

***Platymetopius pavelitus* sp.nov. (Hemiptera: Auchenorrhyncha:
Cicadellidae), a new species from Italy**

VERA D'URSO¹, CHRISTOPH BÜCKLE² & ADALGISA GUGLIELMINO³

¹ *Department of Biological, Geological and Environmental Sciences, sez. Animal Biology, University of Catania, via Androne 81, I-95124 Catania, Italy; e-mail: dursove@unict.it*

² *Neckarhalde 48, D-72070 Tübingen, Germany*

³ *Department of Agriculture, Forests, Nature and Energy, University of Tuscia, Viterbo, 01100 Italy; e-mail: guglielm@unitus.it*

D'URSO V., BÜCKLE C. & GUGLIELMINO A. 2013: *Platymetopius pavelitus* sp.nov. (Hemiptera: Auchenorrhyncha: Cicadellidae), a new species from Italy. In: KMENT P., MALENOVSKÝ I. & KOLIBÁČ J. (eds.): *Studies in Hemiptera in honour of Pavel Lauterer and Jaroslav L. Stehlik. Acta Musei Moraviae, Scientiae biologicae* (Brno) **98(2)**: 229–234. – *Platymetopius pavelitus* sp.nov. is described from southern Italy (Calabria and Sicily). Its diagnostic characters lie in the structure of the male genitalia (aedeagus, pygofer appendages) and in the female pregenital sternite.

Keywords. Cicadomorpha, Deltocephalinae, taxonomy, Palaearctic Region, Sicily, Calabria

Introduction

The genus *Platymetopius* Burmeister, 1838 was originally established for the species *Cicada vittata* Fabricius, 1775 (= *Platymetopius undatus* De Geer, 1773, type species) and *Jassus rostratus* Herrich-Schäffer, 1834 (BURMEISTER 1838). Currently it includes more than 75 species distributed in the Palaearctic and Oriental regions. However, the genus as currently defined is probably not monophyletic. It is one of the largest and most complex genera of the Deltocephalinae and urgently in need of revision. At present, it is divided in two subgenera: *Platymetopius s. str.* (73 species) and *Quernus* Dlabola, 1974 (3 species) (ZAHNISER 2013). ABDUL-NOUR (2001) established five informal species-groups among the *Platymetopius* taxa present in the Near East, based on morphological characters (e.g. body shape, coloration, aedeagus morphology, structure of pygofer appendages and female pregenital sternite).

In 1977, R. Remane collected one male and two females of an unknown *Platymetopius* species on Mount Etna (Sicily). Subsequently, in 1985, one of the authors (V. D'Urso) found one male in the Peloritani Mountains (Sicily) and, in 2009, the other two authors (A. Guglielmino and Ch. Bückle) collected three females in the Sila Mountains (Calabria), all belonging to the same taxon. Based on external morphology and the structures of the male genitalia and the female pregenital sternite, these specimens are considered as belonging to a new species, here described as *Platymetopius pavelitus* sp.nov.