

Two new West-Palaeartic species of *Brachyopa* Meigen, 1822 (Diptera, Syrphidae) with description and records of additional European species

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Brachyopa cruriscutum **sp. n.** (east Turkey) and *B. vernalis* **sp. n.** (Crete) are described. The new species are members of the bicolor guild sensu Doczkal & Dziock, 2004 and are compared with species of this guild. The male and the intraspecific variation of *B. bimaculosa* Doczkal & Dziock 2004 are described for the first time. Data on the first records of *B. atlantea* Kassebeer, 2000 and *B. quadrimaculosa* Thompson, 1981 **spec. aff.** Thompson in Kaplan & Thompson 1981 from Europe are given.

Key words: *Brachyopa*, new species, West-Palaeartic, Mediteranean, first records, Europe.

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Introduction

The genus *Brachyopa* Meigen 1822 is a Holarctic genus with 38 described species (12 Nearctic and 26 Palaeartic) (Pape & Thompson 2013).

The distribution of the genus is connected with the distribution of coniferous and deciduous broadleaved forest. The larvae live in decaying or exuding tree sap from dead or living trees, in tree stumps and even in rot holes. Some of the species are generalists and can be found in both broadleaved and coniferous trees, other species have a narrower tree preference (McLean & Stubbs 1990, Rotheray 1991, 1993, 1996, Sivova *et al.* 1999, Krivosheina 2005, Ricarte *et al.* 2013). The adults, especially the males, are regularly observed patrolling trees, with supposed sap runs, defending a territory and looking for females to

copulate with. Flower visiting is observed on plants with abundant and “open” flowers like Apiacea, *Prunus* spp., and *Crataegus* spp. The flight period in Europe is April–July (Trop 1994, Reemer *et al.* 2009, Speight 2011).

The imagos of *Brachyopa* resemble dung-flies (Diptera, Scatophagidae) and can be separated from other Syrphidae by the following combination of characters: Medium sized (6–10mm) mainly brown, brown-red or black coloured flies. Postpronotum pilose; basoflagellomere round to oval, often with clearly visible sensory pit; arista pilose, from short to plumose; vein R4+5 straight; crossvein rm before middle of discal cell; vein tm oblique to vein R4+5 (Torp 1994, Reemer *et al.* 2009).

The classification of the genus as a member of the Brachyopini with the Chrysogastrini as