

Short scientific note

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Clypeogethes elongatus (Rosenhauer, 1856) in Sardinia (Coleoptera: Nitidulidae, Meligethinae)

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Abstract

Clypeogethes elongatus (Rosenhauer, 1856) is a pollen-beetle occurring in SW Mediterranean areas, from Southern Iberian Peninsula to most of the North Africa; in Italy, this uncommon species was thus far known only from the Island of Pantelleria (southern Sicily). Recent researches in S Sardinia allowed to find a small relic population of this species in Cagliari (San Michele hill), where it is certainly associated with early-flowering Brassicaceae, on chalk-based rocks.

Key words: *Clypeogethes elongatus*, Brassicaceae, Sardinia.

A series of short entomological surveys in Sardinia (May 2021 and May 2023), mainly devoted to collect phytophagous and aquatic beetles, in the framework of research dedicated in particular to Nitidulidae Meligethinae and Hydraenidae (Liu et al. 2020; Sabatelli et al. 2021), has allowed us to collect in the town of Cagliari a single specimen of a SW Mediterranean species of Meligethinae (Coleoptera, Nitidulidae), *Clypeogethes elongatus* (Rosenhauer, 1856). This is an uncommon pollen-beetle typically occurring in SW Mediterranean areas, from Southern Iberian Peninsula to most of the North Africa (Audisio 1993).

Examined material

Italy, Sardinia: Cagliari, San Michele Hill, N39.24212 E9.11294, 80 m a.s.l., on unidentified small yellow Brassicaceae, May 19th, 2021, A. Biscaccianti lgt., 1 female. The specimen is presently preserved in the P.

Audisio’s collection (CAR-MZUR: entomological collections of the Zoological Museum of the Sapienza Rome University).

This new locality represents the second site of presence of *Clypeogethes elongatus* in Italy and in the whole northern Central Mediterranean areas, and the first one outside the Island of Pantelleria (S Sicily, Trapani province), thus far representing its only known Italian area of occurrence (Liebmann 1962, as *Meligethes* sp.; Audisio 1983, 1993, 1995, and unpublished data; Ratti 1990).

The new record of this species allows to increase the number of known Meligethinae species of Sardinia, bringing it to 37 (Audisio 2011).

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