

A PROPOSAL OF SERBIAN NAMES FOR DRAGONFLY SPECIES (INSECTA: ODONATA) OF THE BALKAN PENINSULA, WITH THE CHECKLIST OF ODONATA OF SERBIA

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Abstract

This work presents suggestions for Serbian nomenclature for 92 Odonata species which can be found in the states of the Balkan Peninsula and adjacent territories of Hungary and Romania. Sixty-seven species are chosen in particular because of written notes about their discovery on the territory of Serbia. Comments on the names suggested are made with the previously existing Serbian vernacular names for this group of insects in mind.

KEY WORDS: Odonata, Balkan Peninsula, Serbia

Introduction

Naming biological species is a precondition for any systematic activity aimed at those species (researching, protecting, management...). Many plant, animal and fungi species which are part of the human environment have been named according to associations, impressions and needs of the local human populations. Through time, people have come up with many names in different languages. Considering linguistic diversity, both among and within languages, and the level of exploration of life on a great part of our planet, names of most of existing biological species have probably never been written down. Unquestionably, different names for the same biological species represent a treasure as they are a significant part of the world's intangible heritage. However, this type of diversity can cause communication problems, especially when people are trying to exchange knowledge and coordinate activities in scientific research. In the last three centuries there has been a universal system of binomial nomenclature which was formally introduced by Carolus LINNAEUS (LINNAEUS, 1753). This system is designed so that every species is given a unique binomial name consisting of Latin or Latinized words. Naming is done according to ideas of the author who is describing particular

species while respecting international nomenclature codes (in zoological practice it is the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature).

National or vernacular names for species within any systematic group of organisms today aren't just a cultural treasure or a scientific burden. The modern approach to faunistics as a biological discipline also involves collecting data by people who have no formal education in natural history. Accordingly, it is very practical, to use not only international (scientific) nomenclature but also to have names in the language of the collector of the data. Besides, national nomenclature is a precondition for the popularization of researching and protecting nature because names and organisms close to the local culture are much more easily remembered and emotionally adopted by people.

Material and Methods

Before making a list of Serbian names for dragonflies on the Balkan Peninsula, it was necessary first to make a list of species recorded on the Balkans. The term 'Balkan Peninsula' embraces those territories of countries that mostly or fully lie on this peninsula (Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, F.Y.R. of Macedonia, Bulgaria, Albania, and Greece). The aforementioned territories are joined by the Romanian Dobrogea, the Gulf of Trieste in Italy and Turkish Thrace, which geographically also belong to the Balkan Peninsula [The Balkan Peninsula is here defined as the part of the European continent south of the Danube (downstream of the confluence of the Sava) and Sava Rivers, east from the Soča (Isonzo) River and south from the obscurely defined line that crosses the territory of Slovenia in the southwest – northeast direction]. The territory treated here is also adjoined by Croatian and Greek islands, except Crete which is characterized by a large number of endemic species of flora and fauna (LEGAKIS & KYPRIOTAKIS, 1994) and relatively poor Odonata fauna, which also includes two endemic species (*Coenagrion intermedium* Lohmann, 1990 and *Boyeria cretensis* Peters, 1991). The list also includes species recorded on the territories of Hungary and Romania, countries adjacent to Serbia, but not considered as "Balkan". A similar list, which includes species registered on the territories of the Balkan states, was drawn for the first time for the purposes of the project called Balkan OdoBase (JOVIĆ *et al.* 2010a). There are several reasons why not only Serbian speaking (geographical) areas have been chosen: 1) a list of species recorded in some territories is never final so this wider list gives the opportunity for further expansion; 2) dragonflies are not aware of political and linguistic boundaries so the boundaries are not treated as something relevant in the process of creating nomenclature; 3) integration of efforts in nature conservation is of supranational interest and represents a process which implies exchanging knowledge and experiences, and which can be rooted only by insisting on making data available to a wider range of people. The list of species recorded on the territory of the Balkan Peninsula is created based on data presented in the atlas of dragonflies of the Mediterranean and north Africa, arranged by BOUDOT *et al.* (2009). Species recorded in the territory of Serbia are marked with an asterisk [based on data from the aforementioned atlas and works on Odonata of Serbia which were published after 2008 (JOVIĆ *et al.*, 2009; JOVIĆ *et al.*, 2010b; KULIĆ *et al.*, 2012), review of Odonata fauna of northern Serbian province of Vojvodina (SANTOVAC, 2007), publications on the forest domain of Majdanpek by Svetislav ŽIVOJINOVIĆ (1950) and Biljana KARAMAN's doctoral dissertation (KARAMAN, 1979)]. Species recorded in the territory of Hungary and Romania are included in the list based on the maps of distribution of Odonata, arranged by DIJKSTRA & LEWINGTON (2006) with their co-workers, and the list of species presented by MANCI in his doctoral dissertation on Odonata fauna of Romania (MANCI, 2012).

Results and Discussion

The list of species with suggested Serbian nomenclature includes 92 species, of which 67 species form the national Serbian Odonata fauna (Table I).

Table I. The list of Odonata species recorded on the Balkan Peninsula and the adjacent territories of Hungary and Romania with proposed Serbian vernacular names. Species recorded on the territory of Serbia are marked using the asterisk (*) sign.

Genus	Species	Authority	Serbian name
<i>Calopteryx</i>		Leach, 1815	Sjajne device
	<i>C. virgo</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Crna sjajna devica
	<i>C. splendens</i> *	(Harris, 1780)	Pegava sjajna devica
<i>Epallage</i>		Charpentier, 1840	Kamene device
	<i>E. fatime</i>	(Charpentier, 1840)	Kamena devica
<i>Lestes</i>		Leach, 1815	Zelene device
	<i>L. viridis</i> *	(Vander Linden, 1825)	Velika zelena devica
	<i>L. parvidens</i> *	Artobolevskii, 1929	Belorepa zelena devica
	<i>L. barbarus</i> *	(Fabricius, 1798)	Divlja zelena devica
	<i>L. virens</i> *	(Charpentier, 1825)	Mala zelena devica
	<i>L. macrostigma</i> *	(Eversmann, 1836)	Tamna zelena devica
	<i>L. sponsa</i> *	(Hansemann, 1823)	Mala dugorepa zelena devica
	<i>L. dryas</i> *	Kirby, 1890	Velika dugorepa zelena devica
<i>Sympecma</i>		Burmeister, 1839	Zimske device
	<i>S. fusca</i> *	(Vander Linden, 1820)	Zimska devica
<i>Platycnemis</i>		Burmeister, 1839	Peronoge device
	<i>P. pennipes</i> *	(Pallas, 1771)	Peronoga devica
<i>Pyrhosoma</i>		Charpentier, 1840	Ognjene device
	<i>P. nymphula</i> *	(Sulzer, 1776)	Ognjena devica
	<i>P. elisabethae</i>	Schmidt, 1948	Grčka ognjena devica
<i>Erythromma</i>		Charpentier, 1840	Bistrooke device
	<i>E. najas</i> *	(Hansemann, 1823)	Mala bistrooka devica
	<i>E. lindenii</i> *	(Selys, 1840)	Plava bistrooka devica
	<i>E. viridulum</i> *	(Charpentier, 1840)	Velika bistrooka devica
<i>Coenagrion</i>		Kirby, 1890	Plave device
	<i>C. scitulum</i> *	(Rambur, 1842)	Mala plava devica
	<i>C. hastulatum</i> *	(Charpentier, 1825)	Gorska plava devica
	<i>C. lunulatum</i>	(Charpentier, 1840)	Mesečeva plava devica

Genus	Species	Authority	Serbian name	(Table I - continued)
<i>Coenagrion</i>		Kirby, 1890	Plave device	
	<i>C. ornatum</i> *	(Selys, 1850)	Trozuba plava devica	
	<i>C. armatum</i>	(Charpentier, 1840)	Dugorepa plava devica	
	<i>C. puella</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Potkovičasta plava devica	
	<i>C. pulchellum</i> *	(Vander Linden, 1825)	Peharasta plava devica	
<i>Enallagma</i>		Charpentier, 1840	Plavetne device	
	<i>E. cyathigerum</i> *	(Charpentier, 1840)	Plavetna devica	
<i>Ischnura</i>		Charpentier, 1840	Crnotrbe device	
	<i>I. pumilio</i> *	(Charpentier, 1825)	Mala crnotrba devica	
	<i>I. elegans</i> *	(Vander Linden, 1820)	Velika crnotrba devica	
<i>Nehalennia</i>		Selys, 1850	Patuljaste crnotrbe device	
	<i>N. speciosa</i>	(Charpentier, 1840)	Patuljasta crnotrba devica	
<i>Ceriagrion</i>		Selys, 1876	Crvene device	
	<i>C. tenellum</i>	(Villers, 1789)	Crvena devica	
	<i>C. georgifreyi</i>	Schmidt, 1953	Primorska crvena devica	
<i>Aeshna</i>		Fabricius, 1775	Konjici kraljevići	
	<i>A. juncea</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Barski kraljević	
	<i>A. subarctica</i>	(Walker, 1908)	Gorski kraljević	
	<i>A. mixta</i> *	Latreille, 1805	Jesenji kraljević	
	<i>A. affinis</i> *	Vander Linden, 1820	Prolećni kraljević	
	<i>A. cyanea</i> *	(Müller, 1764)	Šumski kraljević	
	<i>A. grandis</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Veliki kraljević	
	<i>A. viridis</i> * ¹	Eversmann, 1936	Zeleni kraljević	
	<i>A. caerulea</i>	(Ström, 1783)	Ledeni kraljević	
	<i>A. isoceles</i> *	(Müller, 1767)	Riđi kraljević	
<i>Anax</i>		Leach, 1815	Konjici carevići	
	<i>A. imperator</i> *	Leach, 1815	Veliki carević	
	<i>A. parthenope</i> *	Selys, 1839	Mali carević	
	<i>A. immaculifrons</i>	Rambur, 1842	Čelavi carević	
	<i>A. ephippiger</i> *	(Burmeister, 1839)	Lutajući carević	
<i>Brachytron</i>		Evans, 1845	Konjici kneževići	
	<i>B. pratense</i> *	(Müller, 1764)	Prolećni knežević	
<i>Callaeschna</i>		Selys, 1883	Primorski plemići	
	<i>C. microstigma</i> * ²	(Schneider, 1845)	Primorski plemić	

Genus	Species	Authority	Serbian name	(Table I - continued)
<i>Gomphus</i>		Leach, 1815	Razroki konjici	
	<i>G. flavipes</i> *	(Charpentier, 1825)	Žutonogi razroki konjic	
	<i>G. pulchellus</i>	Selys, 1840	Vitki razroki konjic	
	<i>G. vulgatissimus</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Običan razroki konjic	
	<i>G. schneiderii</i>	Selys, 1850	Primorski razroki konjic	
<i>Ophiogomphus</i>		Selys, 1854	Zmijski razroki konjici	
	<i>O. cecilia</i> *	(Charpentier, 1840)	Zmijski razroki konjic	
<i>Onychogomphus</i>		Selys, 1854	Sprudni razroki konjici	
	<i>O. forcipatus</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Sprudni razroki konjic	
<i>Lindenia</i>		de Haan, 1826	Veliki razroki konjici	
	<i>L. tetraphylla</i>	(Vander Linden, 1825)	Veliki razroki konjic	
<i>Cordulegaster</i>		Leach, 1815	Konjici daždevnjaci	
	<i>C. picta</i> * ³	Selys, 1854	Istočni konjic daždevnjak	
	<i>C. heros</i> *	Theischinger, 1979	Veliki konjic daždevnjak	
	<i>C. insignis</i> *	Schneider, 1845	Plavooki konjic daždevnjak	
	<i>C. helladica</i>	(Lohmann, 1993)	Grčki konjic daždevnjak	
	<i>C. bidentata</i> *	Selys, 1843	Dvozubi konjic daždevnjak	
<i>Cordulia</i>		Leach, 1815	Barski zeleni konjici	
	<i>C. aenea</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Barski zeleni konjic	
<i>Somatochlora</i>		Selys, 1871	Zeleni konjici	
	<i>S. metallica</i> * ⁴	(Vander Linden, 1825)	Gorski zeleni konjic	
	<i>S. meridionalis</i> *	Nielsen, 1935	Šumski zeleni konjic	
	<i>S. flavomaculata</i> *	(Vander Linen, 1825)	Pegavi zeleni konjic	
	<i>S. arctica</i>	(Zetterstedt, 1840)	Ledeni zeleni konjic	
	<i>S. alpestris</i>	(Selys, 1840)	Alpski zeleni konjic	
	<i>S. borisi</i>	Marinov, 2001	Borisov zeleni konjic	
<i>Epithea</i>		Burmeister, 1839	Prolećni konjici	
	<i>E. bimaculata</i> *	(Charpentier, 1825)	Dvopegi prolećni konjic	
<i>Libellula</i>		Linnaeus, 1758	Vilini konjici	
	<i>L. quadrimaculata</i> *	Linnaeus, 1758	Četvoropegi vilin konjic	
	<i>L. fulva</i> *	Müller, 1764	Plavooki vilin konjic	
	<i>L. depressa</i> *	Linnaeus, 1758	Vilin konjic	
<i>Orthetrum</i>		Newman, 1833	Hitri konjici	
	<i>O. cancellatum</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Hitri konjic	
	<i>O. albistylum</i> *	(Selys, 1848)	Belorepi hitri konjic	

Genus	Species	Authority	Serbian name	(Table I - continued)
<i>Orthetrum</i>		Newman, 1833	Hitri konjici	
	<i>O. brunneum</i> *	(Fonscolombe, 1837)	Plavetni hitri konjic	
	<i>O. chrysostigma</i>	(Burmeister, 1839)	Žutopegi hitri konjic	
	<i>O. taeniolatum</i>	(Schneider, 1845)	Mali hitri konjic	
	<i>O. sabina</i>	(Drury, 1773)	Crnotrbi hitri konjic	
	<i>O. coeruleascens</i> *	(Fabricius, 1798)	Plavi hitri konjic	
<i>Crocothemis</i>		Brauer, 1868	Vatreni konjici	
	<i>C. erythraea</i> *	(Brullé, 1832)	Vatreni konjic	
<i>Trithemis</i>		Brauer, 1868	Bojni konjici	
	<i>T. annulata</i>	(Pallisot de Beauvois, 1805)	Ružičasti bojni konjic	
	<i>T. festiva</i>	(Rambur, 1842)	Crni bojni konjic	
<i>Sympetrum</i>		Newman, 1833	Poljski konjici	
	<i>S. striolatum</i> *	(Charpentier, 1840)	Jesenji poljski konjic	
	<i>S. vulgatum</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Brkati poljski konjic	
	<i>S. meridionale</i> *	(Selys, 1841)	Obični poljski konjic	
	<i>S. fonscolombii</i> *	(Selys, 1840)	Plavooki poljski konjic	
	<i>S. flaveolum</i> *	(Linnaeus, 1758)	Žutokrili poljski konjic	
	<i>S. sanguineum</i> *	(Müller, 1764)	Veliki crnonogi poljski konjic	
	<i>S. depressiusculum</i> *	(Selys, 1841)	Mali crnonogi poljski konjic	
	<i>S. pedemontanum</i> *	(Müller in Allioni, 1766)	Četvoropegi poljski konjic	
	<i>S. danae</i>	(Sulzer, 1776)	Crni poljski konjic	
<i>Leucorrhinia</i>		Brittinger, 1850	Barski vranici	
	<i>L. pectoralis</i> *	(Charpentier, 1825)	Žutopegi barski vranac	
	<i>L. dubia</i> *	(Vander Linden, 1825)	Mali barski vranac	
	<i>L. caudalis</i> *	(Charpentier, 1840)	Belorepi barski vranac	
<i>Selysiothemis</i>		Ris, 1897	Primorski vranici	
	<i>S. nigra</i>	(Vander Linden, 1825)	Primorski vranac	
<i>Pantala</i>		Hagen, 1861	Konjici litalice	
	<i>P. flavescens</i>	(Fabricius, 1798)	Dugorepi konjic litalica	

1) After the initial record near Hajdukovo in 1982, species was never recorded again in the territory of Serbia. Revision of voucher specimens was not possible. Having in mind that habitats suitable for breeding of *A. viridis* exist in northern Serbia the species is listed according to SANTOVAC (2007); 2) After the initial finding near Milanovac [it is not certain which Milanovac it is (there are at least 5 locations in Serbia called Milanovac)], the species has never been found again in Serbian territory. The species is listed according to KARAMAN (1979); 3) After the initial finding within the forest domain of Majdanpek, the species has never been found again in the territory of Serbia. Inspection of the material which was the basis for the publication of this finding was not possible. The species is listed according to ŽIVOJINOVIĆ (1950); 4) Revision of several museum collections in Serbia showed that previously reported *S. metallica* specimens from Serbia should be treated as *S. meridionalis* (JOVIĆ *et al.*, 2009). However, the identity of a single female specimen from Požarevac that is kept in the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo (ADAMOVIĆ, 1948) still needs revision. For that reason, *S. metallica* is here marked as a species recorded in Serbia.

Creating systematic lists of national names for all the species of Odonata in national faunas is relatively new in Odonatology. For example, the first systematic attempts to give names to species of Odonata in order to create a widely accepted vernacular nomenclature in English date back to the first half of the twentieth century (CORBET & BROOKS, 2008). Such attempts were only partly successful because, for example, today different English names in Great Britain, Ireland and the USA exist. DIJKSTRA & LEWINGTON (2006) created a list of international names of Odonata in English for a field guide to recognizing British and European species, which is another interesting contribution to the affirmation of English as the *LINGUA LATINA* of today. The modern French system of Odonata names is based on the list published by ROBERT (1958). In the vast number of cases Latin names are either transformed to sound more like French words (mostly the names of genera) or translated into French (mostly the names of species). Some of the names, especially poetical ones, are completely French, e.g. Petite nymphe au corps de feu (*Pyrrhosoma nymphula*) (BOUDOT & DOMMANGET, 2012). On the other hand, German names [after SCHIEMENZ (1953)] are binomial with only a very few exceptions in the cases of single word names. Binomial nomenclature was achieved by using agglutination and was almost exclusively made up of words of German origin [the most conspicuous exception is the word *libelle* (see FLIEDNER, 2012)]. In his review of German vernacular nomenclature, Martin LEMKE (<http://www.libelleninfo.de/07.html>) mentions that SCHIEMENZ defines German names for Odonata as combinations of words which always indicate the characteristics of shape or color of the body, habitats, distribution or specificity of the way of life.

Because of their very limited interest in this group of insects until the 1990s, Balkan Slavs started to follow this trend of giving national names rather late, at the end of the twentieth and the beginning of the twenty-first century. Today, there are standard names for Odonata species in Slovenian (GESITER, 1999), and suggestions of national nomenclature in Croatian [in the manuscript prepared by FRANKOVIĆ & BOGDANOVIĆ (bib.irb.hr/datoteka/226949.Nazivlje.doc)] and Bulgarian (the proposition is available at <http://www.odonata.biodiversity.bg/species.htm> and arranged by Milen MARINOV) languages.

A list of Odonata names in the Serbian language is proposed here as an attempt to fill at least a small part of the gap which complicates the progress of entomology and the popularization of amateur study of insects. It was not until the nineteenth and twentieth centuries that the ancient Serbian name for Odonata – *vilin(sk) konjici* (fairy horses) was accompanied by some other written names, like *vodene device* (water maidens) or *gospojice* (misses). Spoken language is a little more lavish [*šnajder* (tailor), *makazar* (scissor bug), *helikopterčić* (little helicopter), ...], but what is characteristic of all of these names is that they refer to Odonata as a group (insect order or suborders) and not as a particular species (JOVIĆ, 2007) so there were no problems about standardization of the existing national nomenclature on the level of naming genera and species. It is mostly widely accepted today that the order of Odonata is divided into two suborders: Zygoptera and Anisoptera. These taxonomic categories have Serbian names, too: *Vodene device* (water maidens) and *Vilinski konjici* (fairy horses) (respectively). There are two variations of names for the insects of the Anisoptera suborder – *vilinski konjici* (fairy horses) and *vilini konjici* (fairy's horses). Some entomologists used both of these variations in their publications. For example, the famous Serbian entomologist Svetislav ŽIVOJINOVIĆ in his book on honey bee pests used the name *vilini konjici* (ŽIVOJINOVIĆ, 1936). On the other hand the same author used the name *vilinski konjici* in his book on entomofauna of the forest domain of Majdanpek (ŽIVOJINOVIĆ, 1950). The name *vilinski konjic* is mentioned in the second edition of the *Srpski rječnik* (Serbian Dictionary) (KARADŠCHITSCH, 1850) as *vilenski konj* (“виленски коњ”). Interpretation of the author's concept refers (erroneously) to the insect from the Lepidoptera order – “... *papilionis* genus ...”. In the fourth public edition of the Dictionary (KARADŠCHITSCH, 1935), “... [*libellula depressa* L.]” is also added to the aforementioned interpretation. It is undoubtedly indicated that the name *vilinski konjic* refers to an Odonata species (*Libellula depressa*). Without searching the origin of sources used by the editors of dictionaries, this interpretation was accepted as a starting point for clearly separating the use of the names *vilinski* and *vilin*

konjic for representatives of Anisoptera. The founder of Serbian odonatology, Živko ADAMOVIĆ insisted on the use of the word *vilinski*. *Vilinski konjic* refers to the demonic, "ulterior" origin of these insects, which completely matches the perception of Odonata by Europeans. By contrast, the meaning of the name *vilin konjic* refers to the insect which is used by fairies as a vehicle, for transport. That is the reason for using the name *vilinski konjici* for the Anisoptera suborder, while the name *vilini konjici* is used for the representatives of the *Libellula* genus, which was the first described order of dragonflies. Moreover, Linnaeus thought that all Odonata (both *vilinski konjici* and *vodene device*) belonged to genus *Libellula* (page 543, LINNAEUS, 1758) so this kind of approach could be a contribution to "reconciliation" in the way the words *vilin* and *vilinski* are used, thereby preserving the tradition established by Dr ADAMOVIĆ.

The way of creating Serbian names was a compromise among: a) meeting the criteria by which, based on the name, one can clearly see to which genus the particular species belongs, b) descriptiveness, ecology and (least desirable) geography and c) preserving the spirit of language, i.e. trying to make the name sound as indigenous as possible. In addition, the names are relatively "mystical" – as if borrowed from a fairy tale, so their spirit could match the Serbian name of the entire group. In some cases good examples from other European languages were used as inspiration for creating Serbian names. Some limiting factors which dictated the structure and choice of names emerged during work on this nomenclature. Namely, strict use of binomial vernacular nomenclature (or national names made up of two parts, like those in Slovenian) is, unfortunately, impossible in the Serbian language. The reason for this is that the neologisms (newly invented words), which provide the greatest freedom in the process of creating descriptive binomial nomenclature, in the Serbian language often sound rough and unnatural [e.g. *poljokonjic* (fieldhorse) for the species of genus *Sympetrum* which can easily be remembered as dragonflies that often move far from water surfaces into the fields]. Besides, some quite useful names have already been used for naming representatives of some other groups (e.g. the name *žalar* (living on the beach), for the species often found on the strands or beaches, has already been used for naming some species of birds from the family of Charadriidae; the name *plavac* (blue), for the representatives of the genus *Coenagrion* which has blue coloured males, has already been used for naming some species of butterflies from the family of Lycaenidae; ...).

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank my colleagues Cedric VANAPPELGHEM (The University of Lille, France) and Klaus-Jürgen CONZE (LötkPlan - Conze, Cordes & Kirst GbR, Germany) who helped me find sources and interpretation of French and German nomenclature. My thanks also go to Ljiljana ANDJUS (Natural History Museum in Belgrade, Serbia), Milen MARINOV (University of Canterbury, New Zealand) and Svetozar SANTOVAC (National Museum in Zrenjanin, Serbia) for supporting my work on Serbian Odonata nomenclature.

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ПРЕДЛОГ СРПСКИХ ИМЕНА
ВИЛИНСКИХ КОЊИЦА И ВОДЕНИХ ДЕВИЦА
(INSECTA: Odonata) БАЛКАНСКОГ ПОЛУОСТРВА,
СА СПИСКОМ ВРСТА ЗАБЕЛЕЖЕНИХ У СРБИЈИ

Милош Јовић

Извод

Овај рад садржи предлог српских назива за 92 врсте вилинских коњица, забележене на простору држава Балканског полуострва и суседних подручја Мађарске и Румуније. 67 врста, забележених на територији Србије, је посебно означено, тако чинећи дуго очекивани списак врста Odonata у фауни Србије. Предложена номенклатура је коментарисана у светлу постојећих српских имена за ову групу инсеката.

Received October 17th, 2013

Accepted October 21st, 2013