

***ERYTHROMMA VIRIDULUM* (ODONATA: COENAGRIONIDAE) - A NEW SPECIES TO LITHUANIA**BERND GLIWA¹, VACLOVAS STUKONIS²

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Introduction

The checklist of Odonata living in Lithuania was expanded recently, changed and discussed several times. The up to now checklist is represented by the identification key (Dapkus, 2010). This paper adds one new species (*Erythromma viridulum* (Charpentier, 1840)) with records from 2007 onwards in central Lithuania. *Erythromma viridulum* was mentioned, together with *Sympecma fusca*, as recorded in Lithuania by Ivinskis and Rimšaitė (2010). Unfortunately, neither data, nor location, nor observer were given in this paper.

Material and Methods

Damselflies were observed and documented using a SLR digital camera with a 70–300 mm telephoto zoom lens. No individuals were captured.

List of localities

Radviliškis district	Artificial pond Juodupio Tvenkinys	55°48'16"N, 23°44'57"E
	Lake Kragai	55°32'20"N, 23°25'00"E

Results

The new to Lithuania damselfly species *Erythromma viridulum* (Charpentier, 1840) was observed in Lithuania at the artificial pond Juodupio Tvenkinys on August 29th 2011. About 50 individuals were counted, most of them single males patrolling over the water or sitting on small or floating vegetation like *Eleocharis palustris*, *Equisetum fluviatile*, and *Myriophyllum spicatum*. At least 6 egg laying tandems were observed as well.

A revision of older pictures, hitherto believed to show *Erythromma najas* (Hansemann, 1823), has led to other findings.

The oldest published data on *E. viridulum* in Lithuania was a misidentification too. The specimen reported by one of the authors (Gliwa & Šeškauskaitė, 2008) as “one dead male of *Ischnura pumilio* (Charpentier, 1825)” is in fact a male of *E. viridulum*. The pictures accompanying this paper are published elsewhere (Sargelių...), however, the

original description was corrected in 2011. Other pictures taken on that occasion showed three tandems of *E. viridulum*.

***Erythromma viridulum* (Charpentier, 1840)**

Lake Kragai, 05 08 2007, 7 ind. (1 dead male, 3 tandems), 24 07 2008, 8 ind. (4 tandems); pond Juodupio Tvenkinys, 29 08 2011, ~50 ind.

Discussion

The occurrence of *Erythromma viridulum* in Lithuania follows the trend of expansion northwards observed in Germany and Poland (Sternberg *et al.*, 2001; Bernard *et al.*, 2009). The high abundance of the species at both sites allows to conclude that it has been living here for several years already. Both sites are small mesotrophic waters surrounded by forest what forms suitable conditions for the thermophilic species.

Ivinskis and Rimšaitė (2010) inform that *E. viridulum* has been recorded in Lithuania. Neither data, nor location are given.

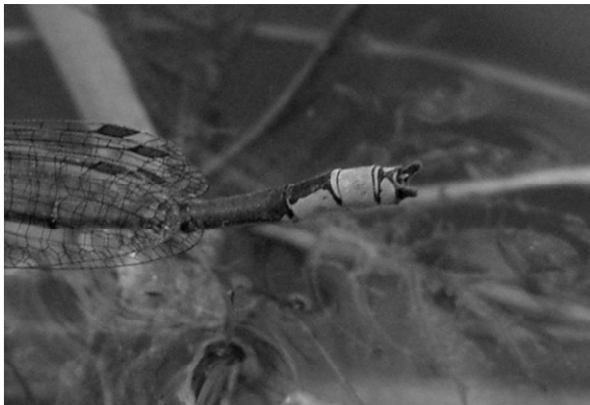


Figure 1. Abdomen of an *Erythromma viridulum* male. Segment 8 is black only on top, the sides are blue; there is a black cross-like shape on the top of segment 10.

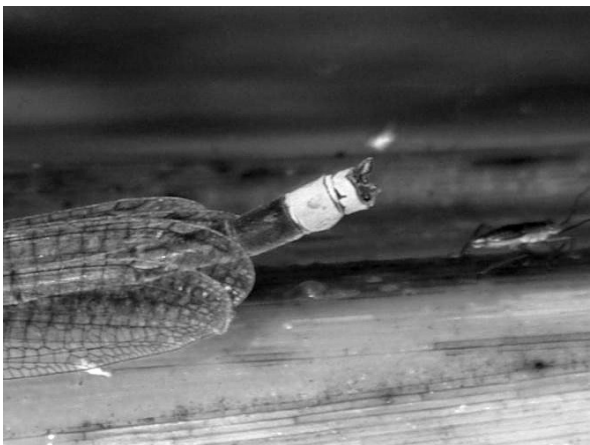


Figure 2. Abdomen of an *Erythromma najas* male. Segment 8 is black - top and sides. No or only small black drawings on the top of segment 10.

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***Erythromma viridulum* (Odonata: Coenagrionidae) – nauja žirgelių rūšis Lietuvoje**

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Santrauka

Erythromma viridulum (Charpentier, 1840) – nauja žirgelių rūšis Lietuvoje. Pateikiami duomenys apie nuo 2007 m. pastebėtą rūšį dviejose Radviliškio rajono vietose.

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