

MICROPEPLUS MARIETTI JACQUELIN DU VAL, 1857 – A NEW ROVE BEETLE (COLEOPTERA, STAPHYLINIDAE, MICROPEPLINAE) SPECIES OF LITHUANIAN FAUNA

VIDMANTAS MONSEVIČIUS

Biodiversity Research Centre, Laižuvo 3-39, LT-85357 Akmenė, Lithuania.

E-mail: vidmantas521@yahoo.lt

Introduction

The Micropeplinae is represented in Lithuania by four species: *Arrhenopeplus tesserula* (Curtis, 1828), *Micropeplus caelatus* Erichson, 1839, *M. fulvus* Erichson, 1840, *M. porcatus* (Paykull, 1789) (Tamutis *et al.*, 2011). The occurrence of three additional species (*M. latus* Hampe, 1861, *M. longipennis* Kraatz, 1859, *M. staphylinoides* (Marsham, 1802) is plausible, as they were found in neighbouring countries: Latvia and Poland (Schülke & Smetana, 2015).

The new for Lithuanian fauna Micropeplinae species is presented in this publication.

Material and Methods

The material was collected by the author of this paper in Akmenė district (Northern Lithuania). Beetles were gathered by sifting decaying plant debris, and grain remains.

The following sources were used for the identification of the species: Jałoszyński *et al.*, 2011; Tronquet, 2007; Zanetti, 2011. The taxonomy follows that of Schülke & Smetana (2015).

The material is deposited in the author's personal collection.

List of localities

Locality	Administrative district	Coordinates (LAT, LONG)
Akmenė II	Akmenė district	56.25583, 22.70194
Padvarėlių miškas f.	Akmenė district	56.24556, 22.67722
Viliošių miškas f.	Akmenė district	56.22167, 22.66806

Species

***Micropeplus marietti* Jacquelin du Val, 1857**

Akmenė II, 14 11 2023, 2♀, in decaying plant debris; Padvarėlių miškas f., 16 02 2020 1♂ 1♀, in grain remains; Viliošių miškas f., 20 12 2023, 1♀, in decaying plant debris.

Discussion

The Micropeplinae is a small subfamily of rove beetles associated with moist forest floor litter, water margins, plant debris or nests of mammals (Jałoszyński *et al.*, 2011). Of the species of the subfamily found in Lithuania, only *Micropeplus fulvus* is common, and

other species are very rare. *M. marietti* (Fig. 1) is very similar to *M. fulvus* and differs from the latter by its larger body (2.2–2.5 mm) and dark antennal club, much darker than flagellum (*M. fulvus* has the antennae entirely light-coloured). Aedeagus (Fig. 2) has an asymmetrical apex, unlike other species of *Micropeplus*.

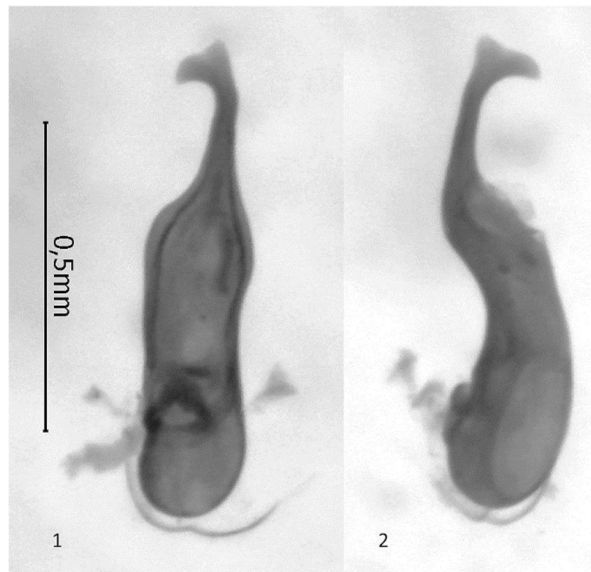


Fig. 1. *Micropeplus marietti*: habitus (author's photo)

Fig. 2. *Micropeplus marietti* aedeagus: ventral (1) and lateral (2) (author's photos)

M. marietti was described from Italy and is now widespread in southern and central Europe, it is also known from the Caucasus, Turkey and Turkmenistan (Schülke & Smetana, 2015). The distribution of this species in the east has reached the Moscow province (Semenov, 2009). From neighbouring countries, the species was found in Belarus (Aleksandrowicz *et al.*, 2023) and Poland (Jałoszyński *et al.*, 2011).

M. marietti is considered a synanthropic species, living in the remains of straw in fields, in dung, compost heaps and rotting hay (Kubisz & Szwalko, 1991). In every instance of the species being discovered in Lithuania, it was found together with *M. fulvus*.

References

- Aleksandrowicz, O., Pisanenko, A., Ryndevich, S., Saluk, S. 2023. *The Check-list of Belarus Coleoptera*. Publishers Pomeranian University in Słupsk, Słupsk, Poland 189 p.
- Jałoszyński, P., Wanat, M., Melke, A. 2011. Faunistic review of Polish Micropeplinae (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae). *Polish Journal of Entomology* 80 (2): 397–409.
- Kubisz, D., Szwalko, P. 1991. *Micropeplus marietti* Jacquelin du Val (Micropeplidae) i *Olisthaerus substriatus* (Paykull) (Staphylinidae) – nowe dla fauny Polski gatunki Staphylinoidea (Coleoptera). *Wiadomości Entomologiczne* 10 (3): 143–146.
- Schülke, M., Smetana, A., 2015. Staphylinidae. In: Löbl, I., Löbl, D. (eds). *Catalogue of Palaearctic Coleoptera. Volume 2. Revised and updated version. Hydrophiloidea – Staphylinoidea*: 304–1134. Brill, Leiden,: The Netherlands.
- Semenov, V. B. 2009. The staphylinid beetles of subfamilies Micropeplinae, Proteininae and Omaliinae (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) of the Moscow Province. *Eversmannia* 17–

- 18: 18–26 [Семёнов В. Б. 2009. Стафилиниды подсемейств Micropeplinae, Proteininae и Omaliinae (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) Московской области].
- Tamutis, V., Tamutė, B., Ferenc, R. 2011. A catalogue of Lithuanian beetles (Insecta, Coleoptera). *Zookeys* 121: 1–494.
- Tronquet, M. 2007. Staphylinidae Micropelinae de la faune de France et contrées voisines des genres *Arrhenopeplus* (Koch, 1937) et *Micropeplus* Latreille, 1809. *Revue de l'Association Roussillonnaise d'Entomologie* 16 (3): 104–116.
- Zanetti, A. 2011. Unterfamilie Micropeplinae. In: Assing, V. & Schülke, M. (Hrsg.). *Freude-Harde-Lohse-Klausnitzer – Die Käfer Mitteleuropas. Band 4. Staphylinidae I. Zweite neubearbeitete Auflage*: 124–127. Heidelberg: Spektrum Akademischer Verlag.

***Micropeplus marietti* Jacquelin du Val, 1857 – nauja Lietuvos faunos trumpasparnių vabalų rūšis (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Micropeplinae)**

V. MONSEVIČIUS

Santrauka

Pateikiami duomenys apie naują Lietuvos faunos trumpasparnių vabalų (Staphylinidae) rūšį, aptiktą Akmenės rajone. *Micropeplus marietti* yra sinantropinė rūšis, kilusi iš Pietų Europos ir pastaraisiais metais plintanti Vidurio ir Rytų Europoje. Nurodoma radimo vieta, data, rastųjų individų skaičius ir lytis.

Received: 30 September 2024