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Preliminary Investigations on *Anisoplia* Species (Col.: Scarabaeoidea) and their Distributions on Wheat Fields in Tekirdağ Province

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Abstract: *Anisoplia* species fed on wheat was determined in Tekirdağ province in Turkey. Three *Anisoplia* species were identified. These were *Anisoplia syriaca* Burm., *Anisoplia austriaca* Hbst. and *Anisoplia flavipennis* Brull. Their distribution rates were recorded as 72, 18 and 10% respectively. The most widespread species was *A. syriaca* in the region.

Key words: *Anisoplia*, species, wheat, pests, distribution, tekirdağ

Introduction

Wheat is the most important field crop grown in Tekirdağ. *Anisoplia* species are one of the major pests of cereals and they can cause serious damages to yield. 28 *Anisoplia* species were identified in various parts of Turkey (Lodos, 1989). However there has been no report for their existence in Tekirdağ. *Anisoplia* species have been found on grain in most countries and biologies have been extensively studied (Burdun *et al.*, 1991; Gutenmaher *et al.*, 1989; Molnar, 1994; Udachin and Kosov, 1989; Zamotailov, 1988). This study was aimed to determine to the *Anisoplia* species on wheat in Tekirdağ Province in Turkey.

Eight counties of Tekirdağ were defined as subsample units. Three fields were selected in each county. These are Central Tekirdağ, Şarköy, Malkara, Muratlı, Saray, Çerkezköy, Çorlu and Hayrabolu. *Anisoplia* species were collected at weakly intervals during May and June in 1996-1997 from wheat fields determined previously.

Table 1: *Anisoplia* species and their distribution in Tekirdağ Province in Turkey

Date	Location/county	Adult <i>Anisoplia</i> spp.per 100 splay
1.6.1996	Veliköy/Çerkezköy	5 <i>A. austriaca</i> 1 <i>A. syriaca</i>
3.6.1996	Gölcük/Şarköy	5 <i>A. syriaca</i>
4.6.1996	Hoşköy/Şarköy	1 <i>A. syriaca</i>
10.6.1996	Vakfıkebir/Malkara	3 <i>A. syriaca</i>
10.6.1996	Veliköy/Çerkezköy	1 <i>A. syriaca</i> 5 <i>A. austriaca</i>
10.6.1996	Velimeşe/Çorlu	2 <i>A. syriaca</i> 3 <i>A. flavipennis</i>
27.5.1996	Çınarlı/Şarköy	2 <i>A. syriaca</i>
	Hoşköy/Şarköy	3 <i>A. syriaca</i>
	Gölcük/Şarköy	5 <i>A. syriaca</i>
1.6.1997	Çınarlı/Şarköy	5 <i>A. syriaca</i>
3.6.1997	Veliköy/Çerkezköy	3 <i>A. austriaca</i>
7.6.1997	Çorlu/Velimeşe	2 <i>A. flavipennis</i>
25.5.1997	Hoşköy/Şarköy	7 <i>A. syriaca</i>
27.5.1997	Naio/Tekirdağ	5 <i>A. syriaca</i>

Three *Anisoplia* species were found in Tekirdağ during the surveys on gramineae. These were *Anisoplia syriaca* Burm., *A. austriaca* Hbst. and *A. flavipennis* Brull. (Table 1). Their distribution rates were respectively 66, 25 and 9%. Their densities were not economically important. *A. syriaca* has been occurred as the most wide spread species in Tekirdağ.

A. agricola Pd. and *A. segetum velutina* Erich have been found in Marmara region in Turkey (Lodos *et al.*, 1978). *A. syriaca*, *A. austriaca* and *A. segetum* are being the major species of *Anisoplia* in Turkey (Lodos, 1989). *A. austriaca* and *A. segetum* were determined and *A. segetum* was found to be the most widespread one in Central Anatolian Region (Özkan, 1994). So, the results of investigation reveal that *A. syriaca*, which is a different major pest, is worth to be focused on in Tekirdağ Province in Thrace Region of Turkey.

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