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Kempny's »Adampol« elucidated: a Polish settlement in Anatolia in the mid 19th century

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Abstract. The unknown Anatolian locality named »Adampol« in a paper by Kempny at the beginning of the XXth century is identified to the modern »Polonez« in the Bosphorus area, Asian side. Its origin stands in a Polish colony founded in the middle of the XIXth century. The taxonomy of the species recorded in the original paper is discussed.

Key words. Odonata, dragonfly, Turkey, Polonez, *Somatochlora meridionalis*, *Cordulegaster picta*

The name »Adampol« first entered the odonatological literature with a paper by KEMPNY (1908) relating the captures of Dr Franz Werner in Asia Minor, 1900–1901. Almost 70 years later, DUMONT (1977), in his comprehensive review of Turkish Odonata, was unable to identify this locality even with the help of Turkish experts and went so far as to doubt that it was in Turkey. Identifying the locality is however of great interest as records of *Somatochlora* species in Asia Minor, listed by KEMPNY (1908), are still very rare (BOUDOT et al. 2009) and likewise his records of »*Cordulegaster bidentatus*« from this area are highly questionable. The only *Cordulegaster* known for certain in the Turkish part of Asia Minor are *C. insignis* Schneider, 1845 (several subspecies or forms), *C. mzymtae* Bartenev, 1929 (sometimes regarded as a subspecies of *C. insignis* due to hybridization in their contact area) and *C. picta* Selys, 1854, and to the east beyond the Turkish border only *C. vanbrinkae* Lohmann, 1993 occurs before the shore of the Caspian Sea and the Caucasus. The easternmost border of authenticated *C. bidentata* Selys, 1843 runs from north-eastern Greece across eastern Bulgaria to the Romanian and Ukrainian Carpathians, and not a single voucher specimen is known from Asia Minor.

Searching for »Adampol« in international toponym databases in the past produced some localities in Poland, and in addition linguistically very similar toponyms in Ukraine (Adampol') and Lithuania (Adampolis), suggesting a more northern site for this supposedly Asia Minor locality. In the course of preparing the 'Atlas of the Odonata of the Mediterranean and North Africa' in 2008, using internet resources, no further results emerged. However recently in 2014, while researching the »Atlas of the Odonata of Europe« presently in progress, further details emerged which clarify the presence of this strange Slavic name in Asia Minor.

»Adampol« is the old name of a small Polish colony founded in 1842 in Anatolia not far from the Bosphorus strait, ca. 12 km ENE of the modern highway bridge ($41^{\circ}06'37''N$, $29^{\circ}12'40''E$). It resulted from an emigration wave following a failed Polish independence uprising (MODLINSKA 2014; P. Buczyński pers. comm.). This name means »The village of Adam« after the name of its founder, the Prince Adam Jerzy Czartoryski and accounts for a Polish name being given to an Anatolian village. The old Turkish name was »Adam-köy« (= »Adamköy« in modern Turkish, with »köy« = »village«). Its present Turkish name varies from »Polonez«, »Polonezköy« or »Polonezkoyu«, depending on the toponym's source, which also reflects the Polish origin of the settlement. Nowadays, a Polish festival still emphasizes each summer the origin of this village and its cultural relationships with its mother country (MODLINSKA 2014). This discovery matched perfectly the information included in one of the last published Turkish roadmap (Fig. 1), where this locality is indicated under its two names, »Adampol« (displayed as an outmoded name), and »Polonez« (displayed as a modern name).

Returning to Odonata, I give verbatim the original list of species by Kempny: *Diplax striolata* Charp., *D. vulgata* L., *Somatochlora metallica* V. d. L., *Onychogomphus forcipatus* L., *Cordulegaster bidentatus* Sélys and *Calopteryx virgo* L.

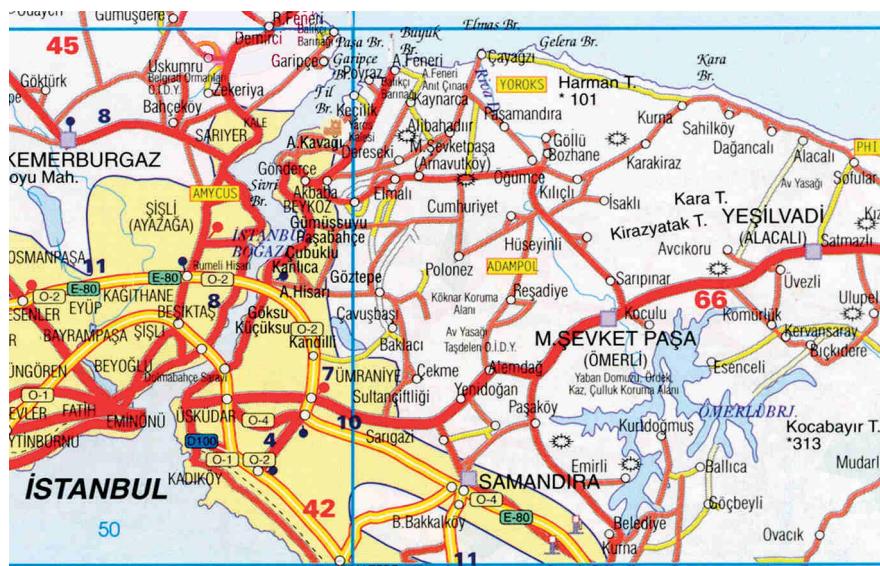


Fig. 1. Location of Adampol (now Polonez) east of Istanbul and the Bosphorus (OtoAtls Türkiye. Karayolları Haritası 1/600.000, Mapmedya Yayınları ed., 2004, ISBN 975-6206-00-4).

Apart from corrections necessary in the light of modern nomenclature and taxonomy, some of the specimens were obviously misidentified: *S. metallica* is evidently the first genuine record of *S. meridionalis* Nielsen, 1935 in Asia Minor and, as evidenced by DUMONT (1976, 1977), Turkish records of *C. bidentatus* are presumably a part of the former Balkan and Turkish *Cordulegaster* confusion created by Selys during the 19th century. The systematics of this family is now much better understood, however, so semi-empiric interpretations are reasonable.

In successive papers, in which he accorded too much importance to colour features of specimens sometimes described by correspondents but which he never saw or those he saw only briefly, Selys changed incessantly his opinion regarding the relationships between *C. bidentata*, *C. boltonii*, *C. charpentieri* and *C. picta*, giving alternatively to the latter either a full species rank (SELYS 1854, 1873a, 1887) or an infraspecific rank (SELYS 1858) both within *C. boltonii* (as »*C. annulatus intermedius*«) and within *C. bidentata* (as »*C. bidentatus pictus*«, which is a non-existing taxon). Later, he ascribed the same specimens to a so-called *C. bidentatus anatolicus* (SELYS 1873b), which cannot be placed with certainty in any modern recognized taxon but which originated from north-western Anatolia, where only *C. picta* and *C. insignis* are known. Lastly (SELYS, 1887), he applied erroneously the name »*C. charpentieri*« of Kolenati, a very yellow form of *C. insignis*, to specimens he described previously as *C. picta*, a course that was followed by subsequent authors until corrected by DUMONT (1976).

Such confusion originated both from the importance given to colour pattern by Selys and the great colour variability of several *Cordulegaster* taxa (Fig. 2). According to its colour pattern, *C. picta* ranges from individuals similar to the darkest *C. insignis* (e.g. in Samos island and southwestern Anatolia) to individuals recalling either *C. bidentata* or *C. boltonii* and *C. trinacria* at the population level (Rhodopes, European Turkey, northern Anatolia). Single individuals with minute yellow dots may be even confused with *C. vanbrinkae* from a distance. There is a strong probability that Kempny identified Werner's specimens with help of Selys' papers and so based his determinations on exaggerated colour patterns. Adampol is fully within the ranges of *C. insignis* and of the dark forms of *C. picta*, and is clearly beyond the range of *C. mzymtae*. Most probably, specimens from there attributed to *C. bidentata* should be referred to *C. picta*, as confusion with any morph of *C. insignis* would be difficult, even when only looking at their general appearance.

This emphasizes the need to identify *Cordulegaster* species based on structural characters rather than on colour pattern alone as is often still done.

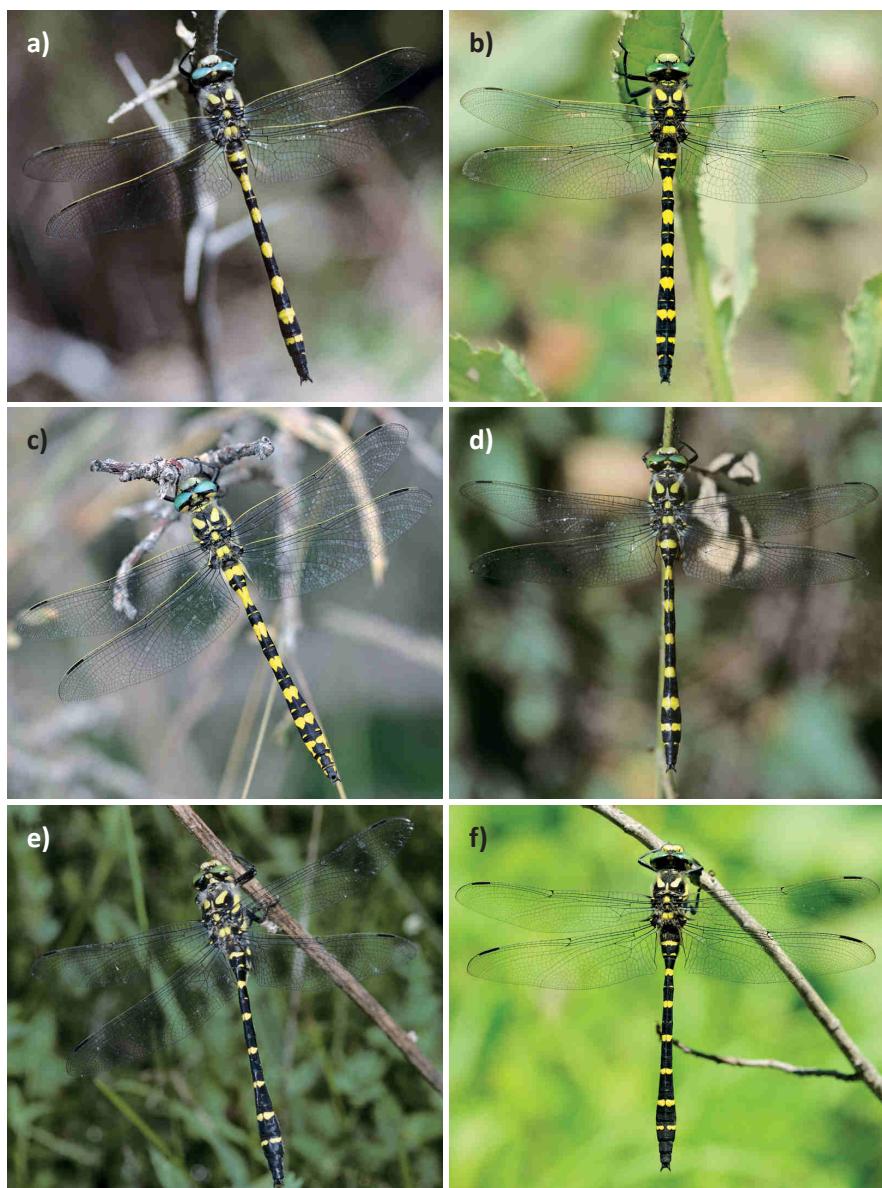
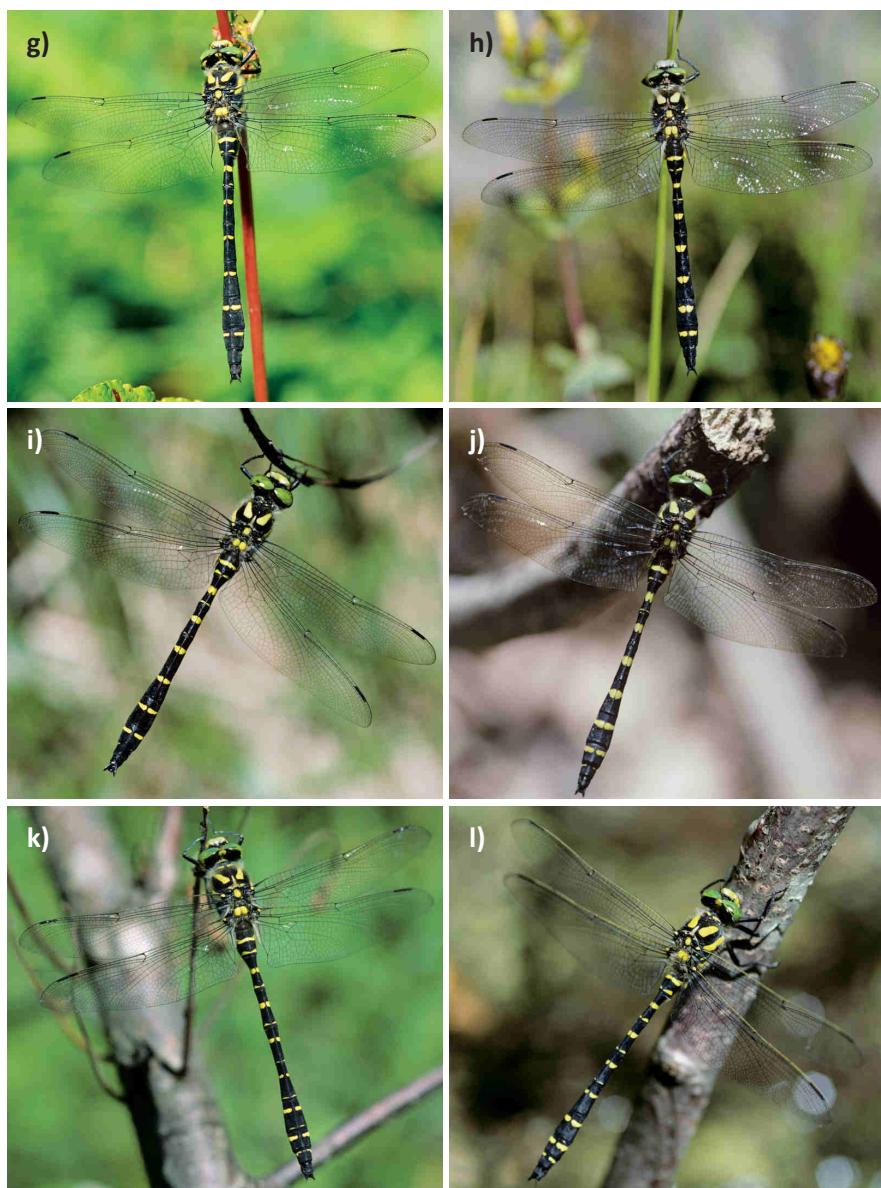


Fig. 2. Images of some species of *Cordulegaster* involved in the past »Turkish *Cordulegaster* puzzle« due to inter-species colour pattern convergence and intra-species variability. **a)** *C. insignis*, Samos; **b)** *C. insignis*, Anatolia, N of Kastamonu province; **c)** *C. insignis charpentieri*, Anatolia, E of Yozgat province; **d)** *C. picta*, Samos; **e)** *C. picta*, Greece,



W Rhodopi mountains; **f, g)** *C. picta*, Anatolia, Bolu province; **h)** *C. mzymtae*, Anatolia, Artvin province, Samsat; **i)** *C. bidentata*, France, Hautes-Pyrénées, Cauterets; **j)** *C. bidentata*, mainland Greece, Ossa Mts; **k)** *C. boltonii*, E France, Vosges; **l)** *C. trinacriae*, S Italy, Pollino Mt. Photos: JPB

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