

FIRST RECORD OF *ORTHETRUM ALBISTYLUM* (ODONATA: LIBELLULIDAE) IN LITHUANIA

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Introduction

Recently the checklist of Odonata living and appearing as migrants in Lithuania has been expanded, changed and discussed several times. The last checklist is represented by the identification key (Dapkus, 2010). Despite the fact that this key is quite new it is already outdated, due to two new species, *Erythromma viridulum* (Charpentier, 1840) and *Sympecma fusca* (Vander Linden, 1820) (Ivinskis & Rimšaitė, 2010, Gliwa & Stukonis, 2011). This note adds another new species to Lithuania: *Orthetrum albistylum* (Selys, 1848).

Material and Methods

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

Locality

Jurbarkas district Bank of the river Nemunas 55°05'01.7"N, 22°49'46.4"E

Results

A single male has been observed in the valley of the river Nemunas at a river groyne near Rotuliai, 08 07 2013.

Discussion

Orthetrum albistylum is a southern species with occurrence in neighbouring Poland and Belarus. According to the Polish distribution atlas of Odonata (Bernard *et al.*, 2009) the closest observation site in Poland is at a distance of about 150 km.

There are some authors discussing a trend of expansion of this species northwards (Sternberg, Buchwald, 2000) but no reliable data confirming this. The observation in Lithuania may be due to accidental migration, but an autochthonous population can't be excluded. The species is known to live at open ponds and lakes. The habitat in the groyne fields is very similar to standing water; the bench of the river has large areas of open sand and gravel as it is preferred by *Orthetrum* spp. in general. Hence, the observation site looks like a suitable habitat for *Orthetrum albistylum*. A migration alongside the river Nemunas from Belarus could be taken into consideration, although known distribution of the species seems not reaching the headwaters of that river (Dijkstra, 2006).

Acknowledgements

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Pirmi duomenys apie *Orthetrum albistylum* (Odonata: Coenagrionidae) Lietuvoje

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Santrauka

Pirmą kartą Lietuvoje, Jurbarko rajone ties Rotuliais, buvo aptikta *Orthetrum albistylum* (Selys, 1848). Straipsnyje pateikiami aptikimo duomenys bei aptariamoms šios rūšies įsitvirtinimo Lietuvoje galimybės.

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