

**An inspection about the possible occurrence
of sex dimorphism
in the folded hind wings of Staphylininae
(Coleoptera Staphylinidae)**

Note 02 (Staphylinoidea), released by Luigi De Marzo on July 2012 – Integrative observations from a research in progress. l.demarzo@alice.it

SUBJECTS

- Lack of specular symmetry of the folded hind wings was previously described for member of Staphylinidae-Staphylininae in the tribes Staphylinini, Xantholinini and Philonthini (De Marzo, unpublished Note 01).
- According to specimen, every examined species displays either the asymmetric “condition A” or its reverse “condition B”.
- The possible correspondence of each condition with the sex of the individual has been inspected.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

- Specimens of a single sex (male) were examined for the following Philonthini: *Philonthus concinnus* (Gravenhorst) (n=6), *P. discoideus* (Gravenhorst) (n=5), *P. fenestratus* Fauvel (n=4), *P. jurgans* Tottenham (n=5).
- Several specimens of both sexes were examined for *Cafius xantholoma* (Gravenhorst) (n=22), *Gabronthus maritimus* (Motschulsky) (n=20) (tribe Philonthini) and *Megalinus glabratus* (Gravenhorst) (n=19) (tribe Xantholinini).
- Wings were examined on slides in glycerol, as reported in the previous Note 01.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- Both conditions A and B were recorded in males of *Philonthus*;
- they both do occur also in males and females of *Cafius xantholoma*, *Gabronthus maritimus* and *Megalinus glabratus*.
- The rate A/B of *Philonthus* males (Fig. 1) showed the following values: 1/1 in two species, 4/1 in *P. discoideus*, 3/2 in *P. jurgans*.
- When both sexes were considered together (Fig. 2), the rate A/B was exactly 1/1 in *Gabronthus maritimus*,
- whereas it approximates to 1/1 in both *Megalinus glabratus* (= 10:9) and *Cafius xantholoma* (15:13).

CONCLUSIVE REMARKS

- Results of this inspection don't show lack of specular symmetry to be clearly depending on the sex.
- Possibly, the deviating value of the rate A/B found in males of *P. discoideus* (4/1) does depend upon the poor number of the specimens examined;
- anyhow, it may be hypothetically regarded as a population characteristic and remains to be inspected under this viewpoint.

REFERENCES

De Marzo L., on July 2012 - Unpublished Note 01 (Staphylinoidea).
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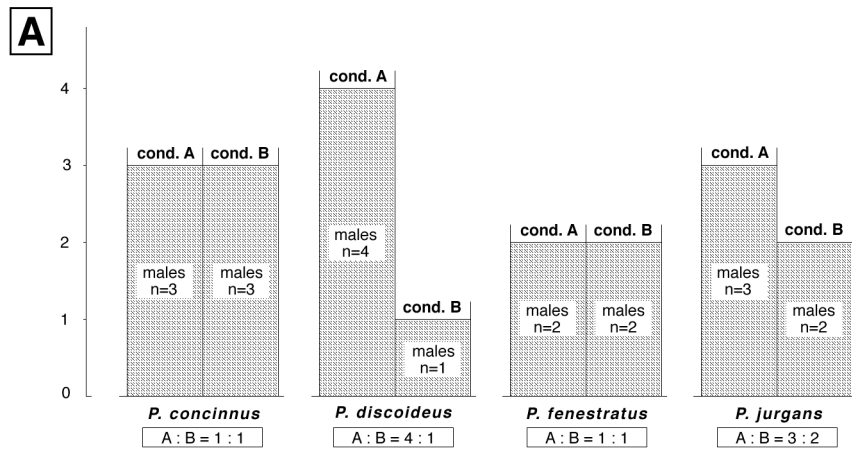


Fig. 1 – Evaluation of the rate A/B in males of *Philonthus* spp.

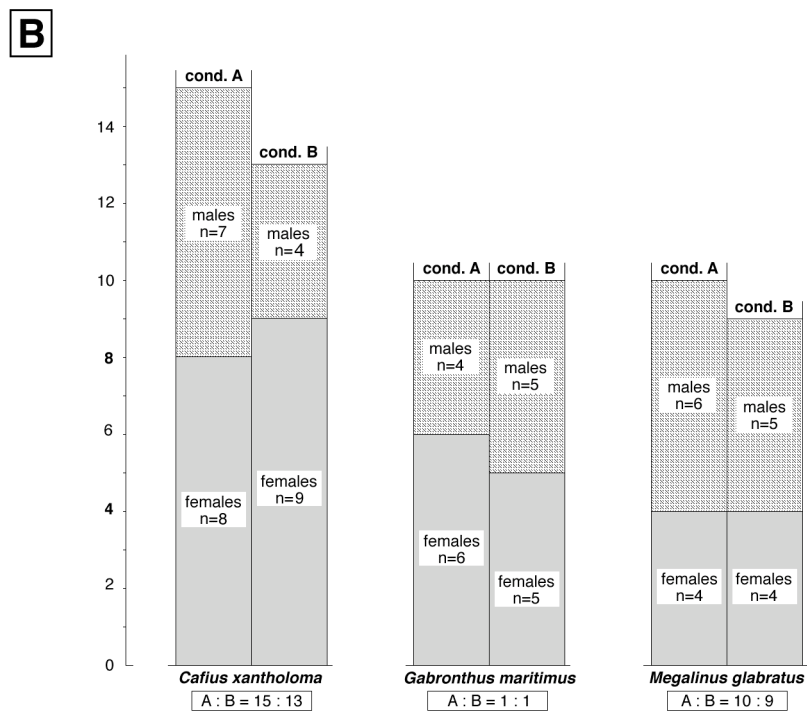


Fig. 2 - Evaluation of the rate A/B in males and females of the reported species.

