

Report to ITI for 2010

A survey of the Bombicoidea (Insecta: Lepidoptera) of Israel

Vasily Kravchenko

Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel

E-mail: vasily@post.tau.ac.il

The following aims were stated in the grant proposal:

1. A concerted effort of Bombicoidea collection throughout Israel and its neighboring countries, with special attention to biodiversity hot spots.
2. Identification of the entire TAU collection of Bombicoidea.
3. Preparation of distribution maps and color plates of all taxa known in Israel that will be used as a field guide until the publication of the more comprehensive monographs.

The following tasks were either completed or are in progress:

1. Forty five excursions were devoted to collecting Bombicidae totaling 87 nights of light-trapping. The main methods used for collecting was 1. Light-trapping with generator and battery-powered traps. 2. Collecting larvae of Bombicoidea and rearing to adults.
2. Collected material was be labeled, sorted and identified with the help of the literature and reference collections. Samples of all the species was be taken by me to several of the most important museums in Europe to have these species identity confirmed by comparing them to material in those collections, particularly types. Additionally, all specimens will be sequenced in a joint project with the Bavarian State Collection, Munich, Germany.
3. Manuscripts about Bombicidae fauna of Israel are now under preparation.

Appendix

Light-trap localities

site	Altitude (m)	habitat description	latitude	longitude	Precipitation average
Har <u>H</u> ermon <u>H</u> ula Nature Reserve	2000	doline, alpine vegetation	33°18'17"	35°47'14"	>400
Har Meron	65	shore of a pond	33°04'11"	35°36'13"	>400
<u>N</u> ah <u>a</u> l Keziv	1110	woodland	32°59'44"	35°24'38"	>400
Ma'agan	190	woodland tamarisk	33°02'43"	35°13'24"	>400
<u>N</u> ah <u>a</u> l Oren	-210	floodplain northfacing	32°42'32"	35°35'01"	200-400
<u>N</u> ah <u>a</u> l Oren	150	slope southfacing	32°42'52"	34°59'33"	>400
<u>N</u> ah <u>a</u> l Oren	125	slope dry rocky wadi with Mediterranean vegetation and reed	32°42'55"	34°59'07"	>400
<u>N</u> ah <u>a</u> l <u>H</u> agal Gilboa'	5	reed	32°38'25"	35°32'24"	200-400
Shoham		open pine forest	32°31'57"	35°21'52"	200-400
'Enot <u>Z</u> uqim Nature Reserve	140	batha	32°00'00"	34°57'50"	>400
<u>N</u> ah <u>a</u> l Qidron Spill	-400	tamarisk forest	31°42'42"	35°27'12"	<200
'En Boqeq HaBesor Nature Reserve	-370	tamarisk floodplain	31°40'21"	35°26'06"	<200
Ma'agar Yero <u>h</u> am Sede Boqer Range	-400	river bank close to spring			<200
Sede Boqer Range	100	wet meadow	31°14'07"	34°30'24"	200-400
'En Avedat Haze <u>y</u> a Nature Reserve	450	shore of reservoir	30°59'12"	34°53'39"	<200
Haze <u>y</u> a Nature Reserve	500	southfacing slope	30°51'15"	34°46'08"	<200
Haze <u>y</u> a Nature Reserve	500	wadi	30°51'15"	34°46'08"	<200
Haze <u>y</u> a Nature Reserve	700	spring	30°49'58"	34°46'14"	<200
Haze <u>y</u> a Nature Reserve	-170	sandy desert	30°46'24"	35°17'28"	<200
Haze <u>y</u> a Nature Reserve	-170	wadi	30°46'24"	35°17'28"	<200