedobová (2010); Jan Batelka, Jan Bezděk, Jiří Hájek, Peter Hlaváč, and Luboš Purchart (2010); and Jan Bezděk, Jiří Hájek, Vladimír Hula, Petr Kment, Igor Malenovský, Jana Niedobová, and Luboš Purchart (2012).

**Post-2014 situation.** Deterioration of the political situation since 2012 and beginning of the civil war in 2015 froze most of research activities in Socotra. Although the island is not directly involved in the conflict, Socotra is currently almost inaccessible for foreign specialists and we are not aware of any entomological trip after 2014.

## Systematic account of insects of the Socotra Archipelago

The list of orders with total numbers of species and numbers of endemic taxa recorded from the Socotra Archipelago is summarised in Table 1.

### Diplura

**Literature sources.** WRANIK (2000, 2003).

**Comments.** WRANIK (2000, 2003) recorded unidentified specimens of the family Japygidae.

### Collembolla

**Literature sources.** BRETFELD (2000, 2005), WRANIK (2000, 2003), BARRA (2004, 2006), WEINER et al. (2012).

**Comments.** Altogether 29 species (21 of them endemic) from the families Bourletiellidae, Dicyrtomidae, Entomobryidae, Hypogastruridae, Isotomidae, Katiannidae, Neanuridae, Paronellidae, and Sminthuridae were recorded from Socotra Island. Not recorded from Abd el Kuri, Darsa, and Samha.

### Zygentoma

**Literature sources.** WRANIK (1998, 2003), MENDES (2004).

**Comments.** Fauna of *Zygentoma* was revised in detail by MENDES (2004) who recorded 12 species (nine of them endemic to Socotra) in the families Lepismatidae and Nicoletiidae.

### Archaeognatha

**Literature sources.** WRANIK (1998, 2003), STURM (2002).

**Comments.** Only one species, *Afrochilis insularis* Sturm, 2002 (Machilidae), described from Socotra by STURM (2002), is recorded from the archipelago.

### Ephemeroptera

**Literature sources.** WRANIK (1998, 2003).

**Comments.** Unidentified Ephemeroptera were recorded from Socotra.

### Odonata

**Literature sources.** McLACHLAN et al. (1898), McLACHLAN (1903), KIMMINS (1960), ST. QUENTIN (1968), PINHEY (1970), GUICHARD (1992), SCHNEIDER & DUMONT (1998), WRANIK (1998, 2003), MAY (2002), NASHER & AL JUMAILY (2003), SUHLING et al. (2003), CHEUNG & DeVANTIER (2006), RISERVATO et al. (2010), BATELKA (2012a), SCHNEIDER & NASHER (2013).

**Comments.** One of the best known insect groups in the Socotra Archipelago. Data were recently summarized e.g. by RISERVATO et al. (2010) or SCHNEIDER & NASHER (2013). Up till now, five species of Zygoptera (family Coenagrionidae) and 16 species of Anisoptera (families Aeshnidae – 2 species, Gomphidae – 1 species, Libellulidae – 13 species) have been recorded. *Azuragrion granti* (McLachlan, 1903) is the only species endemic to Socotra.

### Orthoptera

**Literature sources.** TASCHENBERG (1883), KARSCH (1886), BURR (1898, 1899a,b, 1903), KRAUSS (1900, 1902, 1907), KIRBY (1910), UVAROV (1921, 1950), MISTSHENKO (1936), DIRSH (1951), DIRSH & UVAROV (1953), RAGGE (1956, 1968, 1980), UVAROV & POPOV (1957), POPOV (1959, 1981, 1984, 1997), WALKER (1966), JAGO (1967, 1977, 1996), HOLLIS (1968), POPOV & RATCLIFFE (1968), DESCAMPS (1970, 1977), KEVAN (1973), HSIUNG & KEVAN (1975), RITCHIE (1981), GUICHARD (1992), GOROCHOV (1993), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003), CHEUNG & DeVANTIER (2006), MASSA (2009, 2017), HUSEMANN et al. (2011), BATELKA (2012a), DESUTTER-GRANDCOLAS & FELIX (2012).

**Comments.** Altogether 59 species (30 of them endemic) in 10 families are recorded from the Socotra Archipelago. Most of them occur in Socotra, while only one species in Samha, one in Darsa, and three in Abd el Kuri. A comprehensive taxonomic and faunistic study on the Orthoptera fauna of the Socotra Archipelago is in preparation (Rob Felix, pers. comm. 2017).

### Mantodea

**Literature sources.** BURR (1899a, 1903), KRAUSS (1902, 1907), MARSHALL (1975), KALTENBACH (1982), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2003), ROY (2010).

**Comments.** Four species in two families (Empusidae and Mantidae) are recorded from the Socotra Archipelago. Three of them are considered endemic to Socotra: *Empusa simonyi* Krauss, 1902, *Teddia dioscoris* Burr, 1899, and *Sphodromantis socotrana* Roy, 2010.

### Blattodea

**Literature sources.** BURR (1898, 1899a, 1903), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003).

**Comments.** Seven species from the families Blaberidae, Blattidae, and Ectobiidae were recorded from Socotra. Only *Loboptera peculiaris* Burr, 1899 is treated as endemic to the island (WRANIK 2003).

### Blattodea: Isoptera

**Literature sources.** FORBES (1903b), HARRIS (1954), SANDS (1992), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2003), BATELKA (2012a), SCHEFFRAHN & KŘEČEK (2017).

**Comments.** HARRIS (1954) described two endemic species from Socotra Island: *Amitermes socotrensis* Harris, 1954 and *Procryptotermes dioscurae* Harris, 1954. Additional three species identified only to the genus level (*Angulitermes* sp., *Heterotermes* sp., *Microcerotermes* sp.) were mentioned by WRANIK (2003).

### Dermaptera

**Literature sources.** BURR (1898, 1903, 1905), KRAUSS (1907), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2003), HAAS et al. (2004), KOČÁREK (2014).

**Comments.** Socotran species were the object of two recent revisions by HAAS et al. (2004) and KOČÁREK (2014). Currently, 13 species from the families Anisolabidae, Labiduridae, Forficulidae, and Spongiphoridae are recorded from the archipelago. Seven species, i.e. 54% of the fauna, are considered endemic to Socotra.

### Embioptera

**Literature sources.** WRANIK (1999, 2003).

**Comments.** Two widely distributed species, *Oligotoma humbertiana* (Saussure, 1896) and *O. saundersii* (Westwood, 1837), are known from Socotra (WRANIK 2003).

## Psocoptera

**Literature sources.** LIENHARD (1995), WRANIK (2000, 2003).

**Comments.** Only two species, both endemic, were described directly from Socotra Island by LIENHARD (1995): *Cerobasis socotrae* Lienhard, 1995 and *Asiopsocus vanharteni* Lienhard, 1995.

## Phthiraptera

**Literature sources.** WRANIK (1999, 2000, 2003), REED et al. (2004), RAOULT et al. (2008).

**Comments.** Two worldwide distributed species attacking humans, *Pediculus humanus* Linnaeus, 1758 and *P. capitis* De Geer, 1778, are known from Abd el Kuri, Samha, and Socotra.

*Pectinopygus socotranus* Timmermann, 1964, an ectoparasite on *Phalacrocorax nigrogularis* (Aves), was described from mainland Yemen (Aden). Although its species name refers to Socotra, we did not find any reference mentioning its occurrence in Socotra. This species is not included in the species account.

## Hemiptera: Auchenorrhyncha

**Literature sources.** TASCHENBERG (1883), KIRKALDY (1899, 1903), MELICHAR (1902, 1923), DISTANT (1903, 1905), GUICHARD (1992), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003), CHEUNG & DeVANTIER (2006), ŚWIERCZEWSKI et al. (2014, 2017), STROŃSKI et al. (2016, in press a, in press b).

**Comments.** To date only 18 species have been recorded from Socotra, of them 13 taxa are identified to the species level. Seven genera and ten species are treated as endemic. Auchenorrhyncha is under an intensive ongoing study and it is expected that the number of species will significantly increase.

## Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha: Psylloidea

**Literature sources.** BURCKHARDT & MIFSUD (1998), MALENOVSKÝ & BURCKHARDT (2014, 2015).

**Comments.** The fauna of Psylloidea was recently revised by MALENOVSKÝ & BURCKHARDT (2014). They recognized eight species in five families; five species are treated as endemic to Socotra.

## Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha: Aphidomorpha

**Literature sources.** HARTEN et al. (1994), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003).

**Comments.** To date five species in two families have been recorded from Socotra. No endemic species in Socotra.

## Hemiptera: Sternorrhyncha: Coccoomorpha

**Literature sources.** COOLEY (1899), LINDINGER (1913), MILLER et al. (1998), WRANIK (2000, 2003).

**Comments.** Three species are recorded from Socotra: *Affirmaspis socotrana* (Lindinger, 1913) and *Pinnaspis dracaenae* (Cooley, 1899) from the family Diaspididae, and *Maconelicoccus hirsutus* (Green, 1908) from the family Pseudococcidae. *Affirmaspis socotrana* is treated as a species endemic to Socotra.

### Hemiptera: Heteroptera

**Literature sources.** TASCHENBERG (1883), KIRKALDY (1899, 1903), DISTANT (1901, 1903), BROWN (1956), LANSBURY (1964), USINGER (1966), SCUDDER (1967), EYLES (1973), ANDERSEN (1980), GÖLLNER-SCHIEDING (1980), LINNAVUORI (1989, 1994, 1997), RIBES & SCHMITZ (1992), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003), LINNAVUORI & HARTEN (2000, 2002), LIS (2000), MOULET (2001, 2004), CHEUNG & DeVANTIER (2006), CARAPEZZA (2011), DECKERT (2012), KMENT et al. (2015a,b, 2017).

**Comments.** At present days the fauna of Heteroptera is intensively studied. To date 60 species from 51 genera and 22 families have been published from Socotra. Of them one genus (*Socantestia* Ribes & Schmitz, 1992) and 18 species (30%) are treated as endemic. Only one species, *Chroantha ornatura* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1842), is recorded from Abd el Kuri. Based on the preliminary information published by KMENT et al. (2015a,b), the number of species will rapidly increase in the near future, as currently 196 species from 153 genera and 31 families are recorded and waiting to be published. Heteroptera shows high level of endemism (ca. 57 species and 10 genera, i.e. 29%), however, in some phytophagous families (Miridae, Tingidae) the endemism reaches even 52%.

### Thysanoptera

**Literature sources.** WRANIK (2003), STRASSEN (2004).

**Comments.** Socotran Thysanoptera were revised by STRASSEN (2004) who recognized 13 species in two families, Thripidae (ten species) and Phlaeothripidae (three species). No endemic taxa in Socotra.

### Neuroptera

**Literature sources.** TASCHENBERG (1883), KIRBY (1903b), KIMMINS (1960), TJEDER (1974, 1975), GUICHARD (1992), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003), WHITTINGTON (2002), ÁBRAHÁM (2010, 2011).

**Comments.** Altogether 21 species are recorded from Socotra, 17 of them identified to the species level, eight species (38%) are considered to be endemic to the archipelago. The most diverse family of Neuroptera is Myrmeleontidae with 13 identified species and at least two additional taxa identified only to the genus level (WHITTINGTON 2002; ÁBRAHÁM 2010, 2011). The family Nemopteridae contains three species and Ascalaphidae one species (TJEDER 1974, 1975; ÁBRAHÁM 2010). Species of Chrysopidae and Mantispidae have been recorded but not yet identified (e.g. KIMMINS 1960, WRANIK 2003).

### Mecoptera

**Literature sources.** RUST & BYERS (1976), PENNY & BYERS (1979), LONDT (2001).



**Comments.** One species, the widely distributed Afrotropical *Bittacus chevalierii* (Navás, 1908), is recorded from Socotra (LONDT 2001).

### Coleoptera

**Literature sources.** BUQUET (1843a,b,c), KRAATZ (1865), WATERHOUSE (1881), TASCHENBERG (1883), GAHAN (1900, 1903), LAMEERE (1902), LESNE (1906, 1915), SCHMIDT (1911), ARROW (1915), AURIVILLIUS (1922), CSIKI (1931), LOTTE (1938), KOCH (1943, 1970), BRITTON (1948), BREUNING (1949), PETROVITZ (1962), DELLACASA (1979), PENRITH (1983a,b), BILÝ (1984, 2005, 2012), ŠVIHLA (1986, 1987, 2004, 2008, 2012), VIGNA TAGLIANTI & BRUSCHI (1990), GUICHARD (1992), ANTOINE (1993), ANONYMOUS (1994), LACROIX (1994, 1999, 2002), LEVEY & VOLKOVITSH (1996), BOLOGNA & PINTO (1998), CAMBEFORT (1998), CASSOLA & WRANIK (1998), SABATINELLI & PONTUALE (1998), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003), PERRIN (2000), RAIMUNDO & HARTEN (2000), ADLBAUER (2002, 2004, 2005), KEJVAL (2002, 2012), GEISTHARDT (2003), HEYNDERICX (2003), NASHER & AL JUMAILY (2003), CASSOLA & POHL (2004), JIROUX et al. (2004), NEUMANN et al. (2004), SCHAWALLER (2004, 2006), TOSKINA (2004), WEWALKA (2004), ZABRANSKY (2004), BELLÉS (2005, 2009, 2012), CHEUNG & DEVANTIER (2006), RAIMUNDO et al. (2006), BOLOGNA & TURCO (2007), HÁVA (2007a,b, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2017), LACKNER & KAPLER (2007), NOVÁK (2007), TÉOCCHI et al. (2007), HOLZSCHUH (2008), KIRSCHENHOFER (2008, 2010), KOPECKÝ (2009), LO CASCIO & GRITA (2009, 2011), PURCHART (2009, 2012, 2013, 2014a,b), THÉRY et al. (2009), BRUSCHI (2010), KNÍŽEK (2010, 2012a,b), OBYDOV & SALDAITIS (2010), SANTOS-SILVA et al. (2010), SCHÖLLER et al. (2010), HALSTEAD (2011, 2012), HROMÁDKA (2011), ASSING (2012, 2013, 2015), AUDISIO (2012), BATELKA (2012a,b), BEZDĚK J. (2012a,b, 2013), DELOBEL (2012), DÖBERL (2012), FARKAČ & HÄCKEL (2012), FELIX et al. (2012), FIKÁČEK et al. (2012), GILDENKOV (2012), GIMMEL (2012), HÁJEK & KABÁTEK (2012), HLAVÁČ (2012), HORÁK et al. (2012), JÁCH & DELGADO (2012), KRÁL & KUBÁŇ (2012), KRÁL et al. (2012), KUNDRATA (2012), LÖBL (2012), MEDVEDEV (2012), NOVÁK & PURCHART (2012), PLATIA (2012, 2014), PURCHART & NABOZHENKO (2012), PURCHART & SCHAWALLER (2012), RÜCKER (2012), SCHAWALLER & PURCHART (2012), SCHUH (2012), ŠÍPEK et al. (2012), ŚWIĘTOJAŃSKA & BOROWIEC (2012), VOLKOVITSH (2012), ZOIA (2012), BEZDĚK A. et al. (2013, 2017), HÁVA et al. (2013a,b), ANLAŞ & FRISCH (2014), BATELKA & BOLOGNA (2014), BOLZ & WAGNER (2014), COLONNELLI (2014), FELIX (2014, 2017), GUÉORGUIEV et al. (2014), HÁJEK & REITER (2014), HERNANDO & RIBERA (2014), HLAVÁČ & BAŇAŘ (2014), KOLIBÁČ (2014), KRÁL (2014), SCHÖLLER (2014), SEHNAL et al. (2014, 2017), SKALICKÝ (2014), SKUHROVEC & KRESL (2014), FRISCH (2015), GEIS (2015), MICHAT et al. (2015), ZAHRADNÍK (2015), PRATHAPAN (2016), BIONDI & D'ALESSANDRO (2017), BOROWSKI & ŚLAWSKI (2017), FRIEDMAN (2017), GEISER (2017), GERSTMIEER (2017), HÁJEK & JELÍNEK (2017), LACKNER & VIENNA (2017), LORENC (2017), NABOZHENKO & PURCHART (2017), PLONSKI (2017), PURCHART & KAMIŃSKI (2017), STRAKA et al. (2017), FOUQUÉ (in press).

**Comments.** Coleoptera have been intensively studied during the last 15 years, which has resulted in many publications with new descriptions and records. Actually, Coleoptera is the most species-rich insect order in the Socotra Archipelago with 537 recorded species (307 of them endemic). Most families were recently revised. A comprehensive catalogue of beetles is in preparation (Hájek & J. Bezděk, in prep.).

### Strepsiptera

**Literature sources.** WRANIK (2003), POHL & BEUTEL (2005), BENDA (2016).

**Comments.** Only one species, *Xenos zavattarii* (Pierce, 1911) (Xenidae), is recorded from Socotra (POHL & BEUTEL 2005).

### Diptera

**Literature sources.** TASCHENBERG (1883), McLACHLAN et al. (1898), THEOBALD (1901), RICARDO & THEOBALD (1903), HENDEL (1907), AUSTEN (1909), BECKER (1910), ALEXANDER (1920), BEZZI (1924), ENDERLEIN (1928), HE-

RING (1939), EDWARDS (1941), MEILLON (1947), LEESON & THEODOR (1948), HULL (1949, 1962), MATTINGLY (1953), STUCKENBERG (1954), MATTINGLY & KNIGHT (1956), OLDROYD (1964), BEYER (1965), GREATHEAD (1969, 2003, 2004), LEHRER (1970, 2003, 2005, 2006), PONT (1972), LYNEBORG (1976, 1989), CROSSKEY (1977, 1980), HUANG (1977), BAEZ (1980), TOWNSEND (1990), GUICHARD (1992), MATHIS (1993), TSACAS & ARTIGAS (1994), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003), GREATHEAD & EVENHUIS (2001), CROSSKEY et al. (2002), GELLER-GRIMM (2002), HAUSER (2002), MERZ (2002), SCARBROUGH (2002, 2010), NASHER & AL JUMAILY (2003), VERVES (2003), LONDT (2005, 2006, 2008), CHEUNG & DeVANTIER (2006), COURI et al. (2006), GRICHANOV (2006), BRAKE (2009, 2011), HANCOCK (2010), AL-KUBATI et al. (2011), MARSHALL et al. (2011), JEŽEK & TKOČ (2012), TOMASOVIC (2012), VIKHREV (2012), TKOČ & ROZKOŠNÝ (2014), SMIT et al. (2017).

**Comments.** Actually, 165 species are recorded from the Socotra Archipelago, 38 of them (= 23%) are treated as endemic. However, only some families have been well studied: Asilidae (e.g. GELLER-GRIMM 2002, LONDT 2008), Bombyliidae (GREATHEAD 1969, 2004; GREATHEAD & EVENHUIS 2001), Culicidae (e.g. LEESON & THEODOR 1948, MATTINGLY & KNIGHT 1956), Limoniidae (HANCOCK 2010), Psychodidae (JEŽEK & TKOČ 2012), or Stratiomyidae (HAUSER 2002, TKOČ & ROZKOŠNÝ 2014). Most other families are still awaiting a comprehensive revision.

### Siphonaptera

**Literature sources.** BAKER (1895), WRANIK (1999, 2000, 2003).

**Comments.** Three widely distributed species from the family Pulicidae are reported from Socotra: *Ctenocephalides felis strongylus* (Jordan, 1927), *Synosternus pallidus* (Taschenberg, 1880), and *Xenopsylla cheopis* (Rothschild, 1903).

### Trichoptera

**Literature sources.** WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003), MALICKY (1999).

**Comments.** Altogether four species are recorded from Socotra. Two of them, *Ecnomus homhilensis* Malicky, 1999 and *Chimarra deksamensis* Malicky, 1999, are treated as endemic.

### Lepidoptera

**Literature sources.** BUTLER (1881, 1897), TASCHENBERG (1883), DIXEY (1898), HAMPSON (1899, 1900, 1901a,b, 1902, 1903, 1905, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1912, 1913a,b, 1926, 1930), OGLIVIE-GRANT (1899, 1903), REBEL (1899, 1907), WALSHINGHAM (1900, 1903), ROTHSCHILD & JORDAN (1903), FLETCHER (1910), STRAND (1916), TAMS (1924), MEYRICK (1933), JORDAN (1939), GHESQUIÈRE (1942), BERIO (1950), STORACE (1955), FLETCHER (1961, 1967), WHALLEY (1963), SATTLER (1967, 1976), CARCASSON (1968), ROESLER (1973), ARENBERGER (1977, 2009), POPESCU-GORJ & CONSTANTINESCU (1977), SPEIDEL (1984), WILTSHIRE (1988), GUICHARD (1992), HERBULOT (1993, 1994, 1999), LÖDL (1994, 1995), HREBLAY (1996), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003), HACKER (1999, 2011, 2016), HEYNDERICX (2004), CHEUNG & DeVANTIER (2006), HACKER & FIBIGER (2006), HAUSMANN (2006, 2009), IVINSKIS & SALDAITIS (2008), BEHOUNEK et al. (2010), HACKER & SALDAITIS (2010, 2011), SALDAITIS & IVINSKIS (2010), YAKOVLEV & SALDAITIS (2010), BORTH et al. (2011), HAXAIRE & MELICHAR (2011), YAKOVLEV (2011), BATELKA (2012a), HACKER et al. (2012), FRIC & HULA (2013), NUPPONEN & SALDAITIS (2013), BENGTSOON (2014), FRIC et al. (2017).

**Comments.** With 286 species, Lepidoptera is the second most species-rich order of insects in the Socotra Archipelago. 105 species (36%) are endemic to the archipelago. Some groups were recently revised in detail, for example: Cossidae (BORTH et al. 2011), Geometridae (HAUSMANN 2006, 2009), Pterophoridae (ARENBERGER 2009), or Noctuoidea (HACKER 2016;

HACKER & SALDAITIS 2010, 2011). An actual list of 27 Socotran butterflies was published by FRIC & HULA (2013) and FRIC et al. (2017). However, other families like Pyralidae or Tortricidae are awaiting a comprehensive revision.

## Hymenoptera

**Literature sources.** KIRBY (1881, 1900, 1903a), TASCHENBERG (1883), MAYR (1886), McLACHLAN et al. (1898), FRIESE (1903, 1909, 1915), KOHL (1906, 1918), COCKERELL (1907, 1937), TURNER (1912), BEQUAERT (1918), BLÜTHGEN (1925), RICHARDS (1928, 1982), SCHULTHESS (1928), SOIKA (1934, 1940, 1941, 1960, 1974), NOSKIEWICZ (1936), BEAUMONT (1961), LIEFTINCK (1968), EMPEY (1973), BOUČEK (1974), PESENKO (1983), PAULY (1984, 1990, 2017), COLLINGWOOD (1985), EBMER (1985, 2000), PASTEELS (1985), LINSENMAIER (1987), HENSEN (1988), WOLF (1988), ACHTERBERG (1990), GUICHARD (1992), COLLINGWOOD & HARTEN (1994), PULAWSKI (1995, 2007), ARGAMAN (1996), COLLINGWOOD & AGOSTI (1996), KUHLMANN (1998, 2003, 2007), WRANIK (1998, 1999, 2000, 2003), BAKER (1999), OHL (1999), PAGLIANO (2002), SEIFERT (2003), COLLINGWOOD et al. (2004), PESENKO & PAULY (2005, 2009), CHEUNG & DeVANTIER (2006), LELEJ & HARTEN (2006), NOORT & HARTEN (2006), WAHIS (2006), ENGEL (2007), BONI BARTALUCCI (2010, 2016), JANŠTA (2012), LO CASCIO et al. (2012), LO CASCIO & PAGLIANO (2014), BENDA (2016), SHARAF et al. (2017), STRAKA et al. (2017).

**Comments.** Altogether 143 species are recorded from the Socotra Archipelago, 52 species (36%) of them are endemic. Some groups were studied in detail recently, for example Formicidae (COLLINGWOOD et al. 2004, SHARAF et al. 2017), Chalcidoidea (JANŠTA 2012), bees (STRAKA et al. 2017), or Mutillidae (LO CASCIO et al. 2012).

## Discussion

The total number of insect species known from the Socotra Archipelago has significantly increased since the first account by WRANIK (1998). Currently, 1,564 species of insects are known to occur in the Archipelago. The most species-rich orders are holometabolous Coleoptera (540 species), Lepidoptera (286), Diptera (165), and Hymenoptera (143); the only exception is hemimetabolous Heteroptera with an expected number of 196 species (KMENT et al. 2015a,b).

The overwhelming majority of species diversity is known from the main island of Socotra, which is certainly caused by a larger surface area and much more variable habitats in Socotra, but also by collecting bias in problematically accessible smaller islands. The distribution of insect orders in the particular islands is summarised in Table 2.

Although the number of insect species in Socotra nearly twice exceeded the number of plants known from the archipelago (MILLER & MORRIS (2004) mentioned 828 species of vascular plants in Socotra), the total number of insects is still quite low for the archipelago with a surface area of about 3,800 km<sup>2</sup>. The only possible place for comparison are the granitic Seychelles, which are however much smaller (surface area of about 455 km<sup>2</sup>, coral atolls included) and much older than Socotra (see also BATELKA 2012a). In almost all species-rich orders, the number of species is bigger by at least half in the Seychelles than in Socotra. The highest difference is in Diptera (630 species in the Seychelles, but only 165 species in Socotra) and Lepidoptera (552 species in the Seychelles, 286 species in Socotra); on the other hand similar numbers of species on both archipelagos are in Collembola, Odonata, or Orthoptera (GERLACH & MATYOT 2006; GERLACH & HAAS 2007; GERLACH 2008, 2009, 2013).

Table 1. The list of recorded orders with total numbers of species and numbers of taxa endemic to the Socotra Archipelago (in parentheses) in comparison with the fauna of the Seychelles.

	<b>Socotra</b> based on WRANIK (1998, 2000, 2003)	<b>Socotra</b> current status	<b>Seychelles</b> based on GERLACH (2008, 2009, 2013), GERLACH & HAAS (2007), GERLACH & MATYOT (2006)
Collembola	recorded	29 (21)	28 (18)
Diplura	recorded	recorded	2 (2)
Zygentoma	recorded	12 (9)	9 (3)
Archaeognatha	recorded	1 (1)	4 (4)
Ephemeroptera	recorded	recorded	3 (2)
Odonata	20 (1)	21 (1)	23 (6)
Orthoptera	54 (34)	59 (30)	71 (37)
Mantodea	3 (2)	4 (3)	4 (1)
Blattodea	7 (1)	7 (1)	48 (36)
Blattodea: Isoptera	5 (2)	5 (2)	8 (4)
Dermaptera	10 (3)	13 (7)	23 (4)
Embioptera	2 (0)	2 (0)	2 (0)
Phasmatodea	–	–	6 (6)
Psocoptera	2 (2)	2 (2)	58 (33)
Phthiraptera	2 (0)	2 (0)	10 (4)
Hemiptera: Auchenorrhyncha	6 (5)	18 (10)	156 (109)
Hemiptera: Psyllomorpha	–	8 (5)	3 (0)
Hemiptera: Aphidomorpha	2 (0)	5 (0)	3 (0)
Hemiptera: Coccoomorpha	recorded	3 (1)	74 (6)
Hemiptera: Heteroptera	40	196 (57)	254 (85)
Thysanoptera	recorded	13 (0)	18 (8)
Neuroptera	20 (8)	21 (8)	16 (3)
Mecoptera	–	1 (0)	–
Coleoptera	106 (37)	540 (307)	860 (506)
Strepsiptera	recorded	1 (0)	–
Diptera	75 (at least 10)	165 (38)	630 (295)
Siphonaptera	3 (0)	3 (0)	1 (0)
Trichoptera	4 (2)	4 (2)	12 (12)
Lepidoptera	191 (61)	286 (105)	552 (275)
Hymenoptera	90 (59)	143 (52)	266 (142)
<b>total</b>	<b>642</b> (227, = 35%)	<b>1564</b> (662, = 42%)	<b>3144</b> (1601, = 51%)

We are rather sure that collecting efforts in the Socotra Archipelago have been quite insufficient so far, and we expect many additional species to be found in Socotra, however, still even for the best studied group – Coleoptera, only 540 species are known from Socotra, while 860 species are known from the Seychelles (GERLACH 2009), and some groups of beetles, speciose in the adjacent regions, are completely missing in Socotra (e.g. Eucnemidae, Lycidae, Lampyridae, Cryptophagidae, Endomychidae, etc.). Although no such study exists for Socotran insects, we believe that the current unbalanced and rather poor fauna of insects of Socotra may be caused by arid climate of the archipelago, and especially by extinctions due to several historical major aridifications of the archipelago, which were documented e.g. by SHAKUN et al. (2007).

Table 2. Distribution of insect orders in the Socotra Archipelago and the particular islands (number of endemic species in parentheses: \* – species endemic only to the respective island, \*\* – species endemic to the Socotra Archipelago; i.e. species occurring in more than one island).

	Socotra Archipelago	Abd el Kuri	Darsa	Samha	Socotra
Collembola	29 (21)	–	–	–	29 (21*)
Diplura	recorded	–	–	–	recorded
Zygentoma	12 (9)	1 (1*)	–	–	11 (8*)
Archaeognatha	1 (1)	–	–	–	1 (1*)
Ephemeroptera	recorded	–	–	–	recorded
Odonata	21 (1)	1 (0)	–	5 (0)	21 (1*)
Orthoptera	59 (30)	3 (2*)	1 (0)	1 (0)	58 (28*)
Mantodea	4 (3)	1 (0)	1 (1**)	1 (1**)	3 (2*, 1**)
Blattodea	7 (1)	–	–	–	7 (1*)
Dermaptera	13 (7)	–	–	1 (0)	13 (7*)
Isoptera	5 (2)	–	–	–	5 (2*)
Embioptera	2 (0)	–	–	–	2 (0)
Psocoptera	2 (2)	–	–	–	2 (2*)
Phthiraptera	2 (0)	2 (0)	–	2 (0)	2 (0)
Hemiptera: Auchenorrhyncha	18 (10)	–	–	–	14 (7*)
Hemiptera: Psyllomorpha	8 (5)	–	–	–	8 (5*)
Hemiptera: Aphidomorpha	5 (0)	–	–	–	5 (0)
Hemiptera: Coccoomorpha	3 (1)	–	–	–	3 (1*)
Hemiptera: Heteroptera	196 (57)	1 (0)	–	–	195 (57*)
Thysanoptera	13 (0)	–	–	–	13 (0)
Neuroptera	21 (8)	–	–	–	21 (8*)
Mecoptera	1 (0)	–	–	–	1 (0)
Coleoptera	540 (307)	19 (6*, 6**)	7 (7**)	16 (10**)	531 (284*, 16**)
Strepsiptera	1 (0)	–	–	–	1 (0)
Diptera	165 (38)	20 (2*, 3**)	1 (1**)	4 (2**)	152 (31*, 4**)
Siphonaptera	3 (0)	–	–	–	3 (0)
Trichoptera	4 (2)	–	–	–	4 (2*)
Lepidoptera	286 (105)	31 (2*, 8**)	–	27 (13**)	276 (85*, 15**)
Hymenoptera	143 (52)	21 (4*, 3**)	1 (0)	12 (3**)	135 (40*, 6**)
<b>total</b>	<b>1564</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1520</b>
	(662, = 42%)	(17*, = 17%; 20**, = 20%)	(0*, 9**, = 82%)	(0*, 29**, = 42%)	(593*, = 39%; 42**, = 3%)

The preliminary list of endemic genus-level taxa was published by BATELKA (2012a) who mentioned 40 genera and subgenera. Since then, the tenebrionid genus *Apithesis* Waterhouse, 1881 has been synonymised with *Clitobius* Mulsant & Rey, 1859 (see PURCHART & KAMIŃSKI 2017), but many more endemic genera have been described, thus currently 67 genus-level taxa (62 genera and 5 subgenera) are considered endemic to the Socotra Archipelago (see Table 3). In addition, about nine yet undescribed genera of Heteroptera (KMENT et al. 2015a,b) are known to occur in Socotra, and will be described in the near future. The order with the highest number of endemic genus-level taxa is, mainly due to the extensive study in recent years, Coleoptera (34 genera and 4 subgenera).

662 insect species are currently considered endemic to the archipelago. That represents 42% of all species. Within the orders that have more than ten species in Socotra, the highest percentage of endemism have, naturally, flightless orders as Zygentoma – 75% (i.e. 9 of 12 species) and Collembola – 72% (21 of 29 species). Those are followed by Coleoptera – 57%

Table 3. List of insect genera/subgenera endemic to the Socotra Archipelago (modified from BATELKA (2012a)).

Order: Family	Endemic genus / subgenus	Sp.	Reference(s)
Collembola: Bourletiellidae	<i>Diksamella</i> Bretfeld, 2005	1	BRETFELD (2005)
Collembola: Sminthuridae	<i>Sogotrasminthurus</i> Bretfeld, 2005	2	BRETFELD (2005)
Archaeognatha: Machilidae	<i>Afrochilis</i> Sturm, 2002	1	STURM (2002)
Zygentoma: Lepismatidae	<i>Primacrotelsa</i> Mendes, 2004	1	MENDES (2004)
Neuroptera: Nemopteridae	<i>Apocroce</i> Tjeder, 1974	1	TJEDER (1974, 1975)
Neuroptera: Nemopteridae	<i>Parascyoptera</i> Tjeder, 1974	1	TJEDER (1974)
Orthoptera: Acrididae	<i>Dioscoridus</i> Popov, 1957	1	UVAROV & POPOV (1957)
Orthoptera: Acrididae	<i>Physemophorus</i> Krauss, 1907	1	UVAROV & POPOV (1957)
Orthoptera: Acrididae	<i>Oxytruxalis</i> Dirsh, 1951	1	DIRSH (1951)
Orthoptera: Eumastacidae	<i>Phaulotypus</i> Burr, 1899	4	DESCAMPS (1970)
Orthoptera: Eumastacidae	<i>Socotrella</i> Popov, 1957	1	DESCAMPS (1970)
Orthoptera: Pyrgomorphidae	<i>Xenephias</i> Kevan, 1973	1	KEVAN (1973)
Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae	<i>Pachysmopoda</i> Karsch, 1886	1	UVAROV & POPOV (1957)
Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae	<i>Phaneroptila</i> Uvarov, 1957	1	UVAROV & POPOV (1957)
Orthoptera: Phalangopsidae	<i>Socotracris</i> Desutter-Grandcolas, 2012	1	DESUTTER-GRANDCOLAS & FELIX (2012)
Mantodea: Mantidae	<i>Teddia</i> Burr, 1899 (Darsa, Samha and Socotra)	1	BURR (1899)
Dermoptera: Anisolabidae	<i>Socotralabis</i> Kočárek, 2014	2	KOČÁREK (2014)
Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Flatidae	<i>Mosiona</i> Melichar, 1923	3	MELICHAR (1923)
Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Flatidae	<i>Dixamflata</i> Stroiński, Malenovský & Świerczewski, 2016	1	STROIŃSKI et al. (2016)
Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Flatidae	<i>Haloflata</i> Świerczewski, Malenovský & Stroiński, 2017	1	ŚWIERCZEWSKI et al. (2017)
Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Flatidae	<i>Kesafata</i> Stroiński, Malenovský & Świerczewski, 2016	1	STROIŃSKI et al. (2016)
Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Flatidae	<i>Kirkamflata</i> Świerczewski, Malenovský & Stroiński, 2014	1	ŚWIERCZEWSKI et al. (2014)
Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Flatidae	<i>Medleria</i> Stroiński, Malenovský & Świerczewski, in press b	1	STROIŃSKI et al. (in press b)
Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Flatidae	<i>Socoflata</i> Stroiński, Malenovský & Świerczewski, in press a	2	STROIŃSKI et al. (in press a)
Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Pen- tomidae	<i>Socantestia</i> Ribes & Schmitz, 1992	1	RIBES & SCHMITZ (1992)
Coleoptera: Cicindelidae	<i>Socotrana</i> Cassola & Wranik, 1998	1	CASSOLA & WRANIK (1998)
Coleoptera: Carabidae	<i>Odontopeza</i> Felix, 2014 (as subgenus of <i>Lebia</i> Latreille, 1802)	1	FELIX (2014)
Coleoptera: Carabidae	<i>Parorthomus</i> Guéorguiev, Wrase & Farkač, 2014	1	GUÉORGUIEV et al. (2014)
Coleoptera: Bolboceratidae	<i>Socotrabolbus</i> Cambefort, 1998	1	CAMBEFORT (1998)
Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae	<i>Canudema</i> Lacroix, 1994	2	KRÁL et al. (2012)
Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae	<i>Canuschiza</i> Lacroix, 1999	10	SEHNAL et al. (2014, 2017)

Table 3. Continued.

<b>Order: Family</b>	<b>Endemic genus / subgenus</b>	<b>Sp.</b>	<b>Reference(s)</b>
Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae	<i>Socotraproctus</i> Král, Sehnal & Bezděk, 2012	1	KRÁL et al. (2012)
Coleoptera: Cantharidae	<i>Socotrasilis</i> Geiser, 2017	1	GEISER (2017)
Coleoptera: Elateridae	<i>Gahanus</i> Platia, 2012	1	PLATIA (2012)
Coleoptera: Elateridae	<i>Socotrelater</i> Platia, 2012	1	PLATIA (2012)
Coleoptera: Ptinidae	<i>Dermolasia</i> Zahradník, 2015	1	ZAHRADNÍK (2015)
Coleoptera: Ptinidae	<i>Metholbium</i> Zahradník, 2015	2	ZAHRADNÍK (2015)
Coleoptera: Dermestidae	<i>Socotracornis</i> Háva, 2013 (as subgenus of <i>Globicornis</i> Latreille, 1829)	1	HÁVA (2013)
Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae	<i>Deretus</i> Gahan, 1900	7	PURCHART (2012, 2014)
Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae	<i>Dioscoridemus</i> Koch, 1970	1	SCHAWALLER (2004)
Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae	<i>Eusyntelia</i> Waterhouse, 1881 (Darsa, Samha and Socotra)	6	SCHAWALLER (2004)
Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae	<i>Gahanosis</i> Penrith, 1983 (as subgenus of <i>Zophosis</i> Latreille, 1802) (Abd el Kuri)	1	PENRITH (1983b)
Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae	<i>Histeromorphus</i> Kraatz, 1865 (Abd el Kuri, Darsa, Samha and Socotra)	6	PURCHART (2014a)
Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae	<i>Nanocaecus</i> Schawaller & Purchart, 2012	1	SCHAWALLER & PURCHART (2012)
Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae	<i>Socotalia</i> Novák, 2007	7	NOVÁK & PURCHART (2012)
Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae	<i>Socotopatum</i> Koch, 1970 (Samha and Socotra)	2	SCHAWALLER (2004)
Coleoptera: Cerambycidae	<i>Sokothes</i> Adlbauer, 2002 (as subgenus of <i>Chariesthes</i> Chevrolat, 1858)	1	ADLBAUER (2002)
Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae	<i>Beenenia</i> Bezděk, 2012	2	BEZDĚK (2012b)
Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae	<i>Bezdekaltica</i> Döberl, 2012	1	DÖBERL (2012)
Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae	<i>Erythraella</i> Zoia, 2012	1	ZOIA (2012)
Coleoptera: Attelabidae	<i>Socotrorthinus</i> Skuhrovec & Kresl, 2014	1	SKUHROVEC & KRESL (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Armifemur</i> Colonnelli, 2014	1	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Bezdekiellus</i> Colonnelli, 2014	1	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Dipnotyphlus</i> Colonnelli, 2014	1	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Elwoodius</i> Colonnelli, 2014	1	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Ericiates</i> Colonnelli, 2014	1	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Hagherius</i> Colonnelli, 2014	1	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Hajekia</i> Colonnelli, 2014	7	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Nesotocerus</i> Colonnelli, 2014	4	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Parvorhynchus</i> Colonnelli, 2014	1	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Socotracerus</i> Colonnelli, 2014	2	COLONNELLI (2014)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Socotractus</i> Colonnelli, 2014	3	COLONNELLI (2014)

Table 3. Continued.

Order: Family	Endemic genus / subgenus	Sp.	Reference(s)
Coleoptera: Curculionidae	<i>Tuberates</i> Colonnelli, 2014	1	COLONNELLI (2014)
Lepidoptera: Plutelliidae	<i>Genostele</i> Walsingham, 1900	1	ROBINSON & SATTLER (2001)
Lepidoptera: Geometridae	<i>Mimaplasta</i> Herbulot, 1993	1	HERBULOT (1993)
Hymenoptera: Halictidae	<i>Erythronomioides</i> Pesenko, 1983 (as subgenus of <i>Nomioides</i> Schenck, 1866)	1	PESENKO & PAULY (2005)
Hymenoptera: Megachilidae	<i>Xenostelis</i> Baker, 1999	1	BAKER (1999)

(307 of 540 species), Dermaptera – 54% (7 of 13 species), or Orthoptera – 51% (30 of 59 species). On the other hand, there is only a single endemic Odonata species (21 species known from the archipelago). Similarly to the total quantity of species, most insects endemic to the archipelago occur in Socotra Island (635 species); only 37 endemic species are known from Abd el Kuri, 9 species from Darsa, and 29 species from Samha. When counting the species endemic only to the particular islands, there are 593 species endemic to Socotra, 17 species endemic to Abd el Kuri, and no single island-endemic species in Darsa and Samha.

When compared with the Seychelles, again, in most of the species-rich orders, the percentage of endemic species is usually bigger by half in the Seychelles than in Socotra, e.g., in Diptera (47% endemic species in the Seychelles, 23% in Socotra), Lepidoptera (50% in the Seychelles, 36% in Socotra), or Hymenoptera (53% in the Seychelles, 36% in Socotra); the highest difference between the Seychelles and Socotra can be seen in Blattodea: there are 48 species of Blattodea in the Seychelles of which 36 species (75%) are endemic, but only 7 species of Blattodea with a single endemic species is known from Socotra. On the other hand, similar percentages of endemic species in both archipelagos are in Coleoptera (59% in the Seychelles, 57% in Socotra) or Heteroptera (33% in the Seychelles, 29% in Socotra).

Endemic fauna is usually highlighted as the most important part of the islands life and represents a major issue for nature conservation. Unfortunately, despite extensive efforts in cataloguing of Socotran insects in recent years, our knowledge of most species is still insufficient. For numerous taxa, only a few specimens, without any information about habitat requirements and biology, have been known so far. The few exceptions might be represented by some aquatic or herbivorous insects. Therefore, we are not able to establish any ‘threat categories’ for endemic insects in the Socotra Archipelago. We suggest two main actions for current conservation of endemic insect fauna of Socotra: 1) continuation of extensive research and gathering information about insects, and 2) protection of the unique Socotran habitats from degradation, recently caused mostly by men (see also DAMME & BANFIELD 2011, BATELKA 2012a).

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