

Taxonomic remarks on some species of *Cixidia* (Homoptera, Auchenorrhyncha)

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During a field study in Sicily, three species of the genus *Cixidia* were found; one of them, *C. advena*⁴ whose adults live on *Fagus sylvatica* and on different species of *Quercus*, is well defined by various external characters as coloration and marking of wings and shape of the vertex. Two further species coexist (adults as well as immature stages) under the cortex of different trees, particularly *Pinus* sp. and *Quercus* spp.. One of them, with regard to the external morphology as well as to the shape of the male genitalia, seemed to perfectly correspond to *C. italica* described by Wagner⁵, just from Mt Etna. The other species is similar to *C. marginicollis*⁴, but when it is compared to the redescription and to the figures given by Anufriev¹, Logvinenko³ and Dlabola², several differences emerge, regarding the male genitalia as well as the shape and colour of the head in both sexes.

A comparison of our specimens collected on Mt Etna, with the holotype of *C. italica* (type locality on Mt Etna) and of *C. marginicollis* (type locality "Sicilie") and a reevaluation of bibliographic information regarding *C. marginicollis*, brings the following results:

- 1) There are no valuable differences between the two holotypes; as a consequence, *C. italica*⁵ has to be considered a synonym of *C. marginicollis*⁴;
- 2) All descriptions and figures of *C. marginicollis* published by Anufriev¹, Logvinenko³ and Dlabola² do not actually refer to this species but to an undefined one;
- 3) Of the two species collected on Mt Etna, one corresponds well to *C. marginicollis* (Spinola), while the other is new to science, being well characterized by the shape and colour of the face and vertex and by the morphology of the male genitalia.

References

- 1 ANUFRIEV, G.A., 1969, *Bull. Acad. Pol. Sci.*, 17(3): 173-178.
- 2 DLABOLA, J., 1987, *Acta Entomol. Bohemoslov.*, 84(4): 295-312.
- 3 LOGVINENKO, V.N., 1975, *Fauna Ukraina. Fulgoroidea*. 20(2): 1-287.
- 4 SPINOLA, M., 1839, *Ann. Soc. Entomol.*, 8: 133-337.
- 5 WAGNER, W., 1959, *Fragm. Entomol.*, 3(4): 67-86.