

**GUANCHIA BRIGNOLII VIGNA TAGLIANTI, 1974 IN TURKEY
(DERMAPTERA: FORFICULIDAE)**

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Abstract - The occurrence of the earwig *Guanchia brignolii* Vigna Taglianti, 1974 in Turkey is documented for the first time. Morphological differences between *G. brignolii* and very similar *G. pubescens* (Géné, 1837) are illustrated and commented.

KEY WORDS: Forficulidae, Dermaptera, fauna, Turkey

Izveček - *GUANCHIA BRIGNOLII* VIGNA TAGLIANTI, 1974, V TURČIJI
(DERMAPTERA: FORFICULIDAE)

Prvič je dokazana prisotnost strigalice vrste *Guanchia brignolii* Vigna Taglianti, 1974, v Turčiji. Prikazane in pojasnjene so morfološke razlike med *G. brignolii* in zelo podobno vrsto *G. pubescens* (Géné, 1837).

KLJUČNE BESEDE: Forficulidae, Dermaptera, favna, Turčija

The genus *Guanchia* Burr, 1911 comprises 31 species distributed in sub-Saharan, Palaearctic and Oriental regions (Steinmann 1989). Only two species, *G. hincksi* (Burr, 1947) and *G. pubescens* (Géné, 1837) have been noted from Turkey to date (Burr 1947a, b, Hincks 1947, Weidner 1957, Mařan 1977, Haas & Henderickx 2002) and the occurrence of *G. kaznakovi* (Semenov, 1903) is probable there (Burr 1952) regarding the reports from neighbouring Caucasus (e.g. Bey-Bienko 1936, Steinmann 1989). *G. pubescens* had been mentioned twice from Turkey (Herrera Mesa 1999, Haas & Henderickx 2002), but both publications lack specific faunistic data.

Earlier, Vigna Taglianti (1974) described a new species *G. brignolii* Vigna Taglianti, 1974 which is closely related to *G. pubescens* from Lebanon. Later, Kiss

(1995) found this species in Israel and also mentioned its occurrence in Syria and Turkey, but without further specifications. Four specimens of the Dermaptera material collected by Z. Malinka (Opava, Czech Republic) in Turkey were identified by myself as *G. brignolii*.

They are labelled as: TR – prov. Adana, Nur Daglari mts., Nurdagi Gec. – Kuscubeli Gec., 1120-1250 m a.s.l., Hasanbeyii env., 9.-11.5.2005, Z. Malinka leg. (one male, one female); TR – prov. Hatay, Keracay, Hatay env., Asi Nehri river valley, 6.-8.5.2005, Z. Malinka leg. (two females). The material is deposited in my private collection. This is the first precise record of this species from Turkey.

Harz & Kaltenbach (1976) and Albouy & Caussanel (1990) made the general statement that all specimens of *G. pubescens* from Syria, Israel and Turkey should be *G. brignolii*. According to current knowledge, the distribution of *G. pubescens* is probably restricted to the western part of the Mediterranean region (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Portugal, Spain, France, Italy) and *G. brignolii* is distributed in the eastern Mediterranean (Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Turkey), with the exact limits in the distribution not known. So, the occurrence of *G. pubescens* in Turkey is very improbable and the previous reports (Herrera Mesa 1999, Haas & Henderickx 2002) surely belong to *G. brignolii*.

The two species are rather similar, *G. brignolii* and *G. pubescens* have a similar yellowish-brown to reddish-brown colour and similar size 10-15mm (including forceps). However, there are a number of differential, morphological characters to separate the species.:

G. brignolii – pronotum transverse, wider than long (Fig. 1); inner medial tooth of male forceps branch is sharp and oriented strongly downward (Fig. 3); subgenital plate pointed distally (Fig. 5); basal vesicle of male genitalia “s” curved (Fig. 7). The characters are based on Vigna Taglianti (1974), Steinmann (1993) and study of the material from Turkey mentioned above.

G. pubescens - pronotum quadrate, as wide as long (Fig. 2); inner medial tooth of male forceps branch is blunt and oriented horizontally or only slightly downward (Fig. 4); subgenital plate rounded distally (Fig. 6); basal vesicle of male genitalia hooked with thin distal projection (Fig. 8). The characters are based on Albouy & Caussanel (1990), Steinmann (1993) and the study of material from Southern Spain: Motril env., 27.5.1997, 6 males, 4 females, P. Kočárek leg., det., coll.

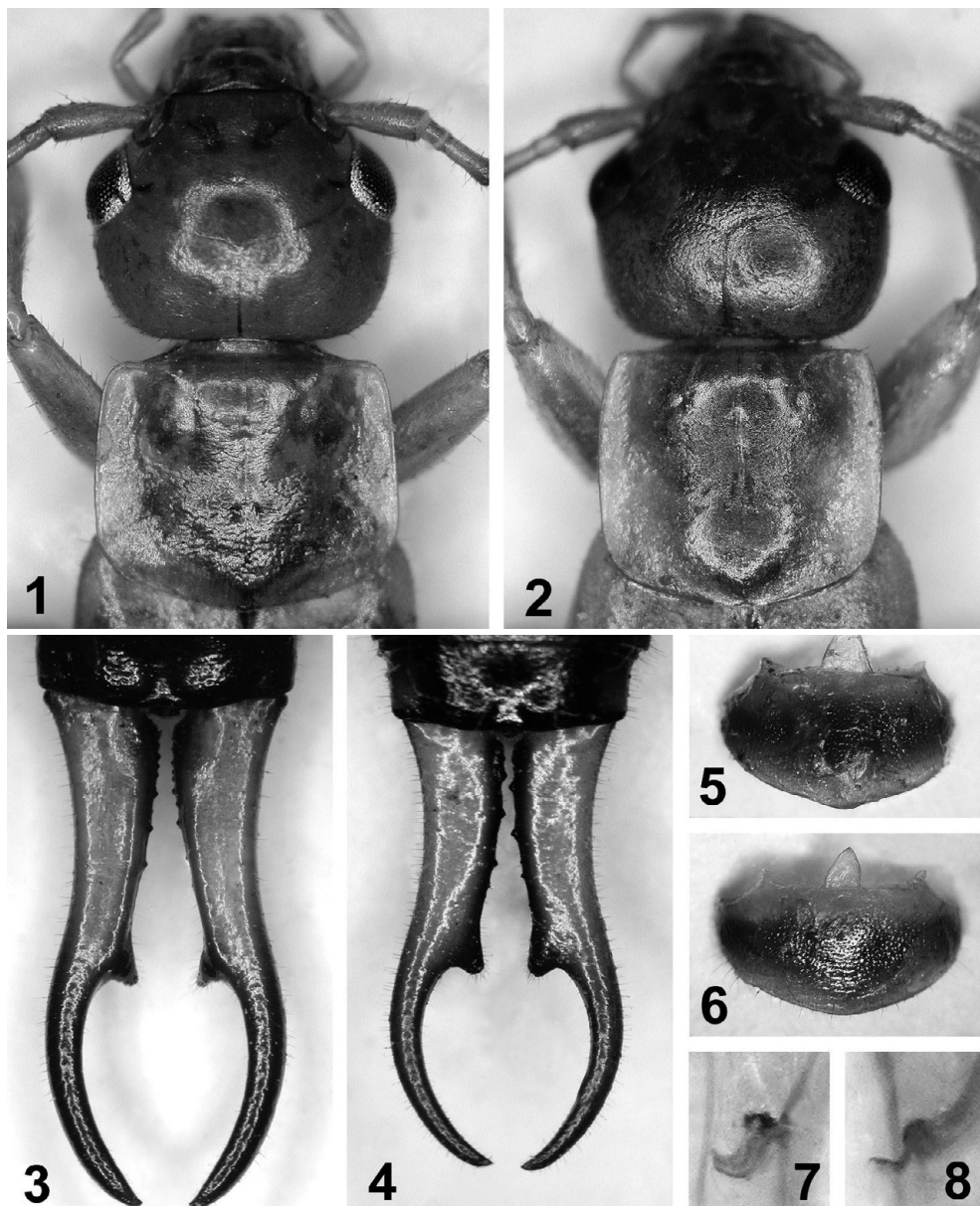


Fig 1: Head and pronotum of *G. brignolii*; **Fig 2:** Head and pronotum of *G. pubescens*; **Fig 3:** Male forceps of *G. brignolii*; **Fig 4:** Male forceps of *G. pubescens*; **Fig 5:** Subgenital plate of *G. brignolii*; **Fig 6:** Subgenital plate of *G. pubescens*; **Fig. 7:** Basal vesicle of male genitalia of *G. brignolii*; **Fig 8:** Basal vesicle of male genitalia of *G. pubescens* (Figs. 1, 3, 5, 7 - male of *G. brignolii* from Turkey, prov. Adana; Figs 2, 4, 6, 8 - male of *G. pubescens* from Spain, Motril env.)

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