

Contributions to the sawfly fauna of Hungary, I (Hymenoptera)

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Abstract – *Xyela alpigena* (Strobl, 1895) (Xyelidae) is recorded as new in the Hungarian fauna. The distribution of *Aprosthemella melanurum* (Klug, 1814) (Argidae) and *Caliroa tremulae* Chevin, 1974 (Tenthredinidae) in Hungary is discussed since several specimens came forward from new localities. The egg-laying behaviour of *Monophadnus spinolae* Klug, 1814 (Tenthredinidae) was observed.

Key words – Argidae, egg-laying, Symphyta, Tenthredinidae, Xyelidae

A SYMPHYTA SPECIES NEW IN THE HUNGARIAN FAUNA

The regular identification of sawflies newly collected by research workers of the Hungarian Natural History Museum (HNHM) yielded again a species new to the Hungarian fauna: *Xyela alpigena* (Strobl, 1895) (Xyelidae). This species was expected to occur in our fauna as indicated in the identification book of MÓCZÁR & ZOMBORI (1973). A brief description of the species follows hereunder.

Xyela alpigena (Strobl, 1895)

Description – Length: 3.5 mm. Male. Whole body finely punctate, shining. Head basally yellow with broad brown patches. Mouthparts large, especially maxillary palpi. Malar space wide, well surpassing diameter of front ocellus. Eye oval with dark triangular patch at upper corner. Distance between hind ocelli much shorter than distance between hind ocellus and hind margin of head. Three broad dark brown patches in front of front ocellus. One broad, somewhat bent dark patch on either side of hind ocelli, occipital area also dark coloured as whole of postoccipt. Antenna rusty light brown, particularly basal half. Apical filament of nine antennomeres of elongate antenna almost black and clearly longer than basal three antennomeres. Thorax mostly brown above and light yellow below. Hind margin of pronotum straight. Front and lateral lobes of mesonotum brown with light yellow

marks, while mesoscutellum almost entirely yellow. Wing scale almost white as in basal sections of veins, stigma very light yellow, rest of venation light brown. Legs light reddish yellow, only tarsi more or less dark brown. Middle section of abdominal tergites brown, downturned portions and sternites yellow. Genital parts brown.

Material – One male specimen, bearing the following label: “HUNG., Pest m., Vác, Naszály, Alsó-kút-völgy, gyümölcsös [orchard], kopogtatás [beating], 2007. IV. 9. leg. Merkl O., Németh T., Rahmé N. & Romsauer J.”

Distribution – Known only from a few countries in Europe: Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Russia (LISTON 1995). Also recorded from Japan and the eastern parts of North America. No reference in ROLLER & HARIS (2008).

NEW LOCALITIES OF TWO SYMPHYTA SPECIES

Recently several specimens of *Aprosthemella melanurum* (Klug, 1814) (Argidae) were captured which had been known only from Tokaj and Nagykovácsi (MÓCZÁR & ZOMBORI 1973). Later it was recorded from Velence, Pilisszántó, Szilvásvárad, Budapest (Hármashatár-hegy) and Mecsek (Zobákrpuszta) (ROLLER & HARIS 2008). This time further four collecting localities are added to the Hungarian distribution of this rather uncommon species (with months of collecting in parentheses): Budaörs (May), Domony (April), Ócsa (July) and Pécel (April).

Only two Hungarian localities (Csorna, Inárcs) of *Caliroa tremulae* Chevin, 1974 (Tenthredinidae) are figured in ROLLER & HARIS (2008). One further specimen was collected recently, which bears a label with the following text: “HUNGARY, Derenk, 2015. 06. 13. leg. Kovács-Hostyánszki A.”

THE EGG-LAYING OF *MONOPHADNUS SPINOLAE* KLUG, 1814

While poring through the available sawfly literature (e.g. ENSLIN 1914, LORENZ & KRAUS 1957, ZOMBORI 1990) I was unable to find any reference to the egg-laying of this species. It is mentioned that its larva feeds in August–September. The present contribution refers to the egg-laying in the second half of July (21st), so it is very likely that the larva emerges and starts feeding at the end of July.

It was a sunny forenoon in Nagykovácsi (Pest county, Hungary), checking a lush *Clematis vitalba* stand over a fence, when I observed a female individual of *M. spinolae* crawling over the leaves about 1.5 metres above the ground. The yellow abdomen of the female was swollen clearly with eggs. It was crawling slowly, obviously searching for some site, then head upwards it stopped close to the edge of an upstanding, shining green young leaf, grasped the surface and bending its abdomen letting free its saw started to lay the egg in the upper epidermis. This procedure lasted about 60 seconds.

Afterwards regaining its saw crawled onto the edge of the leaf and flew some 10 cm higher. It landed on a dark green old leaf. With its antennae it was touching the leaf several times then again close to the leaf edge, its head upwards started to lay again its egg. The laying of the egg this time lasted for about 80 seconds. Thereafter it flew up to about 2 metres high above the ground, there it crawled on a leaf shaded by another. It stopped there for couple of minutes. I was looking for other females, but I could not find any. Returning back to the female's hiding place it was still there resting motionless.

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