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New records of *Linyphia mimonti* Simon, 1885 in Italy

(Araneae: Linyphiidae)

Abstract

Linyphia mimonti Simon, 1885 is a spider with few occurrence data in Italy. The first records for the regions Tuscany, Marche, Lazio, Abruzzo, and Sicily are provided. They allow to better define the Italian distribution of this species and to extend its range westward.

Key words: Arachnida, faunistics, first record, new record, spider.

Riassunto

[*Nuovi dati di Linyphia mimonti* Simon, 1885 in Italia]

Linyphia mimonti Simon, 1885 è una specie di ragno per la quale risultano pochi dati in Italia. Vengono fornite le prime segnalazioni per le regioni Toscana, Marche, Lazio, Abruzzo e Sicilia che permettono di definire meglio la distribuzione di questa specie in Italia e di estenderne verso ovest l'areale.

Introduction

Linyphia mimonti Simon, 1885 is a spider belonging to the family Linyphiidae, known from Italy, Albania, Greece (Eubea, Lesbos, Chios and Creta included), Cyprus, Lebanon, and Israel (CHATZAKI *et al.*, 2015; BOSMANS *et al.*, 2019; NENTWIG *et al.*, 2023; WORLD SPIDER CATALOG, 2023)

In Italy, occurrence data of *L. mimonti* are scarce and scattered (cf. PANTINI & ISAIA, 2019). This spider was known so far only from Friuli-Venezia Giulia (BRIGNOLI, 1975), Campania and Apulia (VAN HELSDINGEN, 1969), Basilicata and Calabria (IJLAND & VAN HELSDINGEN, 2016).

Some new records of this species from the last few years allow us to better define its Italian distribution, repressing the westernmost limit of the range of this arachnid.

Material and methods

The specimens were observed, photographed and uploaded on the platform “iNaturalist” (www.inaturalist.org) where they have been identified (or checked) by the authors. We selected the observations representing first records at regional level (first Italian administrative division).

In the examined material the following data are provided: region, municipality and province, locality and where possible other details, geographical coordinates (decimal degrees), uncertainty in metres and *datum*, altitude, date, number and sex of the specimens observed, author of the photo, references to the images repository and possible observation identifier (ID).

Results

The records selected for this contribution are listed below.

Linyphia mimonti Simon, 1885

Material examined: TUSCANY: Sesto Fiorentino (Florence), Carmignanello, in the vicinity of former monastery, 43.84008° N 11.23681° E (uncertainty = 25 m; *datum*: WGS84), ca. 340 m a.s.l., 30.V.2019, 1 female, photo by Francesca Graziani (www.inaturalist.org; observation ID 26055667); Firenze, Serpiolle, 43.824743° N 11.251570° E (uncertainty = 59 m; *datum*: WGS84), ca. 245 m a.s.l., 28.IV.2022, 1 female, photo by Nicola Addelfio (www.inaturalist.org; observation ID 113919615); Firenze, Serpiolle, 43.82403° N 11.25302° E (uncertainty = 138 m; *datum*: WGS84), ca. 195 m a.s.l., 9.III.2022, 1 female, 1 male, photo by Nicola Addelfio (www.inaturalist.org; observation ID 108313013). MARCHE: Ripatransone (Ascoli Piceno), along the edge of a gravel road that crosses a wood surrounded by cultivated fields, on a shrub (*Genisteae*), 42.96910° N 13.79658° E (uncertainty = 50 m; *datum*: WGS84), ca. 335 m a.s.l., 11.V.2021, 1 female, photo by Davide Specca (www.aracnofilia.org). LAZIO: Pastena (Frosinone), 41.469645° N 13.487662° E (uncertainty = 3,13 km; *datum*: WGS84), ca. 250 m a.s.l., 1.V.2022, 1 female, photo by “anbec” (www.inaturalist.org; observation ID 116030621). ABRUZZO: Chieti, Lecceta di Torino di Sangro, 42.226742° N 14.538308° E (uncertainty = 7 m; *datum*: WGS84), ca. 60 m a.s.l., 21.V.2023, photo by Emanuele Santarelli (www.inaturalist.org; observation ID 163395366). SICILY: Melilli (Siracusa), between Villasmundo e Melilli, 37.230702° N 15.104794° E (uncertainty = 409 m; *datum*: WGS84), ca. 130 m a.s.l., 13.III.2023, photo by “iris_and_julia_schlick-steiner” (www.inaturalist.org; observation ID 151062839).



Fig. 1 - Male and female specimens of *Linyphia mimonti* Simon, 1885 from Serpiolle (Florence). Photo: Nicola Addelfio.

Discussion

The data listed above represent the first records of this East Mediterranean-distributed species for the following regions, Tuscany, Marche, Lazio, Abruzzo, and Sicily.

These new findings, besides adding new regions, help to better define the distribution of this species in Italy. In particular, the records from Tuscany and Lazio extend westward the distribution range of *L. mimonti*. Considering the available data (cf. references quoted in the introduction), the species seems to be assigned to an E-Mediterranean chorotype (*sensu* VIGNA TAGLIANTI *et al.*, 1993), so its presence should be investigated at least in Anatolia (it is already known for the Greek islands of Lesbos and Chios) and in the eastern sector of North Africa.

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