

# Review of the sawfly fauna of Cyprus, with descriptions of two new species

(Hymenoptera: Symphyta)

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**Abstract.** Four species of Hymenoptera Symphyta are recorded for the first time in Cyprus: one Cephidae, *Calameuta pygmaea* (Poda, 1761), and three Tenthredinidae; *Euura atra* (Jurine, 1807), *Heterarthrus vagans* (Fallén, 1808) and *Pristiphora calliprina* sp. n. The genus *Periclista* is also newly recorded, but the species remains unidentified. Identifications of three species previously recorded in Cyprus are revised: *Calameuta nigricarpus* (André, 1881) comb. nov. (from *Cephus*) (= *Calameuta filiformis*: misidentification), *Allantus ariadne* sp. n. (= *Allantus laticinctus*: misidentification), *Strongylogaster cypria* Benson, 1954 stat. nov. (= *S. multifasciata*: misidentification). *Alnus orientalis* is a new hostplant record for *Heterarthrus vagans*. Of the 43 species of Symphyta now recorded in Cyprus, six are at present only known from there: *Allantus ariadne*, *Calameuta festiva*, *Heterarthrus cypricus*, *Macrophya aphrodite*, *Pristiphora calliprina* and *Pristiphora schedli*. Rather than being endemic to Cyprus, most of these species may also occur in the relatively poorly investigated neighbouring mainland eastern Mediterranean countries such as Lebanon, Syria and Israel.

**Key words.** Cephidae, Tenthredinidae, new records, new species, new combination, new status, new host.

## Introduction

The first detailed information on the sawfly fauna of Cyprus was presented by BENSON (1954), based on material collected by G. A. MAVROMOUSTAKIS. Results of subsequent investigations were presented by SCHEDL & KRAUS (1988), SCHEDL (2002, 2005, 2008) and LISTON & SPÄTH (2008). Data published up to 2005 were collated by TAEGER et al. (2006). The sum of data on Cypriot sawflies in previous publications is not large, so it seems worthwhile to present here all new data on the 25 species of Symphyta recorded in Cyprus by the authors during a visit in April 2011.

## Material and methods

From 11th to 18th April 2011, many miles were driven by car in the Paphos, Limassol and Larnaka Districts, to sample localities with vegetation types, or single plant species, that seemed likely to support Symphyta. All specimens were collected with hand nets, either by sweeping or 'on sight', and are deposited in the Senckenberg Deutsches Entomologisches Institut (DEI; Müncheberg, Germany). Most were killed with ethyl acetate and pinned on the evening of the day on which they were collected. A few were kept in 96% ethanol specifically for use in barcoding.