

NEW DATA ON PROTURA (ARTHROPODA: HEXAPODA)
FROM CAMPANIA (SOUTHERN ITALY)

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ABSTRACT

Data on 28 proturans collected in the Southern Shore of Mefite Lake (Ansanto Valley, Avellino Province) are shown. Only three species were already known in the Campania Region: *Acerentulus confinis*, *Gracilentulus gracilis* and *Eosentomon transitorium*. In the material examined here three species more have been recorded: *Acerentulus traegardhi*, *Acerentomon microrhinus* and *Eosentomon armatum*. In addition, one unidentified specimen belonging to genus *Proturentomon* was found.

Key Words: Acerentomidae, *Acerentomon microrhinus*, *Acerentulus traegardhi*, Eosentomidae, *Eosentomon armatum*.

SHORT NOTE

Until a couple of years ago no detailed data on Protura from Campania were available. Galli (2021) used part of some newly collected specimens in such an Italian region to update the Check-list of the Italian fauna. However, the complete list of such collections was published one year later (Galli & Sarà, 2022). These authors recorded three species: *Acerentulus confinis* (Berlese, 1908), *Gracilentulus gracilis* (Berlese, 1908) and *Eosentomon transitorium* Berlese, 1908.

In the 24th and 26th October 2022 one of us (Tiziana Danise) collected some soil samples in a mixed wood 80–120 m south the Mefite Lake in the Ansanto Valley (Avellino Province, Campania – Figure 1) (Remelli et al., 2023). Soil microarthropods were extracted with a Kempson extractor (ecoTech, Bonn, Germany) and proturans were cleared in lactic acid and mounted on slides in Marc André 2 medium. Specimens were then observed and identified to species and life-stage levels with the aid of an interference contrast microscope (Leica DM LB2).

Totally 28 specimens have been collected and identified as follows:

Proturentomon sp. 1 ♀

Acerentulus confinis: 1 ♀

Acerentulus traegardhi Ionesco, 1937: 3 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 2 Maturus Junior

Acerentomon microrhinus Berlese, 1909: 6 ♂♂, 9 ♀♀

Eosentomon armatum Stach, 1926: 3 ♀♀

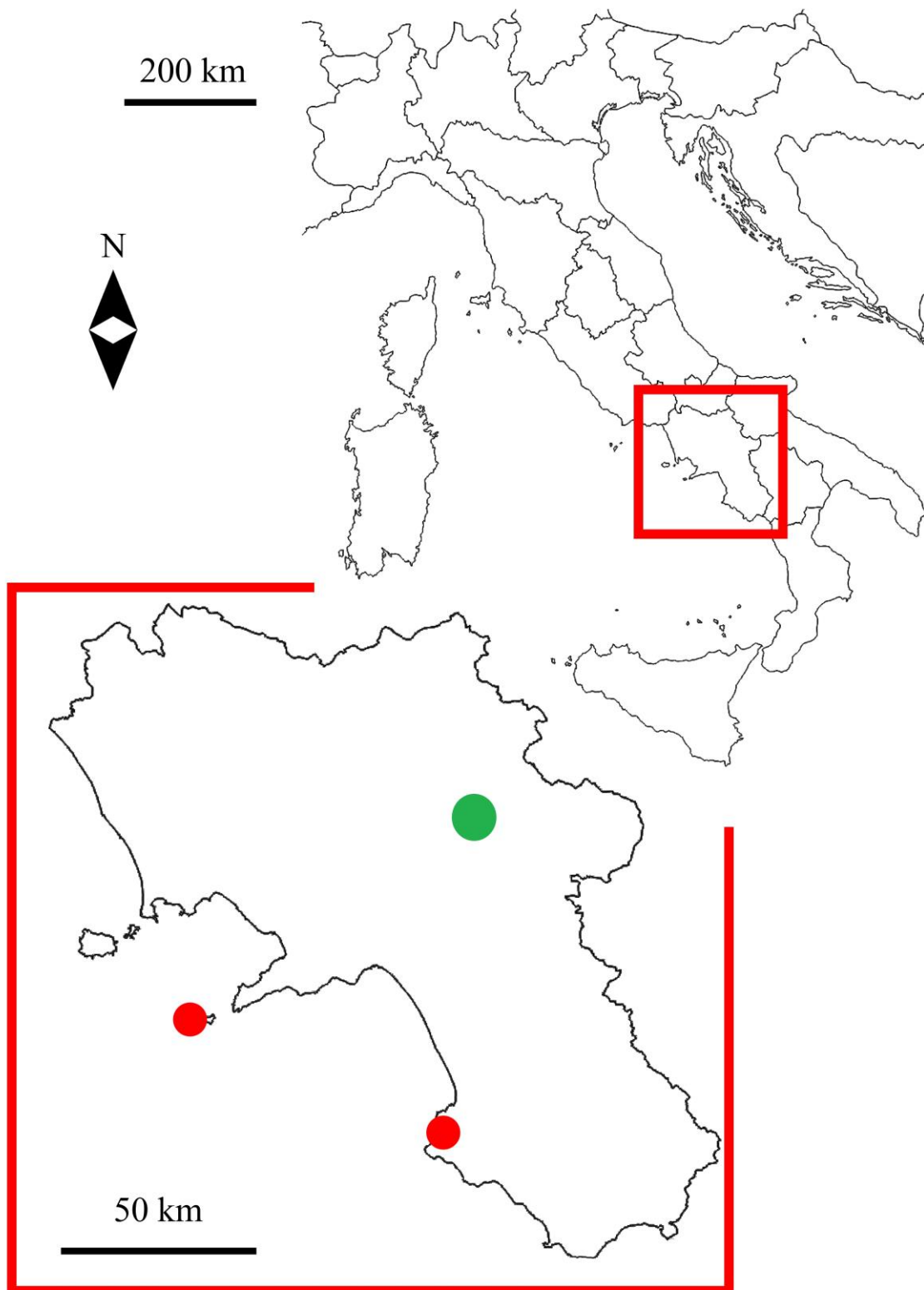


Figure 1. Sampling localities of Protura in Campania (Southern Italy). The larger green dot: Mefite Lake (Avellino) (this study). Red dots: Anacapri (Naples) and Starza, Santa Maria di Castellabate (Salerno) (see Galli & Sarà, 2022).

The list of species known for the Campania region, therefore, expands thanks to three new records from the Ansanto Valley: *Acerentulus traegardhi*, *Acerentomon microrhinus* and *Eosentomon armatum*. Unfortunately, the specimen belonging to genus *Proturentomon* was too poorly preserved to be identified at the species level. However, this genus in itself constitutes a new record for the fauna of Campania.

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DOI: 10.15167/2612-2960/BELS2024.6.1.2297