

10th International Symposium on Syrphidae

8th - 12th September 2019

Lesvos, Greece

10th International Symposium on Syrphidae Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece 8th to 12th September 2019

Dear fellow Syrphidologists and Entomologists,

It is a great pleasure to invite you all to attend the 10th International Symposium on Syrphidae (ISS10).

The main objective of the Symposium is to bring together people interested in hoverflies, to promote the study of hoverflies, as well as develop professional or private collaborations based on this insect group. We are sure that this 10th jubilee Symposium will be a scientific highlight for colleagues from around the world, as well as all symposiums before.

During the 18 years since the first Symposium was held in Stuttgart, great progress has been made in the research, as well as in the international collaborations among syrphidologists. As a direct result, the 10th Symposium will cover all major aspects of syrphidology, such as systematics and (integrative) taxonomy, morphology, evolution, biodiversity and conservation, biogeography, ecology etc.

The Symposium will be held on the beautiful Aegean island of Lesvos, Greece, from 8th to 12th September 2019, co-organized by the:



University of the Aegean
Department of Geography
Mytilene, Greece



University of Novi Sad
Faculty of Sciences
Department of Biology and Ecology
Novi Sad, Serbia



University of the Aegean, Department of Geography, Mytilene, Greece
University of Novi Sad, Department of Biology and Ecology, Novi Sad, Serbia





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Location

Lesvos is a Greek northeastern Aegean island, embedded in the coast of Asia Minor, and as such constitutes a biological, geographical, climatic and cultural interface between Europe and Asia. Nowadays, Lesvos is separated from Turkey by the narrow Mytilene Strait, but was joined to the Anatolian mainland before the end of the last glacial period (in late Palaeolithic, early Mesolithic times). With an area of about 1,600 km² and more than 300 kilometres of coastline, it is the third largest island in Greece. It has been inhabited since the Middle Paleolithic and during its more recent historical times was influenced by the Romans, the Franks, the Genoese and the Ottomans, each leaving their distinct marks. Today, Mytilene, the island's picturesque capital, is home to about one third of the total island population of about 85,000.

The rugged and hilly island, which has two peaks of about 1000 m altitude, is covered in roughly equal parts by olive groves, forests, mainly pine, but also oak and chestnut, as well as high and low scrub vegetation. The complex geology, beautifully displayed in Sigri's Museum of Natural History and the Lesvos Petrified Forest Geopark, as well as the abundant hot springs, provide impressive evidence of the island's partially volcanic origin. The climate is typically Mediterranean with hot, dry summers and relatively mild, rainy winters. The mean annual temperature is 18 °C, and the mean annual rainfall is 750 mm. Spring and autumn are considered ideal seasons for visiting the island, especially by naturalists, due to the mild weather, the wealth of flowering plant species, the bird migration and the overall impressive level of biodiversity active during these times.



Open spaces with phrygana (degraded scrub) in the western part of the island. Photo: T. Petanidou

Natural history research in this part of the world has a long history and no other than Aristotle and Theophrastus, by many seen as the fathers of Zoology and Botany respectively, have spent years on Lesvos studying the island's extensive biodiversity. Today, the island hosts part of the University of the Aegean, most notably the Departments of Marine Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Geography, which in the footsteps of Aristotle and Theophrastus endeavour to



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study the natural world of the region. The Laboratory of Biogeography and Ecology, headed by Prof. Theodora Petanidou, has carried out and facilitated research on the island for over two decades, specializing on, but not limited to plant–pollinator interactions. To date a total of about 600 species of bees and 140 species of hoverflies have been recorded on the island alone. Reference specimens are kept in the ever-expanding *Melissotheque of the Aegean*, a unique collection of flower visitors of the Aegean islands and surrounding mainland areas.



Mixed forests long the bay of Kalloni and Salinas of Kalloni. Photos: T. Petanidou

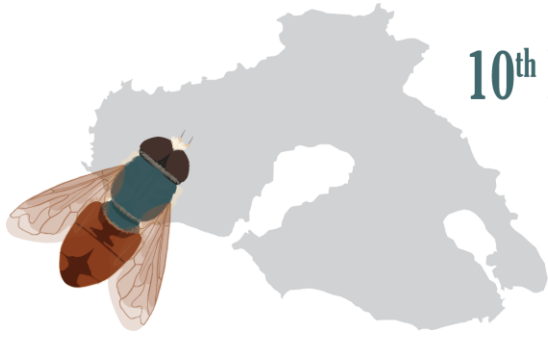
Transport

Mytilene Airport, Lesvos Island's only airport, is conveniently reachable via direct flights from Athens International Airport or Thessaloniki Airport. There are regular (at least three times a day) flights operated by four airlines Aegean Airlines, Olympic Airlines, Astra Airlines and Sky Express.

All hotels are within quick and easy reach:

- ✈ By bus (leaving from outside the airport building)
- ✈ By taxi (less than 10 minutes, fare 5-10€ depending on the hotel location)
- ✈ Rent a car (inside the airport building)





10th International Symposium on Syrphidae

8th - 12th September 2019

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Money

The official currency in Greece is Euro (€). You can either exchange money at Athens Airport or use the cash machines (there is one on campus) on the island. The latter usually offer better exchange rates, but you might want to check with your bank beforehand.

Sessions

All ISS10 sessions will be held at the *University of Aegean*, Department of Geography, University Hill, 81100 Mytilene, Greece.

GPS reading of venue: 39.0848 N, 26.5692 E

For a map please visit: <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.0848513,26.5692274,19.54z>

Formal on-site registration for ISS10 will be open on Sunday 8th September from 16:00 to 18:00, and Monday 9th September 2019 at 8:00 before the session opening. The Registration Desk will be situated in the Department of Geography building, the place of the symposium.

Accommodation

The Organizing Committee strongly recommends staying at the hotel *Heliotrope* and *Fontana Rooms*, as they are comfortable, close to the University (Heliotrope), and are affordable (Fontana, especially for students and delegates on a tight budget).

Sharing a room is also encouraged, since the number of single rooms is limited and their availability cannot be guaranteed. Available rooms and other details are listed in the table below.

Please book by email (Heliotrope Hotel: info@heliotrope.gr; Fontana Rooms: fontanaroomsmytilini@gmail.com) stating your arrival and departure dates and the room type you require. Please use “**ISS10 Accommodation Booking**” in the message title line as a reference in order to be eligible for the reduced room rate. If you are planning to share the room, please indicate the name of the other person(s). Accommodation is paid directly to the hotel.





10th International Symposium on Syrphidae

8th - 12th September 2019

Lesvos, Greece

	Room type	Price in € per room per night (hotel tax included)	Breakfast included	Additional info
Heliotrope Hotel	Single	65€	Yes (buffet)	Walking distance from the University (20 min)
	Double	75€	Yes (buffet)	Website
	Triple	90€	Yes (buffet)	Booking email: info@heliotrope.gr
Fontana Rooms	Shared accommodation (2, 3 or 4 beds per room)	15€ per person	No	Located in the town centre (45 min walking distance to the University) Website Booking email: fontanaroomsmytilini@gmail.com

Registration

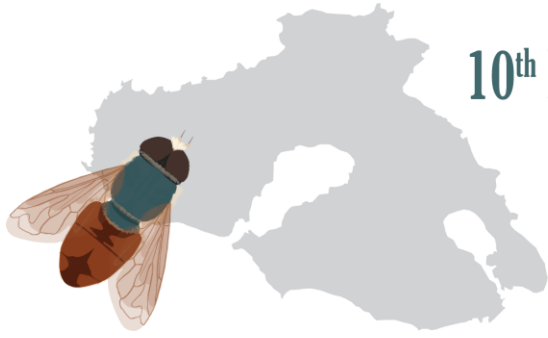
The registration for the ISS10 starts immediately, via a word form available [here](#).

Participants are kindly requested to fill in registration form and return it to syrphidae10@gmail.com before the dates indicated in the table below. You can now take advantage of our reduced rate early registration until the 15th May 2019. Please note that we can only accept registrations if the full payment of the fees has been received.

Periods for registration categories and costs per delegate are as follow:

	Dates	Registration cost
Early registration	25 th March to 15 th May 2019	250 €
Late registration	16 th May to 16 th June 2019	300 €
*Student registration	25 th March to 16 th June 2019	200€












10th International Symposium on Syrphidae

8th - 12th September 2019

Lesvos, Greece

*Students must submit a letter from their supervisor/advisor/head of department on a University letterhead confirming their status as full-time students at the time of registration.

The registration fee covers:

-  The admission to all sessions during the symposium
-  The delegate package
-  Symposium programme
-  Lunch and two coffee breaks daily
-  Welcome drink
-  Official dinner
-  Daily bus tickets from/to hotels

Payments details

The registration fee and the Excursion can be paid (only in Euros) (deadline for **Early registration until Wednesday 15th May 2019** and **Late registration until Sunday 16th June 2019**) by credit/debit card or wire transfer using the following link <https://www.ru.aegean.gr/epos/?id=247&lang=en>

Abstract submission and presentations and poster details

Abstract submission

Abstract submission starts immediately. Abstracts are required for both oral and poster presentations. They must be submitted by e-mail to syrphidae10@gmail.com, with subject “**Abstract_YourName_Surname**”. A layout of an abstract is provided on our [website](#).

Please follow this style and use references only if necessary. Each abstract has a limit of 250 words (only text, excl. name(s) and affiliation(s)). Only registered delegates abstracts will be considered for presentations. The deadline for abstract submission is 30th June 2019.





10th International Symposium on Syrphidae

8th - 12th September 2019

Lesvos, Greece

Oral presentations

The duration of regular oral presentations is 15 minutes, including 5 minutes for questions. Presentations should be in Microsoft PowerPoint format saved as .ppt or .pptx (compatible with PowerPoint 2013), or a .pdf file. Presentations should have an aspect ratio of 4:3 and not 16:9 widescreen.

Please use standard fonts such as Arial, Calibri or Times New Roman.

Files must be named with the week day of presentation (Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday) and the presenter's last name (e.g. Monday_Surname).

Presentation can be uploaded at the Registration Desk at the time of physical registration on the computers provided or at the latest before the beginning of the session (before the opening for the morning session or just after lunch for the afternoon session).

Poster presentations

Posters have to be in the following format: **width: 800mm, length: 1000mm** and must be mounted by the presenters on the corresponding poster boards provided by the organizers. All boards will be marked with the relevant poster title and author list.

Poster boards and mounting materials will be available in the meeting room from the 8th September 2019 (Sunday, and during the first day of symposium). We ask the authors to hang up their posters after registration. A poster session will take place during the afternoon sessions on 9th September 2019 (Monday) and 10th September 2019 (Tuesday). We ask all presenters to be present during the session and answer questions.

Please note that minor changes regarding the presentation details are possible and final information will be given in a Third Circular.





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8th - 12th September 2019

Lesvos, Greece

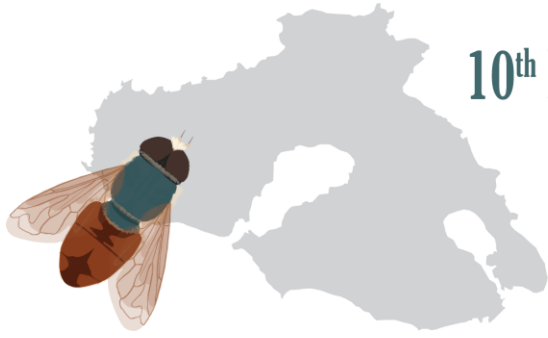
Scientific program

Following the previous Symposium, the scientific programme will include sessions on Faunistics and Biogeography; Systematics and Phylogenetics; Biology and Ecology; Biodiversity Assessment and Conservation; and Integrated Pest Management and Biocontrol.

A preliminary schedule of the ISS10 is given below.

	8 th Sept. 2019 Sunday	9 th Sept. 2019 Monday	10 th Sept. 2019 Tuesday	11 th Sept. 2019 Wednesday	12 th Sept. 2019 Thursday
8:30-9:00		Opening	Opening	Opening	Excursion
9:00-9:30		Plenary Talk	Presentations	Presentations	
9:30-10:00		Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	
10:00-10:30		Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	
10:30-12:30		Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	
12:30-14:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
14:00-15:30		Presentations	Presentations	Presentations	
15:30-16:00		Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	
16:00-16:45	Registration	Presentations	Presentations	Open discussion – closing remarks	
16:45-18:00		Poster session 1	Poster session 2	IUCN presentation	
18:00		Welcome drink			
19:30				Symposium Dinner	





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Excursion

In order to give you the best overview of the island from the aspect of wildlife, culture and natural beauty, the excursion will consist of several short and three longer stops. The short stops are not described in great detail here and will be somewhat ad-hoc depending on your interests, time and weather conditions, but will definitely include visiting the island's major ecosystem types such as scrub vegetation (phrygana), olive groves and pine forests.



Kalloni Wetland – Photo: T. Petanidou





10th International Symposium on Syrphidae

8th - 12th September 2019

Lesvos, Greece

Our excursion will take us to Kalloni, the second largest town on Lesvos Island. Kalloni, which translates as “the beauty”, is located in the centre of Lesvos, with its suburb Skala Kallonis bordering Kalloni Bay, where Aristotle conducted his observations on the island. It is famous for the salted sardines, which since the antiquity have constituted a staple food and an invaluable source of protein for the islanders. At Kalloni Bay we will visit the working salt pans and the surrounding protected wetlands and salt marshes with their unique biodiversity, including many species of birds such as flamingos, avocets, terns, maybe also a couple of black storks. We will have time to soak in the peace and quiet, while observing the wildlife.

At the very western tip of the island lies picturesque Sigrí, already known since the times of the geographer Strabo (c. 63 BC – 23 AD), a small and traditional fishing village today. Its interesting fort built in order to secure Sigrí against piracy, dates back to the times of the Ottoman occupation. Far beyond its anthropogenic influences, Sigrí and the area surrounding it is famous for its petrified forest, including whole tree trunks, lying scattered or partly upright, as evidence of volcanic activities ca. 20 million years ago. The superb Museum of Natural History and its associated Lesvos Geopark display the most impressive fossils, but many more are still undiscovered or at the bottom of the sea (www.petrifiedforest.gr).



Skala Eressou. Photo: T. Petanidou

Eressos is a picturesque village lying a few kilometres southwards Sigrí. In Skala Eressou, where Ancient Eressos is located, and which is the birthplace of the poet Sappho (c. 630 – c. 570 BC) and of Theophrastus (c. 371 – c. 287 BC), the father of botany, we will enjoy the unique style and distinct Eressian flair. The beautiful beach and its crystal clear waters are seamed by stilt platforms, which invite you to a coffee or meze (Greek appetizers typically accompanied by ouzo) in the shade with a stunning view of the sea and the islands of Chios and Psara in the distance. Although situated in a generally barren part of the island, Skala Eressou is surrounded by interesting little wetlands inhabited amongst others by tree frogs, freshwater turtles, dragonflies and eels.



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Our excursion will start in Mytilene and will take us through olive plantations and pine forests towards Kalloni, where we will wander around the wetland and salt pans. Then we will depart for Sigri, visit the open-air petrified forest and Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest. A snack will be offered on the spot by the organizers. On the way back we will visit Skala Eressou and eventually enjoy its superb sunset and a good meal.







This excursion costs 30€ and includes:

-  Bus transport
-  Museum tickets
-  Light sandwich at 12:00
-  Lunch at Skala Eressou

Group Photograph

A group photo will be taken on Wednesday, 11th September before the afternoon coffee break, if weather permits. Changes can be made ad hoc in the unlikely case of bad weather. Delegates should meet outside the Geography building at 15:30.

Important Dates

-  Early registration: until 15th May 2019
-  Late registration: 16th May to 16th June 2019
-  Student registration: 25th March to 16th June 2019
-  Abstract submissions: until 30th June 2019
-  Symposium: 8th to 12th September 2019
-  Excursion: 12th September 2019





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Useful links

-  [Registration form](#)
-  [Abstract layout](#)
-  Official email: syrphidae10@gmail.com
-  Websites <https://iucn-hsg.pmf.uns.ac.rs/iss10/> <https://cbbc.pmf.uns.ac.rs/en/iss10/>

Other information for delegates

Should you require a personally addressed **letter of invitation** or other relevant documents please contact syrphidae10@gmail.com. It should be understood that such an invitation is only to assist participants in raising travel funds or obtaining a visa and is not a commitment on the part of the organizers to provide financial support.

Microscopes will be available for delegates wishing to examine specimens.

Logo

ISS10 logo and letterhead incorporates hoverfly species *Merodon puniceus* Vujić, Radenković & Pérez-Bañón, 2011. *Merodon puniceus* is a distinctive, endemic species of Lesbos, medium-sized with red, purple-lustered tergites of the abdomen. It is very similar to *Merodon dobrogensis* Bradescu, 1982.

International Scientific Committee

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Santos Rojo, University of Alicante, Alicante, Spain
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Organizing committee

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