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Some observations on *Trissonchulus benepapillosus* (Schulz, 1935) (Nematoda: Ironidae)

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Abstract: A large population of *Trissonchulus benepapillosus* (Schulz, 1935) has been collected from Polish coast. In this study additional information about morphology and morphometric data are provided. Drawings and SEM photographs are also included.

Key words: Nematoda, morphology, morphometrics, SEM, Poland

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Occurrence and threats of the medicinal leech (*Hirudo medicinalis* L.) in Poland (Annelida: Hirudinea)

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Abstract: The new data on the distribution of the medicinal leech (*Hirudo medicinalis* L.) in Poland, collected in the years 1999–2007 during several hydrobiological and batrachological studies in many regions of Poland, are presented. In total, 87 new records were found, which doubled the number of contemporary known localities. Habitat preferences and protected status of this species in Poland are discussed.

Key words: *Hirudo medicinalis*, Poland, distribution, protected status

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Myrmica obscura Finzi – a good ant species (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) endemic to Italy

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Abstract: Examination of populations of *M. schencki* Viereck at sites in Italy showed that there appeared to be an Italian form characterised by workers having much wider frons than is normal for *M. schencki*. Morphometric comparison with *M. schencki* from all over its range showed that not only do the Italian female castes have a wider frons, their males also have a relatively longer scape that is less acutely angled at its base. These differences are consistently sufficient for the Italian form to be a species distinct from *M. schencki*. Comparison with other forms in the *schencki*-species group of *Myrmica* Latr. shows its workers, queens and males to be fully compatible with the type specimens of *M. schencki* var. *obscura* Finzi, which was considered as a junior synonym of *M. schencki*. Here we revive the name *M. obscura* from synonymy and raise it to species. Its distribution is discussed.

Key words: ants, Formicidae, *Myrmica schencki*, *Myrmica obscura*, taxonomy, Europe, Italy

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Pyramica baudueri (Emery, 1875) – a new ant species (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) for the Romanian fauna

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Abstract: The Romanian myrmecofauna is insufficiently known, mostly cryptic, sub-Mediterranean and parasitic species are lacking from the checklist. In this article a new species for the Romanian fauna is presented: *Pyramica baudueri* Em., a cryptic and sub-Mediterranean species. Two specimens were found in South-Western Romania, close to the Hungarian border. *P. baudueri* lives in the soil, and hunts for small arthropods. Besides *Pyramica*, specimens of *Ponera testacea* Em. were also found on the same spot; this is the fifth data on the occurrence of this species in Romania. As several dacetine species are known from Southern and Central European countries it can be hypothesized that specific collecting methods would probably increase the number of dacetine species known from Romania. Upon this article the number of known Romanian ant species sums up to 105.

Key words: ants, *Pyramica baudueri*, new species, Romania

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Butterflies (Lepidoptera: Hesperioidea, Papilionoidea) of the Kampinos National Park and its buffer zone

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Abstract: Kampinos National Park is the second largest protected area in Poland and therefore a potentially important stronghold for biodiversity in the Mazovia region. However it has been abandoned as an area of lepidopterological studies for a long time. A total number of 80 butterfly species were recorded during inventory studies (2005–2008), which proved the occurrence of 80 species (81.6% of species recorded in the Mazovia voivodeship and about half of Polish fauna), including 7 from the European Red Data Book and 15 from the national red list (8 protected by law). Several xerothermophilous species have probably become extinct in the last few decades (*Colias myrmidone*, *Pseudophilotes vicrama*, *Melitaea aurelia*, *Hipparchia statilinus*, *H. alcyone*), or are endangered in the KNP and in the region (e.g. *Maculinea arion*, *Melitaea didyma*), due to afforestation and spontaneous succession. Higrophilous butterflies have generally suffered less from recent changes in land use, but action to stop the deterioration of their habitats is urgently needed. *Lycaena dispar*, *Maculinea teleius* and *M. alcon* are still quite widespread but *L. helle* and *Euphydras aurinia* were recorded on single sites only. However, *Maculinea nausithous* was observed only in 2005 and has probably just disappeared from the KNP. Despite the aforementioned losses, the Kampinos Forest deserves to be added to the list of the *Prime Butterfly Areas in Europe*.

Key words: butterflies, biodiversity, Kampinos National Park, fauna of Poland, endangered species

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State of knowledge of the tachinid fauna of Eastern Asia, with new data from North Korea. Part I. Phasiinae

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Abstract: The present state of knowledge of the tachinid fauna of Eastern Asia is reviewed. The material from the subfamily Phasiinae collected in North Korea by five expeditions of researchers from the Institute of Zoology PAS, Warsaw, Poland was studied. Thirteen species of the phasiine flies are recorded. Ten species are reported for the first time in the fauna of North Korea. Two new species are described and illustrated: *Dionaea karinae* sp. nov., and *Hemyda dominikae* sp. nov.

Key words: Diptera, Tachinidae, Phasiinae, new species, North Korea

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Pollenia moravica (Jacentkovský, 1941) (Diptera: Calliphoridae) recorded from Poland for the first time

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Abstract: *Pollenia moravica* (Jacentkovský, 1941) is recorded for the first time from Poland. The *P. moravica* female morphology, previously poorly documented is described and illustrated in detail. High morphological similarity of *P. moravica* with *P. amentaria* (Scopoli, 1763) is confirmed based on Polish specimens. The features useful for separating specimens of these two species are discussed.

Key words: Calliphoridae, *Pollenia moravica*, faunistics, Poland

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Pollenia bulgarica (Jacentkovský, 1939) – first record from Ukraine, with faunistic notes on other blowflies in the Askania Nova Biosphere Reserve (Diptera, Calliphoridae)

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Abstract: *Pollenia bulgarica* (Jacentkovský, 1939) is recorded from Ukraine for the first time. The male of this species was collected in the Askania Nova Biosphere Reserve in Kherson Region. Results of the faunistic survey in habitats of the reserve (steppe and park) are presented.

Key words: *Pollenia bulgarica*, faunistics, Calliphoridae, Askania Nova Biosphere Reserve, Ukraine