

**First Iberian record of *Drino maroccana* Mesnil, 1951 (Diptera,
Tachinidae, Exoristinae), a parasitoid of *Streblote panda* Hübner, [1820]
(Lasiocampidae) caterpillars¹**

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Tachinids are one of the most important parasitoid families to biological control (Eggleton & Gaston, 1990; Driesche & Bellows, 1996). Usually they are solitary endoparasitoids of larvae of insects, especially Lepidoptera. Many species have been introduced, and successfully established in biological control programs, others are important as indigenous parasitoids (Grenier, 1988). The group is difficult, and its taxonomy is complex (Peigler, 1994), so it isn't surprising that the Iberian tachinid fauna is little known. Few keys are available to

determine species; there are surely some undescribed species, as well as many others with unknown corology (Tschorsnig *et al.*, 1997). About 510 species are currently known from the Iberian Peninsula (Tschorsnig, pers. comm.), approximately 170 of them have been recorded from Andalusia (Tschorsnig, 1992; Tschorsnig *et al.*, *op.cit.*). With this note we report the presence of a tachinid species, *Drino maroccana* Mesnil, 1951, from Andalusia (Southern Spain). This is a new record for the Iberian fauna of Diptera.

Drino maroccana was described in 1951 as a subspecies of *D. latigena* Mesnil, 1944. Differences between *D. maroccana* and *D. latigena*, as stated by Mesnil (1951) in his original description, are apical scutellar bristles erect; dark grey pulvillae; males with an irregular row of black setulae behind the postocular row; abdominal tergite V nearly as long as abdominal tergite IV. Herting (1984) raised the taxa to specific range. The species was previously known only from the North of Morocco: Rabat —type locality— and Sidi es Ouagi, parasitizing *S. panda* Hbn. (= *Taragama repanda*) (Lasiocampidae) larvae (Mesnil, 1951). This is the only tachinid parasitoid known from this host (Tschorsnig, *in litt.*).

This record —although not very surprising because of the faunistical similarities between Andalusia and Northern Africa— extends the distribution, and confirms the host-parasitoid association for this species. The finding increases the number of *Drino* from Spain to five species (Tschorsnig, *op. cit.*; Tschorsnig *et al.*, *op. cit.*): *D. atropivora* (Robineau-Desvoidy), *D. galii* (Brauer



Fig. 1.— *Drino maroccana*, from Andalusia (S Spain).

Fig. 1.— *Drino maroccana*, de Andalucía (S España).

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& Bergenstamm), *D. inconspicua* (Meigen) y *D. vicina* (Zetterstedt). From all these, only *D. atropivora* and *D. inconspicua* have been previously recorded in Andalusia (Sierra de Cazorla y Segura; Tschorsnig, *op. cit.*).

STUDIED MATERIAL: *Drino maroccana* Mesnil, 1951.

UTM: 30STG63; em VII-2000; El Copero, Seville (Seville, Spain); 10 m; 1♂; in coll. CIFA "Las Torres-Tomejil". Observations: ex *S. panda* Hübner, [1820] (Lepidoptera; Lasiocampidae) on *Tamarix gallica* (Tamaricaceae). UTM: 29SQB92: El Cebollar, Moguer (Huelva, Spain); 60 m; em V-2000; 2♀♀; em 9-VII-2000; 4♂♂, 2♀♀; em 16-VII-2000; 1♂, 1♀; (2♂♂, 2♀♀ in coll. CIFA "Las Torres-Tomejil"; 3♂♂, 3♀♀ in coll. Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde (Stuttgart, Alemania). Observations: all ex *S. panda* collected on *Vaccinium x corymbosum* (Ericaceae).

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