True Bugs (Heteroptera) of the Middle-East

Hassan Ghahari • Pierre Moulet • J. E. McPherson Editors

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With 28 Figures and 5 Tables



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Dedication

This book is dedicated to curious individuals and explorers of Entomology who always tirelessly try to provide valuable findings to the science, especially all the people who have had roles in discovering the Heteroptera of the world.



Eurydema ornata (Linnaeus, 1758) (Pentatomidae) – [Photo courtesy of Torsten van der Heyden]

Preface

The Heteroptera (true bugs) is a highly diverse insect taxon with more than 45,000 described species worldwide. These insects live in virtually all terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, and their adaptations to do so are unparalleled in the living world. Many species have a serious negative impact on human lives because they are destructive agricultural and forest pests or transmit infectious diseases to plants, livestock, and humans. Many other species are predators that are economically important biological control agents of key agricultural pests. It has been estimated that 65% of all families of Heteroptera are partially or entirely composed of carnivorous species. Additionally, several heteropteran families display trophic omnivory (also called zoophytophagy), allowing them to exploit both plant and prey resources.

This handbook is the first to furnish a comprehensive treatment of the Middle East bugs (Heteroptera) and includes taxonomy, applied aspects, and general biology. It is divided into seven parts (infraorders) to cover the related families (chapters). Apart from providing a taxonomic treatment of all the families known from the Middle East, information is provided on Iranian and general geographic distributions, bionomics, ecology, natural enemies, prey records, and plant associations for the various species. General discussion also is included on morphology, economic importance, family characters of each group, and affinity with related groups.

This handbook includes detailed information on 3079 species and subspecies of Heteroptera from the Middle East in 751 genera and 58 families. An exhaustive bibliography (over 4000) has been provided to facilitate studies of chosen aspects of the various species. Up-to-date information for the various species has been provided as far as possible.

Finally, *True Bugs (Heteroptera) of the Middle East* is the only book that is exclusively on the Heteroptera of the Middle East. It is believed that it will be an indispensable resource for a large section of teachers at universities; agricultural researchers in natural biological control, pest management, and crop management; and students (Agriculture and Zoology in general and Entomology in particular).

Tehran, Iran Avignon, France Carbondale, USA November 2024 Hassan Ghahari Pierre Moulet J. E. McPherson



Graphosoma semipunctatum (Fabricius, 1775) (Pentatomidae) – [Photo courtesy of Torsten van der Heyden]



Acanthochila armigera (Stål, 1873) (Tingidae) – [Photo courtesy of Cyrille A. D'Haese]

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This study also benefitted from generous contributions of heteropteran material from several sources, especially the BMNH (Natural History Museum of London, UK); NMPC (National Museum of Prague, Czech Republic); MNHN (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France), UMRM (W.R. Enns Entomology Museum, University of Missouri, Columbia, USA); SIZK (Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology, Kiev, Ukraine); RBCM (Royal British Columbia Museum, British Columbia, Canada); NDSU (North Dakota State University, North Dakota, Fargo, USA); NHMW (Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria); ZIN (St. Petersburg Zoological Institute, Russia); SIUC (Southern Illinois University, Research Museum of Zoology, Illinois, USA); NHMD (Natural History Museum of Denmark, University of Copenhagen, Denmark (former ZMUC)); ZMUT (Zoological Museum,

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About the Editors



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Dr. Ghahari is an accomplished scholar and expert in the field of insect systematics and biological control. He teaches several courses in Entomology and has guided many M.Sc. and Ph.D. students. He has received several research grants from Islamic Azad University as well as many Iranian prestigious awards and coveted honors.

Dr. Ghahari has authored or co-authored more than 200 scientific papers in peer-reviewed international journals together with several authorized entomologists from different countries. He has served as editor for several books and co-authored book chapters for various publishers (e.g., CABI, Elsevier, IAU Press, Magnolia Press, Springer) on various topics related to insect systematics and biological control. He also is a member of the editorial board of many agricultural scientific journals in different countries.



Pierre Moulet spent his entire career as the curator of the Museum Requien (Natural History Museum of Avignon). He received an EPHE diploma (Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes) on Coreoidea (Heteroptera) from the MNHN (National Museum of Natural History, Paris) and his Ph.D. thesis (on Reduviidae) from the University of Avignon (France). He retired in 2023 but has continued to conduct research.

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Dr. Moulet has specialized in the taxonomy and bioecology of the Heteroptera (true bugs). He has authored or co-authored more than 170 taxonomic papers published in peer-reviewed journals as well as books about the Heteroptera (e.g., Coreoidea and Reduviidae in the well-known series "Faune de France"). He has described several new species of Heteroptera, especially in the Anthocoridae and Reduviidae. In addition, he now has expanded his interests to include the aquatic bugs (Nepomorpha and Gerromorpha) from the Palaearctic region.

As curator of the museum, Dr. Moulet guided several students in the fields of conservation of natural heritage and bioecology of the true bugs.

Finally, as a side interest, Dr. Moulet has authored papers on the biographies of E. Requien and J. H. Fabre and works on the history of Avignon.



J. E. McPherson is Professor Emeritus of Zoology at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale (SIU). He obtained his Ph.D. in entomology from Michigan State University in 1968 and joined SIU in 1969 as Assistant Professor. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1974 and to Professor in 1979. He retired in July 2012 but has continued to conduct research, maintaining the same office and laboratory space he had during his employment, and still is managing the entomology collection.

Dr. McPherson has written broadly on the ecology and systematics of the Heteroptera, particularly the Pentatomoidea, Reduvioidea, and various aquatic and semiaquatic taxa. He has authored or co-authored 200 refereed journal articles and four books, presented papers at both national and regional meetings, and given invited lectures at various universities. He has received several research grants, primarily from the USDA Forest Service.

Dr. McPherson is a member of the Entomological Society of America (ESA) and has served on numerous ESA national and branch committees. He was the recipient of an ESA National Service Award in 1991 for his work on the Editorial Board of the *American Entomologist*, the society's flagship publication, and served as editor of that publication from 1993 through 2001.

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He was the 1993 recipient of the Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching, the 1997 recipient of the C. V. Riley Achievement Award, and the 2006 Award of Merit, all from the ESA North Central Branch. He also was the 1996 recipient of the Outstanding Teacher in the College of Science, SIU. He served 6 years on the ESA Governing Board, 3 (1994–1996) as Section A (now Systematics, Evolution, and Biodiversity) representative and 3 as an officer (Vice-President, 2001; President, 2002; Past-President, 2003). He was elected an Honorary Member in 2004 and a Fellow in 2007 of the ESA. Recently, he received the 2017 Michigan State University Entomology Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Dr. McPherson has been a member of several additional societies including the Entomological Society of Washington, Florida, Michigan, and New York. A Festschrift issue of the *Great Lakes Entomologist* was dedicated to him in 2012 by the Governing Board of the Michigan Entomological Society and was composed of a series of papers, primarily on the Pentatomidae, contributed by colleagues including some former graduate students.

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