

# A faunistic account of Tabanidae (Diptera) of Saudi Arabia and Oman

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**Abstract:** A faunistic account of the Tabanidae (horseflies) of the Sultanate of Oman is given, together with a review of currently available information on Tabanidae in Saudi Arabia. During the present study the number of taxa of Tabanidae known from Oman increased to eight, while 25 taxa have so far been recorded from Saudi Arabia.

تقرير عن مجموعة ذباب الخيل (ثنائية الأجنحة) من المملكة العربية السعودية وعمان

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**خلاصة:** تم إعطاء تقرير حول ذباب الخيل من سلطنة عمان، إضافة إلى مراجعة للمعلومات الحالية المتوفرة عن ذباب الخيل في المملكة العربية السعودية. ومن خلال هذه الدراسة، ازداد عدد الأنواع المعروفة في المملكة العربية السعودية إلى ٢٥ نوعاً، بينما سجل وحتى الآن ٨ أنواع من عمان.

## INTRODUCTION

Prof. W. Büttiker, Natural History Museum Basel, Switzerland, kindly allowed me to study a collection of Tabanidae from Oman; also mentioned are species in the Oman Natural History Museum at Muscat, with information kindly provided by its curator M.D. Gallagher.

Following previous research on the Tabanidae from Saudi Arabia (LECLERCQ 1982, 1986), I have carried out further studies with my colleague M.A. Amoudi from the College of Science at King Saud University, Riyadh (AMOUDI & LECLERCQ 1988, 1992, 1993, 1996): 25 taxa are currently known from the country (AMOUDI & LECLERCQ 1996).

### Abbreviations:

- NHMB Natural History Museum Basel  
 SNMNH Saudi Arabian National Museum of Natural History, Riyadh  
 ONHM Oman Natural History Museum, Muscat

## SPECIES LIST

The species of the Palearctic fauna are identified according to LECLERCQ (1966) and CHVÁLA et al. (1972) and those of the Afrotropical fauna according to OLDROYD (1952, 1954, 1957). The taxonomy is in accordance with CHVÁLA (1988) and CHAINEY & OLDROYD (1980).

## Subfamily Pangoniinae

## Tribe Philolichini

*Philoliche (Philoliche) magrettii* (Bezzi, 1901)

*Pangonia magrettii* Bezzi, 1901. — Bull. Soc. ent. Ital. 33: 7.

*Philoliche (Philoliche) magrettii*. — OLDROYD 1957; CHAINY & OLDROYD 1980.

Material: Saudi Arabia, south-western region: several ♂♂ and ♀♀, Jizan Valley, 15.IV.1984, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI & LECLERCQ (1992).

Distribution: From east Africa (Eritrea, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique) to the western region as far as northern Nigeria, Guinea Bissau, Saudi Arabia.

*Philoliche (Dorcaloemus) auricoma* (Austen, 1911)

*Dorcaloemus auricoma* Austen, 1911. — Bull. ent. Res. 1: 286.

*Dorcaloemus auricoma*. — OLDROYD 1957.

*Philoliche (Dorcaloemus) auricoma*. — Chainy & Oldroyd 1957.

Material: Saudi Arabia, south-western region: several ♂♂ and ♀♀, Jizan Valley, 15.IV.1994, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI & LECLERCQ (1992).

Distribution: Zaire, Tanzania, Saudi Arabia.

## Subfamily Sepsidinae

*Adersia guichardi* Oldroyd, 1957

*Adersia guichardi* Oldroyd, 1957. — Horse-flies Ethiop. Reg. III: 311. Type locality: 20 miles E of Berbera coastal plain, NW Somalia (former British Somaliland).

Material: Oman: 1 ♀, ONHM.

Distribution: Somalia, Oman.

## Subfamily Tabaninae

## Tribe Tabanini

*Ancala latipes* (Macquart, 1838)

*Tabanus latipes* Macquart, 1838. — Dipt. exot. 1: 119.

*Ancala latipes*. — OLDROYD 1954.

Material: Saudi Arabia, south-western region: several ♂♂ and ♀♀, Jizan Valley, from late May to June, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI (1989).

Distribution: Senegal, Guinea, Sudan, Saudi Arabia.

*Atylotus agrestis* (Wiedemann, 1828)

*Tabanus agrestis* Wiedemann, 1828. — Auss. zweifl. Ins. 1: 557.

*Atylotus agrestis*. — OLDROYD 1954; CHAINY & OLDROYD 1980.

Material: Saudi Arabia, south-western region: several ♂♂ and ♀♀, Jizan Valley, from July to August, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI (1989).

Distribution: Egypt, Afrotropical region excluding Congo Basin and west African forest areas, Madagascar, Mauritius, Réunion, southern Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Oriental region.

***Atylotus agricola* (Wiedemann, 1828)**

*Tabanus agricola* Wiedemann, 1828. — Auss. zweifl. Ins. 1: 556.

*Atylotus agricola*. — LECLERCQ 1966: CHVÁLA 1988.

Material: Saudi Arabia, central region: 1 ♀, al-Qaseem, Unayzah, 19.VI.1993, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI & LECLERCQ (1993).

Distribution: Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Corsica, Turkey, Saudi Arabia.

***Atylotus farinosus* (Szilady, 1915)**

*Ochrops farinosus* Szilady, 1915. — Ent. Mitt. 4: 102. Type locality: Arabian desert.

*Atylotus farinosus*. — LECLERCQ 1966: CHVÁLA 1988.

Distribution: Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Egypt, Algeria.

***Atylotus venturii* Leclercq, 1966**

*Atylotus venturii* Leclercq, 1966. — Mém. Inst. r. Sci. nat. Belg. 80: 33-34.

Material: Saudi Arabia, central region: 1 ♀, al-Qaseem, Unayzah, 7.III.1993, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI & LECLERCQ (1996).

Distribution: Italy, France, Spain, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia.

***Atylotus pallescens* (Walker, 1871)**

*Tabanus pallescens* Walker, 1871. — Entomologist 5: 256. Type locality: "Tor", Sinai.

LECLERCQ (1982) mentioned this species, but this record is doubtful. Its type locality is in Sinai (Egypt), not Arabia (CHVÁLA 1988).

***Tabanus albifacies* Loew, 1856**

*Tabanus albifacies* Loew, 1856. — Progr. K. Realschule zu Meseritz: 27.

*Tabanus politus* Walker, 1871. — Entomologist 5: 256.

*Tabanus politus*. — CHVÁLA 1988.

Material: Saudi Arabia, eastern region: 1 ♀, al-Ahsa - Qatif, Abumaa, 31.IV.1994, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI & LECLERCQ (1996).

Distribution: Egypt, Sudan, Libya, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Iran.

***Tabanus arabicus* Macquart, 1839**

*Tabanus arabicus* Macquart, 1839. — Dipt. exot. 3 (1838): 298.

*Tabanus timmuculus* Szilady, 1923. — Biol. hung. 1 (1): 2.

*Tabanus timmuculus*. — CHVÁLA 1988.

Material: Saudi Arabia, eastern region: 2 ♀♀, al-Ahsa, 8.V.1993, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI & LECLERCQ (1996).

Distribution: Turkey, Iraq, Saudi Arabia.

***Tabanus biguttatus* Wiedemann, 1830**

*Tabanus biguttatus* Wiedemann, 1830. — Auss. zweifl. Ins. 2: 623.

*Tabanus unimaculatus* Macquart, 1834. — Hist. Nat. Dipt. 1: 204.

*Tabanus unimaculatus*. — Chaîney & Oldroyd 1988.

Material: Saudi Arabia, south-western region: several ♂♂ and ♀♀, Jizan Valley; from grass in an open area near cultivated areas, April to June, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI (1989).

Distribution: South Africa, throughout Afrotropical Africa excluding the Congo Basin, southern Yemen, Saudi Arabia.

*Tabanus camelarius* Austen, 1911

*Tabanus camelarius* Austen, 1911. — Bull. ent. Res. 2: 173.

Material: Oman: 2 ♂♂, SE of Muscat, Wadi Mayh, 23°27'N 58°35'E, 300 m, 11-12.IV.1985; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, Sama il Qaylah, 23°21'N 58°03'E, 400 m, C. Holzschuh, 21.IV.1985; 3 ♂♂, 1 ♀, Fanjah, Wadi Fanjah, 23°27'N 58°08'E, 9.IV.1985, W. Büttiker, NHMB. — Saudi Arabia: several ♀♀, al-Wahba, 3-4.VI.1982, W. Büttiker, NHMB.

Recorded by LECLEERCQ (1986).

Distribution: Sudan (Khor Arbaat in the Red Sea hills), south of the Dead Sea in Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Oman.

*Tabanus cordiger* Meigen, 1820

*Tabanus cordiger* Meigen, 1820. — Syst. Besch. 2: 47.

*Tabanus atricornis* Meigen, 1838. — Syst. Besch. 7: 59.

*Tabanus fortunatus* Frey, 1936. — Commentar. Biol. 6 (1): 43. (Canary Islands: Medano, Tenerife).

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, Wadi Nimar, 1500 m, W. Büttiker, NHMB.

Recorded by LECLEERCQ (1986).

Distribution: From England through Scandinavia and the St. Petersburg region as far as the Ural mountains, most other countries in Europe, Turkey, Armenia, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Mediterranean, Tenerife (Canary Islands).

*Tabanus fumidus* Austen, 1923

*Tabanus fumidus* Austen, 1923. — Bull. ent. Res. 13: 281.

*Tabanus turpis* Bogatchev & Samedov, 1949. — Izv. Akad. Nauk azerb. SSR 5: 70.

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, Barj Sharfa, 17.II.1980, W. Büttiker, NHMB.

Recorded by LECLEERCQ (1982).

Distribution: Transcaucasus (Nakhichevan, Azerbaijan, Armenia) and south-east Asia (Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan); Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Palestine.

*Tabanus leleani turkestanicus* Olsufjev, 1970

*Tabanus leleani* Austen, 1920. — Bull. ent. Res. 10: 312.

*Tabanus turkestanicus* Olsufjev, 1970. — Ent. Obozr. 49: 684.

*Tabanus pallidus* Olsufjev, 1937. — Fauna USSR, Dipt. 7 (2): 264 and 411 as subspecies of *T. leleani*.

Material: Oman: 1 ♂, N of Sama il Qaylah, 23°21'N 58°03'E, 400 m, 21.IV.1985, C. Holzschuh, NHMB. — Saudi Arabia: 2 ♂♂, Riyadh, 26.I.1980, W. Büttiker; 12 ♀♀, 17 km S of Khaybar, 680 m, 26.IV.1979, KAU-Exp. Northern Hedjaz, NHMB.

Remarks: New record for Oman. The taxonomic position is explained in CHVÁLA et al. (1972).

Distribution: Armenia, Turkmenistan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Oman.

*Tabanus leucostomus* Loew, 1858

*Tabanus leucostomus* Loew, 1858. — Overs. Kongl. Vet. Akad. Forhandl. 14: 136.

*Tabanus obliquemaculatus* Surcouf & Ricardo, 1909. — Et. Mono. Tab. Afr. 172.

*Tabanus obliquemaculatus*. — Surcouf 1922: Voy. Maurice de Rothschild: 864.

*Tabanus obliquemaculatus*. — nec Macquart, 1938: Dipt. exot. 1: 123.

*Tabanus obliquemaculatus*. — OLDROYD 1954: CHAINY & OLDROYD 1980.

Material: Saudi Arabia: 2 ♀♀, Wadi Aridah, 1480 m, 9-10.X.1983; 1 ♀, Wadi al-Amer, 2400 m, 18-19.IX.1983, W. Büttiker, NHMB.

Recorded by LECLEERCQ (1986).

Distribution: Namibia, widespread in eastern Africa from north-east to southern Africa, also Cameroon, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, Oman (CHAINY & OLDROYD 1980).

***Tabanus mordax* Austen, 1911**

*Tabanus mordax* Austen, 1911. — Bull. ent. Res. 2: 175.

Material: Oman: 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, SE Muscat, Wadi Mayh, 23°27'N 58°35'E, 300 m, 11-12.IV.1985, C. Holzschuh, NHMB and ONHM. — Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, Wadi Qust, 1390 m, 22.IX.1983; 1 ♀, Wadi Tarabah, 1470 m, 15-16.IX.1980, W. Büttiker, NHMB.

Recorded by LECLERCQ (1986).

Distribution: Sudan, Chad, Kenya, Somalia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Oman.

***Tabanus polygonus* Walker, 1854**

*Tabanus polygonus* Walker, 1854. — List Dipt. Brit. Mus. 5, Suppl. 1: 237.

*Alylotus polyzonatus* Bigot, 1892. — Mém. Soc. zool. Fr. 5: 648.

*Tabanus strictus* Surcouf, 1912. — Comptes Rendu Exp. Morgan: 73.

*Tabanus brunescens*. — nec Szilady, 1916 (misidentification, see CHVALA et al 1972, CHVALA 1988).

*Tabanus polygonus*. — CHVALA 1988.

Material: Oman: specimens in the ONHM, M.D. Gallagher.

Remarks: New record for Oman.

Distribution: Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Oman.

***Tabanus riyadhae* Amoudi & Leclercq, 1980**

*Tabanus riyadhae* Amoudi & Leclercq, 1980. — J. Med. Ent. 25 (5): 399-401.

Material: Saudi Arabia: ♀ holotype and 2 ♀♀ paratypes deposited in the collection of King Saud University, Riyadh; 1 ♀ paratype in the collection M. Leclercq. — Central region: al-Zolfi, 612 m, 27.V.1980, M.A. Amoudi.

Distribution: Saudi Arabia.

***Tabanus sabuletorum* Loew, 1874**

*Tabanus sabuletorum* Loew, 1874. — Z. ges. Naturw. 43: 414.

Material: Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, 17 km S of Khaybar, 680 m, 26.IV.1979, KAU-Exp. Northern Hedjaz, NHMB; 1 ♀, Riyadh, 9.IX.1978; 1 ♀, al-Hufuf, 21.IV.1980, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by LECLERCQ (1982).

Distribution: Southern Ukraine, Crimea, Caucasus, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Transbaikalia, Mongolia, Iran: Khorassan, Baluchistan, Saudi Arabia.

***Tabanus separatus* Efflatoun, 1930**

*Tabanus separatus* Efflatoun, 1930. — Mém. Soc. ent. Égypte 4 (1): 89.

Material: Saudi Arabia, central region: 1 ♀, Riyadh, Diraiyah, 1.V.1994, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI & LECLERCQ (1996).

Distribution: Egypt, Saudi Arabia.

***Tabanus sufis* Jaenicke, 1867**

*Tabanus sufis* Jaenicke, 1867. — Abh. Senck. Naturf. Ges. 6: 332.

*Tabanus alboventralis* Newstead, 1907. — Ann. Trop. Med. Paras. 1: 46.

Material: Oman: 1 ♀, SE of Muscat, Wadi Mayh, 23°27'N 58°35'E, 300 m, 11-12.IV.1985; 1 ♂, 1 ♀, N of Sama il Qaylah, 400 m, 23°21'N 58°08'E, 21.IV.1985; 5 ♀♀, Fanjah, Wadi Fanjah, 23°27'N 58°08'E, 9.IV.1985; 4 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, Bid Bid, 23°24'N 58°09'E, 250 m, 10.IV.1985, NHMB, all C. Holzschuh, ONHM. — Saudi Arabia: 1 ♀, Wadi Harran, 220 m, 12-23.V.1983; 3 ♀♀, Wadi Aridah, 1480 m, 9-10.IX.1983, W. Büttiker, NHMB; 5 ♀♀, Riyadh, 25.IV.1993; 2 ♀♀, al-Qaseem, Arras, 11.VI.1993; 1 ♀, al-Qaseem, Buraydah, 19.IV.1993; 4 ♀♀, al-Ahsa, 8.VI.1993; 3 ♀♀, al-Ahsa — Qatif, 25.V.1993, SNMNH; 2 ♀♀, al-Ahsa, Mobarra, 14.IV.1994; 2 ♀♀, Garodiah, 27.IV.1994; 1 ♀, Dhahran, 10.X.1994; 1 ♀, Ras Tannora, 14.IV.1994; 2 ♀♀, Qatif, Sokba, 25.VIII.1994; 2 ♀♀, Qatif, Sehat, 15.IV.1994; 2 ♀♀, Qatif, Abumaan, 31.III.1994; 2 ♀♀, Holigelah, 27.IV.1994; 1 ♀, Shaqeeq, 14.IV.1994; 1 ♀, Bataliah, 5.V.1994; 1 ♀, Qarn, 27.IV.1994; 1 ♂, Wiziab, 9.IV.1994; 1 ♀, al-Hufuf, 22.IV.1994; 1 ♀, al-Moterfi, 21.IV.1994, all M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by LECLERCQ (1986) and AMOUDI & LECLERCQ (1993, 1996).

**Distribution:** Sudan, trans-southern Sahara and fringes from Mauritania through northern Nigeria and Chad to Sudan, Ethiopia, northern Kenya to Egypt, mid-Saharan oases and Tanzania, Gambia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Palestine.

***Tabanus taeniola* Palisot de Beauvois, 1806**

*Tabanus taeniola* Palisot de Beauvois, 1806. — Ins. rec. Afr. Amer. 3: 56.

*Tabanus sagittarius* Macquart, 1838. — Dipt. exot. 1 (1): 123.

*Tabanus macrops* Walker, 1848. — List Dipt. Brit. Mus. 1: 164.

*Tabanus variatus* Walker, 1850. — Ins. Saunders. Dipt. 1: 64.

**Material:** Saudi Arabia: several specimens, Jizan Valley, July-August, SNMNH; 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, al-Ahsa, 8.V.1993; 1 ♀, al-Ahsa – Qatif, Schat, 15.IV.1994; 1 ♀, Dammam, 14.V.1994, all M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

**Recorded by** AMOUDI (1989) and AMOUDI & LECTERCQ (1993, 1996).

**Distribution:** Nigeria, almost entire Afrotropical region, mainly riverine in Congo Basin, South Africa, Mozambique, Angola, Sudan, northern Chad, Egypt, Saudi Arabia.

***Tabanus unifasciatus* Loew, 1858**

*Tabanus unifasciatus* Loew, 1858. — Verh. zool.-bot. Ges. Wien 8: 600.

*Tabanus albescens* Kröber, 1928. — Dt. ent. Z. 1928: 430 (as var. of *T. unifasciatus*).

*Tabanus pallidus* Hauser, 1960. — Ent. Obozr. 39: 647 (as subspecies of *T. unifasciatus*), a junior primary homonym of *T. pallidus* Palisot de Beauvois, 1809 and *T. pallidus* Olsufjev, 1937 (CHIVĀA 1988).

**Material:** Saudi Arabia: 2 ♀♀, Riyadh, Diraiyah, 20.IV.1993; 5 ♀♀, al-Qaseem, Buraydah, 7.VII.1993, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

**Recorded by** AMOUDI & LECTERCQ (1996).

**Distribution:** Throughout southern Europe from Portugal and Spain through France, Italy, Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Albania, Greece, Rhodes Island, Bulgaria, Romania to southern Ukraine, Crimea, Transcaucasus (including Armenia and Azerbaijan); Turkey, Iran, Syria, Palestine.

**Tribe Haematopotini**

***Haematopota abyssinica* Surcouf, 1908**

*Haematopota abyssinica* Surcouf, 1908. — Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 14: 156.

*Haematopota puniens* Austen, 1908. — Ann. Mag. nat. Hist. 8 (2): 274.

*Haematopota puniens*. — OGDONOV 1952.

**Material:** Saudi Arabia, south-western region: several ♂♂ and ♀♀, Jizan Valley, IV.1984, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

**Recorded by** AMOUDI (1989).

**Distribution:** From eastern Africa (Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi) to Zimbabwe in the south, Zaire in the centre and northern Nigeria, Upper Volta and Burkina Faso in the west. Saudi Arabia.

***Haematopota coronata* Austen, 1908**

*Haematopota coronata* Austen, 1908. — Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. 8 (2): 100, 279.

*Haematopota coronata* Bequaert, 1930. — Harvard Afr. Exp. Liberia 36: 949 (OLDROD 1952).

**Material:** Oman: specimens in the ONHM. — Saudi Arabia: 2 ♂♂, Wadi Shuqub, Turabah, 1250 m, 6 and 21.IV.1980; 1 ♀, 10 km E of al-Mindak, 9.IV.1980; 1 ♀, Wadi Wajj, 18 km SW of Taif, 1800 m, 4.X.1989; 1 ♂, Khoda, 1890 m, 30.IX.1982; 1 ♀, Wadi Majarish, 1000 m, 11.IX.1983; 1 ♀, Wadi Dhiyan, 1050 m, 13.IX.1983; 4 ♀♀, Wadi Nimar, 1500 m, 14.IX.1983; 1 ♀, Jebel Ibrahim, 1540 m, 10-11.IX.1983, all W. Büttiker; 2 ♂♂ and ♀♀, Makkah, 10.XI.1992, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH and NHMB.

**Distribution:** Chad, Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Palestine, Iran.

Table 1: Zoogeographical affinities of Tabanidae from Saudi Arabia and Oman.

Species	Saudi Arabia	Oman	Species	Saudi Arabia	Oman
Afrotropical			Mediterranean		
<i>Philoliche (Philoliche) magrettii</i>	+		<i>Atylotus agyicola</i>	+	
<i>Philoliche (Dorcaloemus) auricoma</i>	+		<i>Atylotus favinosus</i>	+	
<i>Adersia guichardi</i>		+	<i>Atylotus venturii</i>	+	
<i>Ancala latipes</i>	+		<i>Tabanus albifacies</i>	+	
<i>Atylotus agrestis</i>	+		<i>Tabanus arabicus</i>	+	
<i>Tabanus biguttatus</i>	+		<i>Tabanus fumidus</i>	+	
<i>Tabanus camelarius</i>	+	+	<i>Tabanus leleani turkestanicus</i>	+	+
<i>Tabanus leucostomus</i>	+	+	<i>Tabanus polygonus</i>		
<i>Tabanus mordax</i>	+	+	<i>Tabanus sabuletorum</i>	+	
<i>Tabanus suffis</i>	+	+	<i>Tabanus separatus</i>	+	
<i>Tabanus taeniola</i>	+		<i>Haematopota minuscula</i>	+	
<i>Haematopota abyssinica</i>	+		European		
<i>Haematopota coronata</i>	+	+	<i>Tabanus cordiger</i>	+	
Saudi Arabia only			<i>Tabanus unifasciatus</i>	+	
<i>Tabanus riyyadhae</i>	-				

***Haematopota minuscula* Austen, 1920**

*Haematopota minuscula* Austen, 1920. Bull. ent. Res. 10: 287.

*Chrysosoma siwaynensis* Kröber, 1929. Bull. Soc. ent. Égypte 13: 83.

*Chrysosoma siwaynensis*. — GIVIA 1988.

Material: Saudi Arabia, eastern region: 1 ♀, Qatif – Tarut, 3.XII.1992, M.A. Amoudi, SNMNH.

Recorded by AMOUDI & LECLERCQ (1993).

Distribution: Egypt, Iran, Palestine, Saudi Arabia.

**DISCUSSION**

Twenty-five tabanid taxa have so far been recorded from Saudi Arabia and eight from the Sultanate of Oman. It is interesting to note the presence of primitive Tabanidae of Afrotropical origin: the Pangoniinae *Philoliche (Philoliche) magrettii* and *Philoliche (Dorcaloemus) auricoma* from Saudi Arabia and the Sceptsidiniinae *Adersia guichardi* from Oman.

Zoogeographical affinities of the species are presented in Table 1, according to their origin: 12 species of Afrotropical origin from Saudi Arabia and six from Oman, one species of Saudi Arabian origin, 10 species of Mediterranean origin from Saudi Arabia and two from Oman and two species of European origin from Saudi Arabia.

It should be emphasised that the two species of *Philoliche* and the tsetse flies (*Glossina fuscipes* Newstead, 1910, and *G. morsitans submorsitans* Newstead, 1910) were caught by M.A. Amoudi in south-western Arabia in the neighbourhood of Jizan and near the north-western border of Yemen. Both records (Saudi Arabia and Yemen) are more than 1000 km from the formerly recorded distribution limits of tsetse flies (EISEN et al. 1990, 1991).

To date, there is no record of Chrysopsinae and only three species of Haematopotini (*Haematopota abyssinica*, *H. coronata* and *H. minuscula*) have been found. This makes it obvious that there is a great need for further investigation.

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