

Pseudopalpares parvopunctatus Ábrahám, 2023 - a new record for the Angolan antlion fauna (Neuroptera: Myrmeleontidae)

ZOLTÁN PAPP

Budapest, Hungary, e-mail: zoltanpapp1956@gmail.com

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Abstract: In this study, the author describes the occurrence of a rare and representative antlion species, namely *Pseudopalpares parvopunctatus* Ábrahám, 2023 in southern Angola. This is the first time that this species has been found in the fauna of Angola. The most important phenological and distributional features are given.

Keywords: faunistic, new record, distribution, Angola

The antlion fauna of Africa is very rich, with over 500 species (STANGE 2004), including large, medium and small species. The largest and most decorative species belong to the tribe Palparini Banks, 1911. Previously classified in the genus *Palpares* Rambur, 1842, these species have now been combined into several new genera (INSOM & CARFI 1988, MANSELL 2004, PROST 2018).

Species of the genus *Pseudopalpares* Insom & Carfi, 1988 occur predominantly in Africa south of the Equator, as do most other species of the tribe. However, the distribution of the species is only partially known (PROST 2010), and several new species have been described even in the early 21st century (MANSELL 2004, AKOUDJIN & MICHEL 2011, ÁBRAHÁM 2023, 2025).

Pseudopalpares parvopunctatus Ábrahám, 2023 has recently been described from Botswana and Namibia. The genus *Pseudopalpares* comprises five species (ÁBRAHÁM 2023). In the last two years, new specimens of this rare species have become known in addition to the type specimens. According to their distribution data, *P. parvopunctatus* has proven to be a new species in the fauna of Angola.

New faunistic data from Z. Papp's private collection, Budapest, Hungary: 1 ♀ North NAMIBIA, Rundu, 13 February, 2007, (at light) leg: Werner; 1 ♀ Southern ANGOLA, Prov. Huila 1337 m, 16°01'11"S, 14°13'42"E, 08. March 2024, (at light) leg: Majer A.

The new faunistic data show that the seasonal activity of the adults falls in February, March, and April. The species is active at night, as it was only collected using lamps and light traps.

The map, compiled based on the new faunal and type specimen locality data, shows that the distribution of the species is more closely associated with dry savannah vegetation, particularly Angolan mopane woodlands and Kalahari xeric savanna, and delineate its distribution across the ecoregions of Botswana, Namibia and Angola.

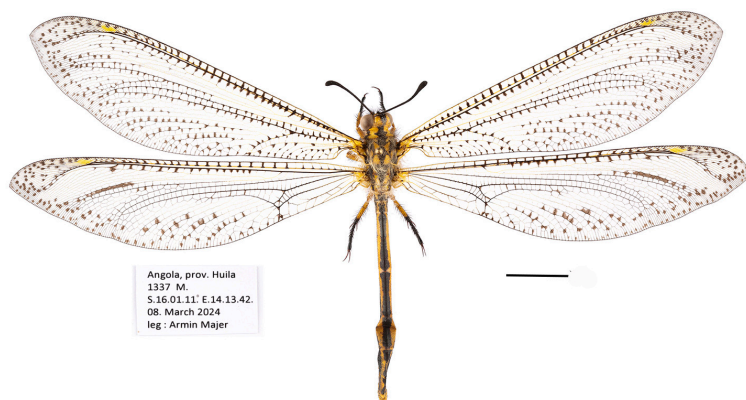


Fig. 1: Female *P. parvopunctatus*, a new record for the fauna of Angola (Scale 10 mm)

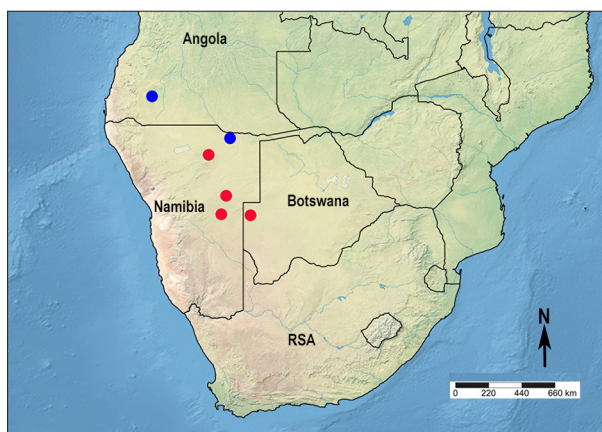


Fig. 2: Distribution of *P. parvopunctatus* in Southern Africa, new records blue dots

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