

MOSQUITO (DIPTERA: CULICIDAE) SPECIES NEW FOR LITHUANIAN FAUNA

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Introduction

Thirty six mosquito (Diptera: Culicidae) species are known in Lithuania, 32 of them were determined by V. Podėnaitė in 1957–1964 (Pakalniškis *et al.*, 2006). The mosquito species *Aedes geminus* (Peus, 1970) was described as sibling species of *Aedes cinereus* Meigen, 1818 rather recently (Becker *et al.*, 2003). No specific differences, neither in the chaetotaxy nor in other characteristics, can be found in the larvae of these two species. Males of *Ae. geminus* and *Ae. cinereus* differ in the shape of the apical fork of the gonostylus. It is bifurcated in both species, but in *Ae. geminus* the outer branch is longer than the inner one (Becker *et al.*, 2003). The aim of this study was to re-examine the material earlier determined as *Ae. cinereus* and to check the presence of *Ae. geminus* in Lithuania.

Material and Methods

The material was collected by light traps in Smiltynė (in 2005, light trap was supervised by P. Ivinskis (P.I.)), Rūgštelėškis (in 2000, light trap was supervised by G. Švitra (G.Š.)) and Verkiiai (in 2005, light trap was supervised by P. Ivinskis (P.I.)). All collected mosquito males identified as *Aedes cinereus* were re-examine and analyzed. The material is deposited in the Laboratory of Entomology of the Nature Research Centre, Institute of Ecology, Vilnius.

List of localities

Klaipėda town	Smiltynė	55°42'10"N, 21°07'00"E
Utena district	Rūgštelėškis	55°27'54"N, 26°00'27"E
Vilnius city	Verkiiai	54°45'06"N, 25°17'44"E

List of species

Aedes (Aedes) geminus (Peus, 1970)

Smiltynė, 05–12 07 2005, 1♂ (P.I.); Rūgštelėškis, 07–14 08 2000, 1♂ (G.Š.), 14–21 08 2000, 1♂ (G.Š.); Verkiiai, 23–30 05 2005, 2♂ (P.I.), 13–20 06 2005, 1♂ (P.I.), 20–27 06 2005, 2♂ (P.I.), 29 08–05 09 2005, 2♂ (P.I.), 5–12 09 2005, 1♂ (P.I.), 19–26 09 2005, 1♂ (P.I.), 26 09–03 10 2005, 1♂ (P.I.).

Discussion

Because of the close similarity to *Aedes cinereus* it is difficult to forecast the whole range of distribution for *Ae. geminus* in the world (Becker *et al.*, 2003). It is most likely that *Ae. geminus* does not occur in the eastern Palaearctic and is distributed mainly in middle and western Europe (Peus, 1972). Mosquitoes of this species hibernate in the egg-stage and have at least two generations per year as *Ae. cinereus* (Becker *et al.*, 2003). This was illustrated in our investigations as the majority of *Ae. geminus* males were collected in May–June (the first generation of mosquitoes in Lithuania) as well as in August–September.

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References

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Nauja Lietuvos faunos tikrųjų uodų (Diptera: Culicidae) rūšis

Santrauka

Straipsnyje pateikti duomenys apie naują Lietuvos faunos tikrųjų uodų (Diptera: Culicidae) rūšį *Aedes geminus* (Peus, 1970). Dėl morfologinio dviejų uodų rūšių panašumo ankstesnių tyrimų metu šios rūšies uodai galėjo būti apibūdinti kaip *Aedes cinereus* Meigen, 1818. Lietuvoje *Ae. geminus* uodai buvo aptikti nuo gegužės iki spalio mėnesio.

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