

A Faunistic Study of Syrphidae Flowerflies in Alfalfa Fields of North of Khouzestan, Iran

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Abstract : Flowerflies of Syrphidae family is one of the largest families among the Diptera order that due to predatory habit of some species in larva stage has an important role for controlling aphids of the fields. In the present study, flowerflies fauna in the alfalfa fields of the north of Khouzestan were studied during 2012-2013. The species of the family were collected using appropriate methods including insect collecting sweeping net and Malaise traps. According to the fact that the shape of male genitalia in the male insect is important in identification of these species the male genitalia was separated from the body and microscopical slide was prepared then species identification was done considering the male genitalia, the patterns and figures on the abdomen and using available keys. Based on the finding four species of *Sphaerophoria scripta*, *Sphaerophoria turkmenica*, *Melanostoma mellinu*, *Sphaerophoria ruppelli* were collected and according to the abundance frequency of the collected species the most abundance was related to *Sphaerophoria scripta*, then *Sphaerophoria turkmenica* had the most abundance and the least abundance was related to *Sphaerophoria ruppelli*.

Keywords : syrphidae, fauna, alfalfa, Iran

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