

10th International Symposium on Syrphidae
Lesvos Greece
8th - 12th September 2019



PROGRAMME
&
BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



MYTILENE 2019



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Characterisation of *Merodon albifrons+desuturinus* lineage using total evidence approach

Sanja Veselić¹, Gunilla Ståhls², Ante Vujić¹, Snežana Radenković¹, Laura Likov¹ & Ljiljana Šašić Zorić³

¹Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Trg Dositeja Obradovića 2, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia; e- mail: sanja.veselic@dbe.uns.ac.rs; ante.vujic@dbe.uns.ac.rs; snezana.radenkovic@dbe.uns.ac.rs

²Zoology Unit, Finnish Museum of Natural History, 00014 University of Helsinki, Finland; e- mail: gunilla.stahls@helsinki.fi

³Biosense Institute- Research Institute for Information Technologies in Biosystems, University of Novi Sad, Trg Dr Zorana Đinđića 1, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia; e- mail: ljiljana.sasic@dbe.uns.ac.rs

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Phylogenetic relationships of many taxa belonging to European species - richest hoverfly genus *Merodon* (Meigen, 1803) (Diptera: Syrphidae: Eristalinae) still remain unresolved. So far, several recent publications have dealt with taxa considered to constitute monophyletic groups (eg. Radenković et al. 2018; Mengual et al. 2006; Popović et al. 2015; Šašić et al. 2016). In this study we deal with the intrageneric phylogenetic relationships within the genus *Merodon*, with the focus on a putative subgenus comprising the taxa of the *albifrons+ desuturinus* species groups, which is recognized as a monophyletic lineage by total evidence approach. The study evaluated a total of 99 adult male morphological characters, of which a set of morphological diagnostic features clearly distinguishes taxa of *albifrons+desuturinus* lineage from all other *Merodon* taxa. Molecular characters used in a combined analysis were mitochondrial cytochrome c oxidase I and nuclear 28S rRNA genes. In total 66 taxa were analyzed, of which 60 *Merodon* taxa, 32 belonging to *albifrons+ desuturinus* lineage. Additionally, three previously recognized clades (putative subgenera) (*aureus*, *avidus-nigritarsis* and *natans*) were confirmed within the genus.

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