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On the presence of *Tachyura parvula* (Dejean, 1831) (Coleoptera: Carabidae) in Sicily, Italy

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Abstract. The ground beetle *Tachyura parvula* (Dejean, 1831) (Coleoptera: Carabidae) was recorded within the administrative regional boundaries of Sicily (Italy) exclusively for Salina Island, in the Aeolian Archipelago. Therefore, the occurrence of this species in Sicily main island is recorded for the first time based on material recently collected in Catania Plain. A short description of the finding locality is given.

Riassunto. *Sulla presenza di* Tachyura parvula *(Dejean, 1831) (Coleoptera: Carabidae) in Sicily, Italy*. Il Carabide *Tachyura parvula* (Dejean, 1831) (Coleoptera, Carabidae) è stato segnalato nell'ambito dei confini amministrativi regionali della Sicilia (Italia) esclusivamente per l'isola di Salina, nell'Arcipelago Eoliano. La presenza di questa specie viene pertanto riportata per la prima volta nell'isola di Sicilia sulla base di materiale recentemente raccolto nella Piana di Catania. Viene fornita una breve descrizione della località di raccolta.

Key words. Distribution, Carabidae, *Tachyura parvula*, Sicily, new record.

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Tachyura parvula (Dejean, 1831) is a tiny ground beetle (Coleoptera: Carabidae) having a Holarctic chorotype, and recorded in Italy mainly from the northern regions (Liguria, Piedmont, Lombardy, Trentino-South Tyrol, Veneto, Friuli Venezia Giulia), but occurring also in southern Italy (Basilicata) and in insular Italy (Sicily; its presence in Sardinia is doubtful) (MAGISTRETTI, 1965; VIGNA TAGLIANTI, 1993; CASALE *et al*., 2025). The records from Tuscany, Marche, Umbria and Latium by LO CASCIO & MAGRINI (1998) have not been subsequently included in more recent papers (see CASALE *et al*., 2025). The distribution of *T. parvula* in Italy still remains uncertain, due to the possible confusion with the similar *Tachyura diabrachys* (Kolenati, 1845) (see LO CASCIO & MAGRINI, 1998).

The occurrence of *T. parvula* in Sicily was first reported by LO CASCIO & MAGRINI (1998) on a single female from the coastal lagoon of Punta Lingua, in the Island of Salina (Aeolian Archipelago, Messina province). This record was later ignored by VIGNA TAGLIANTI (2005), as he did not report *T. parvula* for Sicily; but it was later reported by LO CASCIO (2017), LO CASCIO & PONEL (2022) and LO CASCIO *et al*. (2022). Based on the sole record from Salina, the occurrence of this species in Sicily was reported in the last Checklist of the Italian Fauna, by CASALE *et al*. (2025). The recent finding of a specimen of *T. parvula* in Catania Plain (Catania province, East Sicily) allows to provide the first record for Sicily main island and to add the second locality known hitherto from the administrative regional boundaries of Sicily.

The newly collected specimen (fig. 1) has been studied and identified by Augusto Degiovanni and stored in the author's collection, with the following collecting data: "Italy, Sicily, Catania province, Belpasso, Simeto river (20 m a.s.l.), lat. 37°27'00.7"N, long. 14°55'48.7"E, 11.IV.2023, 1 ex, G. Altadonna leg.". The specimen was sampled along the muddy banks of the Simeto river, in Catania Plain (the largest plain in Sicily), over 10 km far from the coast of the Ionian Sea.
This riparian environment (fig. 2), surrounded by citrus groves and other crops, is characterized by a warm and very dry climate, belonging to the thermo-Mediterranean bioclimate, with an average annual rainfall of around 550 mm and an average annual temperature of 16-18° C. It is also one of the hottest and driest place in Europe, with maximum temperatures in high summer often above 40°C.
Research on the insect communities of this locality, still ongoing, have yet provided new faunistic data for Coleoptera Cerambycidae (ALTADONNA, 2012; BAVIERA *et al.*, 2017), Coleoptera Buprestidae (ALTADONNA & SPARACIO, 2018), Orthoptera (ALTADONNA & MASSA, 2022) and Coleoptera Carabidae (MAGRINI *et al.*, 2025). Further contributions are in preparation, in order to better investigate the arthropod fauna of this study area from both a faunal and ecological point of view.

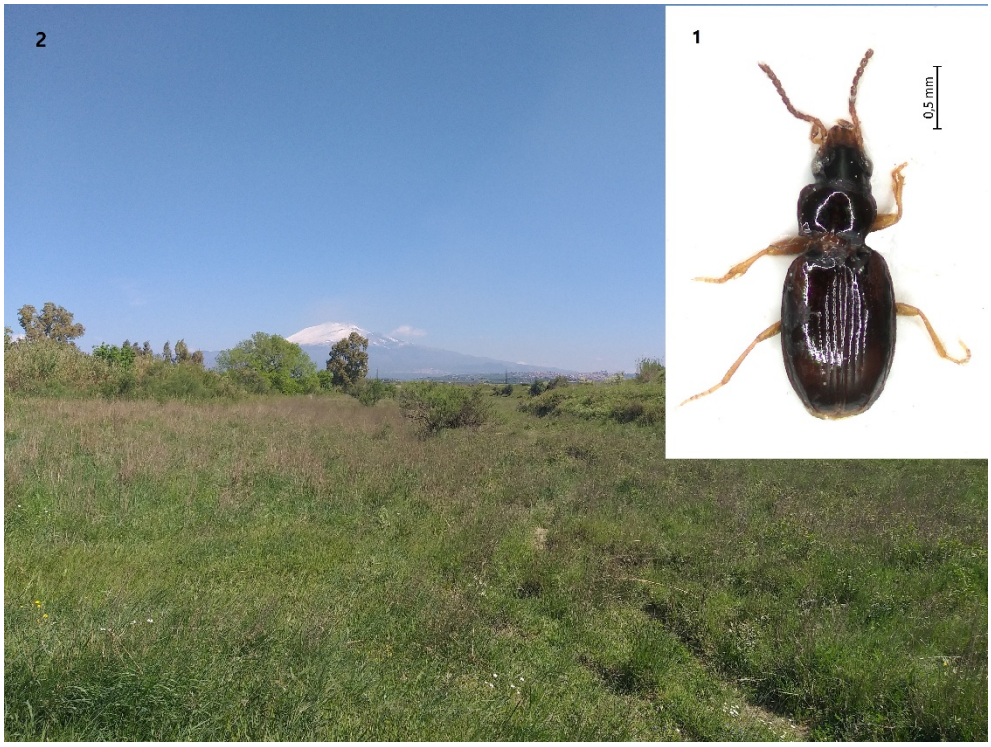

Fig. 1. *Tachyura parvula* (Dejean, 1831) collected in Sicily, Simeto river - Fig. 2. The collecting site of *Tachyura parvula* (Dejean, 1831) in Sicily.

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