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Arocephalus sardous new species from Sardinia (Hemiptera: Auchenorrhyncha: Cicadomorpha: Cicadellidae: Deltocephalinae)

With 11 Figures

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Abstract. *Arocephalus sardous* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) new species from Sardinia (Italy), is described and illustrated. The new species belongs to *Ariellus* subgenus and is closely related to *A. punctum* (FLOR), *A. rufipunctum* REMANE & ASCHE and *A. punctum siculus* D'URSO. *A. sardous* differs from these species for the following characters: forewings with inner subapical cell without black spot and apical cells not dark-edged; morphology of aedeagus. *Arocephalus punctum siculus* D'URSO, 1978 is considered a good species.

Introduction

Up to now, the Palaearctic genus *Arocephalus* RIBAUT, 1947 (Homoptera, Cicadellidae) is subdivided in two subgenera (*Arocephalus* s. str. RIBAUT, 1947 and *Ariellus* RIBAUT, 1952) and includes 12 species and 1 subspecies (EMELJANOV 1977; NAST 1972, 1987; ANUFRIEV & EMELJANOV 1988; OMAN et al. 1990). One species is widespread in this region: *Arocephalus* (*Arocephalus*) *languidus* (FLOR 1861). Three species live in Asia: *A. (Arocephalus) lacteus* EMELJANOV, 1962 from Kazakhstan, Mongolia and m. Siberia; *A. (Arocephalus) remanei* DLABOLA, 1971 from Iran; *A. (Arocephalus) roborovskii* MITJAEV, 1969 from Kazakhstan. The other species live in Europe and Central Asia [*A. (Arocephalus) longiceps* (KIRSCHBAUM, 1868)], in Europe and Maghreb [*A. (Ariellus) punctum* (FLOR, 1861)], in the Mediterranean Basin [*A. (Arocephalus) grandii* SERVADEI, 1972 from Switzerland and Italy; *A. (Arocephalus) lakonicus* DLABOLA, 1980 and *A. (Ariellus) superpunctum* REMANE & ASCHE, 1980 from Greece; *A. (Ariellus) punctum siculus* D'URSO, 1978 from Sicily; *A. (Ariellus) sagittarius* RIBAUT, 1952 from France and Portugal; *A. (Ariellus) rufipunctum* REMANE & ASCHE, 1980 from Spain and Morocco; *A. (Arocephalus) moyatlanus* REMANE & ASCHE, 1980 from Morocco].

During field researches carried out in Sardinia (Italy), in August 1997, I collected some specimens of a new species of *Arocephalus*: *Arocephalus sardous* sp. n. It is to place among the species of *Ariellus* subgenus for the morphology of the male aedeagus and the shape of the 7th abdominal sternite of the female.

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