

Distribution, biology and ecology of cicadas from Istria, the adjacent maritime country and some islands (Homoptera: Cicadidae et Tibicinidae)

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The investigated area comprises the submediterranean and mediterranean region from Gorizia, the gulf of Trieste, all Istria, the coast of northern Dalmatia from Rijeka to Novi, to the large islands of Kvarner. The study on the morphology, and in some cases the genital morphology, of the cicadas is based on 310 individuals from several collections, including the author's. Taxonomy and nomenclature are brought up to date. A key with drawings (especially for pygophors) is given, leading to 10 species of the families Cicadidae and Tibicinidae. 9 distribution maps also show these parts of the investigation area, which are favoured in temperature and vegetation. Biogeography and ecology (e.g. phenology and links of adults to certain strata) are discussed. Low soil temperatures in winter seem to restrict 9 species with root sucking larvae to their area of distribution. The evergreen deciduous forests in the southern part of Istria and on the large islands of Kvarner with their balanced and mild climates, provide the biotopes richest in cicada species.