

Two remarkable species of Rachispoda Lioy (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae) new to Switzerland

Autor(en): **Gatt, Paul**

Objektyp: **Article**

Zeitschrift: **Mitteilungen der Schweizerischen Entomologischen Gesellschaft = Bulletin de la Société Entomologique Suisse = Journal of the Swiss Entomological Society**

Band (Jahr): **79 (2006)**

Heft 1-2

PDF erstellt am: **22.07.2024**

Persistenter Link: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-402913>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Inhalten der Zeitschriften. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern.

Die auf der Plattform e-periodica veröffentlichten Dokumente stehen für nicht-kommerzielle Zwecke in Lehre und Forschung sowie für die private Nutzung frei zur Verfügung. Einzelne Dateien oder Ausdrucke aus diesem Angebot können zusammen mit diesen Nutzungsbedingungen und den korrekten Herkunftsbezeichnungen weitergegeben werden.

Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. Die systematische Speicherung von Teilen des elektronischen Angebots auf anderen Servern bedarf ebenfalls des schriftlichen Einverständnisses der Rechteinhaber.

Haftungsausschluss

Alle Angaben erfolgen ohne Gewähr für Vollständigkeit oder Richtigkeit. Es wird keine Haftung übernommen für Schäden durch die Verwendung von Informationen aus diesem Online-Angebot oder durch das Fehlen von Informationen. Dies gilt auch für Inhalte Dritter, die über dieses Angebot zugänglich sind.

Two remarkable species of *Rachispoda* Lioy (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae) new to Switzerland

PAUL GATT

56 Godwin Ganado Street, Rabat RBT 02, Malta. email: paulgatt@onvol.net

Two rare species of *Rachispoda* Lioy (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae), *R. segem* Roháček and *R. uniseta* Roháček are newly recorded from Switzerland and their distribution and ecology is briefly discussed.

Keywords: Diptera, Sphaeroceridae, *Rachispoda segem*, *Rachispoda uniseta*, first records, Switzerland.

INTRODUCTION

The sphaerocerid fauna of Switzerland is fairly well known, with 108 out of nearly 260 European species listed in Papp (1998) and Roháček (2004). The genus *Rachispoda* Lioy is poorly represented, with only the following 5 species enumerated – *R. fuscipennis* (Haliday, 1833), *R. limosa* (Fallén, 1820), *R. lutosa* (Stenhammar, 1855), *R. lutosoidea* (Duda, 1938), and *R. varicornis* (Strobl, 1900) – as *Leptocera* in Papp 1998; as *Rachispoda* in Roháček 2004. This low number is doubtlessly due to under-investigation, as 33 species are known from Europe (Roháček 2004), of which 19 species have been recorded from neighbouring Italy (Munari 1995) and 13 from Germany (Roháček & Buck 1999). Papp (1998) predicted that numerous additional species of *Rachispoda* should eventually be found in Switzerland.

It is therefore of interest to record two recently described, poorly known and rarely collected species of *Rachispoda* for the first time from Switzerland.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The specimens were amongst material collected by Dr. Bernhard Merz and sent to me for identification. They are deposited in the collections of the Natural History Museum, Geneva, except for one specimen of *R. uniseta* which is in the author's collection.

RESULTS

Material examined

Rachispoda segem (Roháček, 1991): Switzerland: Geneva, 390 m, Russin, Les Baillets (Allondon), 24 March 2003, 1 ♂, leg. B. Merz.

Rachispoda uniseta (Roháček, 1991): Switzerland: Geneva, 415 m, Bernex, Chante Merle, 3 April 2005, 2 ♂♂, leg. B. Merz; Geneva, 420 m, Bernex, Bois de Carabot, 29 April 2005, 1 ♂, leg. B. Merz.

DISCUSSION

R. segem is a Palaearctic species which is still only known from the type series collected in Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Russia, Slovakia and Spain (Roháček 1991; Roháček *et al.* 2001). Its discovery in Switzerland, whilst significant, is therefore not surprising. Its name is an anagram of the closely related Afghan species *Rachispoda meges* (Papp, 1978).

Very little is known of its biology, but the type series was swept from shady river banks (Roháček 1991). Before Roháček (1991) clarified its true status, the species had been misidentified as *Leptocera (Rachispoda) cilifera* (Rondani, 1880) by authors.

R. uniseta is another Palaearctic species hitherto only known from the type series of 3 males collected in North Africa (Tunisia and Morocco) (Roháček 1991; Roháček *et al.* 2001). The female remains unknown. This first record from Europe indicates that the species is more widely distributed than previously thought. Nothing is known of its biology, but one male paratype was collected from the riparian zone of a river.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted to Dr. Bernhard Merz of the Natural History Museum, Geneva, for the opportunity to study this interesting material, and to Dr. Jindrich Roháček of the Slezské zemské muzeum, Opava, Czech Republic, for very kindly confirming the identity of *R. uniseta* and for reading a draft of the manuscript.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Zwei seltene Arten von *Rachispoda* (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae), *R. segem* und *R. uniseta*, werden hier für die Schweiz gemeldet und ihre Verbreitung und Biologie werden kurz diskutiert.

REFERENCES

- Munari, L. 1995. Famiglia Sphaeroceridae. In: Minelli, A., Ruffo, S., & La Posta, S. (eds), Checklist delle specie della fauna Italiana. Fascicolo 75, Diptera Opomyzoidea, Carnoidea, Sphaeroceridae, pp. 21–25. — Edizioni Calderini, Bologna, 27 pp.
- Papp, L. 1998. 86. Sphaeroceridae. In: Merz, B., Bächli, G., Haenni, J.-P., & Gonseth, Y. (eds), Diptera-Checklist, pp. 291–294. — Fauna Helvetica, vol. 1. Centre suisse de cartographie de la faune & Schweizerische Entomologische Gesellschaft, Neuchâtel.
- Roháček, J. 1991. A monograph of Leptocera (*Rachispoda* Lioy) of the West Palaearctic area (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae). — Časopis Slezského zemského Muzea, Opava (A) 41: 193–203.
- Roháček, J. 2004. Fauna Europaea: Sphaeroceridae. In: Pape, T. (ed.), Fauna Europaea: Diptera Brachycera. — Fauna Europaea version 1.1, <http://www.faunaeur.org>
- Roháček, J. & Buck, M. 1999. Sphaeroceridae. In: Schumann, H., Bährmann, R. & Stark, A. (eds), Checkliste der Dipteren Deutschlands, pp. 191–194. — Studia Dipterologica, Supplement 2: 1–354. Ampyx-Verlag, Halle (Saale).
- Roháček, J., Marshall, S.A., Norrbom A.L., Buck M., Quiros D.I. & Smith I. 2001. World Catalog of Sphaeroceridae (Diptera). — Slezské zemské muzeum, Opava, 414 pp.

(received January 23, 2006; accepted April 5, 2006)