



In this study, a total number of 582 species and subspecies (few identified only to the genus level) belonging to 129 families and representing 17 orders are recorded. Two of these species are described as new, namely: *Monomorium sarawatensis* Sharaf & Aldawood, sp. n. [Formicidae, Hymenoptera] and *Anthrax alruqibi* El-Hawagry sp. n. [Bombyliidae, Diptera]. Another eight species are recorded for the first time in Saudi Arabia, namely: *Xiphoceriana arabica* (Uvarov, 1922) [Pamphagidae, Orthoptera], *Pyrgomorpha conica* (Olivier, 1791) [Pyrgomorphidae, Orthoptera], *Catopsilia florella* (Fabricius, 1775) [Pieridae, Lepidoptera], *Anthrax chionanthrax* (Bezzi, 1926) [Bombyliidae, Diptera], *Spogostylum* near *tripunctatum* Pallas in Wiedemann, 1818 [Bombyliidae, Diptera], *Cononedys dichromatopa* (Bezzi, 1925) [Bombyliidae, Diptera], *Mydas* sp. [Mydidae, Diptera], and *Hippobosca equina* Linnaeus, 1758 [Hippoboscidae, Diptera].

The study generally concluded that the insect faunal composition in Al-Baha Province has an Afrotropical flavor, with the Afrotropical elements predominant, and a closer affiliation to the Afrotropical region than to the Palearctic region or the Eremic zone. Consequently, the authors tend to agree with those biogeographers who consider that parts of the Arabian Peninsula, including Al-Baha Province, should be included in the Afrotropical region rather than in the Palearctic region or the Eremic zone.

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## A PRELIMINARY STUDY ON THE INSECT FAUNA OF AL-BAHA PROVINCE, SAUDI ARABIA, WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SPECIES

BY MAGDI S. EL-HAWAGRY, MOHAMMED W. KHALIL, MOSTAFA  
R. SHARAF, HASSAN H. FADL, ABDULRAHMAN S. ALDAWOOD



*Monomorium sarawatensis* Sharaf & Aldawood, sp.n.

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