

A PRELIMINARY LIST OF DRAGONFLIES (ODONATA) OF THE KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

by

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The present communication is based in the first place on a collection of dragonflies made as part of the Kruger National Park survey carried out by Dr. L. Vári and Mr. D. W. Rorke in November 1961 and again by Dr. L. Vári in December 1963; 27 specimens were collected. This collection is supplemented by 55 specimens of dragonflies which I myself caught in the Kruger National Park during two visits in September 1954 and in September 1955.

In all 21 species have been collected, which are listed below, with time and locality data and with a few remarks which seem to be appropriate.

1. *Elatoneura glauca* (Selys). Widespread on the African continent. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Pafuri, 20.9.1954.
2. *Ceriagrion glabrum* (Burm). Widespread on the African continent and very common. K.N.P.: 2 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀, Pafuri, 2.9.14955.
3. *Ceriagrion suave* Ris. Widespread in Southern Africa. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Pafuri, 24.9.1955.
4. *Pseudagrion acaciae* Foerster. Widespread in subtropical and tropical Africa. K.N.P.: 5 ♂♂, Pafuri, 20.9.1954; 15 ♂♂ and 5 ♀♀, Pafuri, 24.9.1955; 1 ♂ and 2 ♀♀, Punda Milia, 21-23.11.1961.
5. *Pseudagrion pseudomassaicum* Pinhey. Widespread in Southern Africa. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Pafuri, 20.9.1954. 2 ♂♂, 24.9.1955.
6. *Ischnura senegalensis* (Ramb.). Widespread on the African continent. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Pafuri, 24.9.1955.
7. *Phaon iridipennis* (Burm). Widespread on the African continent. K.N.P.: 3 ♂♂ and 1 ♀, Pafuri, 24.9.1955; 1 ♀, Letaba Camp, 14-18.11.1961.
8. *Ictinogomphus ferox* (Ramb.). Widespread in subtropical and tropical Africa. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Letaba Camp, 14-18.11.1961.
9. *Gomphidia quarrei* (Schout). A tropical species. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Malelane, 3-5.12.1963.
10. *Lestinogomphus africanus* (Fraser). A tropical species. K.N.P.: 1 ♀, Pafuri, 24.9.1955.

11. *Crenigomphus cornutus* Pinhey. A mainly tropical species. K.N.P.: 1 ♀, Malelane, 3-5.12.1963.
12. *Paragomphus hageni* (Selys). Widespread on the African continent. K.N.P.: 1 ♀, Letaba Camp, 14.18.11.1961; 1 ♀, Shingwedzi, 19-20.11.1961; 1 ♀, Punda Milia, 9.11.12.1963.
13. *Nesciothemis farinosum* (Foerst.). Widespread on the African continent. K.N.P.: 2 ♂♂, Letaba Camp, 14-18.11. 1961.
14. *Hemistigma albipuncta* (Ramb.). A tropical species. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Pafuri, 24.9.1955.
15. *Brachythemis leucosticta* (Burm.). Widespread on the African continent except extreme south. K.N.P.: 4 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀, Pafuri, 20.9.1954; 2 ♀♀, Pafuri, 24.9.1955; 1 ♂ and 1 ♀, Orpendam, 19.9.1955; 1 ♀, Letaba Camp, 14-18.11.1961.
16. *Trithemis annulata* (Beauv.). Widespread on the African continent. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Orpendam, 19.9.1955.
17. *Trithemis arteriosa* (Burm.). Widespread on the African continent. K.N.P.: 4 ♀♀, Letaba Camp, 14-18.11.1961; 1 ♂, Punda Milia, 21-23.11.1961.
18. *Trithemis kirbyi ardens* (Gerst.). Widespread on the African continent. K.N.P.: 5 ♂♂ and 1 ♀, Letaba Camp, 15-18-11.1961.
19. *Trithemis wernerii* Ris. A mainly tropical species. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Pafuri, 24.9.1955; 1 ♀, Letaba Camp, 14-18.11.1961.
20. *Olpogastra lugubris* Karsch. A tropical species. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Pafuri, 24.9.1955.
21. *Trapezostigma limbatum* (Désj.). Mainly subtropical and tropical. K.N.P.: 1 ♂, Malelane, 3-5.12.1963.

In his review of the dragonflies of Africa Pinhey (1962) considers Transvaal to be a part of the faunal province which he calls, perhaps not very aptly, "the Karoo and Kalahari Provinces". In 1959 these provinces had a recorded fauna of 115 species of dragonflies. The Limpopo Valley, however, belongs, according to the same author, to the "Zambesi and Central African Province" which has a richer dragonfly fauna: 223 species recorded in 1959. That the Kruger National Park participates of the fauna of the Zambesi and Central African Province is borne out by the capture of several tropical species in the park, such as No. 9. 10. 11. 14 and 20. The comparison of the meagre number of species thus far collected in the Kruger National Park (21) with the number that have been recorded in the faunal provinces of which Kruger National Park is a part shows that the present list includes only a small fraction of the dragonfly species actually occurring in the Park.

REFERENCE

- Pinhey, E., 1962: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Odonata of the African Continent (up to December 1959). Subsídios Para o Estudo da Biologia Na Lunda. Museu do Dundo, Lisboa.