



Morphological and ecological features of *Drusus* larvae from the *D. bosnicus* Group on the Balkan Peninsula with description of the larva of *Drusus klapaleki* Marinković-Gospodnetić, 1971

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Abstract

Drusus klapaleki Marinković-Gospodnetić, 1971, is distributed in central Bosnia and Herzegovina and it belongs to the *D. bosnicus* Group. In the Balkan Peninsula, the *D. bosnicus* Group consists of 9 taxa with allopatric distribution. This study has 2 objectives. One is to describe the morphological characters of the *Drusus klapaleki* larva. Another objective is to find certain morphological and ecological features to larvae of the species belonging to the *D. bosnicus* Group from the Balkan Peninsula.

Key words: *Drusus*, larval description, morphology, Balkan Peninsula

Introduction

Systematic research on Trichoptera within the Balkan Peninsula started in the 19th century (Klapálek 1899), and has continued, more or less intensively till nowadays (e.g., Malicky 2005; Previšić *et al.* 2009; Stanić-Koštroman 2009). The most intensive studies were conducted in the area of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria and Greece (e.g., Marinković-Gospodnetić 1971a, 1971b, 1971c, 1976, 1978, 1979; Kumanski 1985, 1988; Malicky 2005), while the research in the area of Albania, Montenegro, Croatia and Macedonia was far less exhaustive (e.g., Radovanović 1935, 1953; Krušnik 1987; Chvojka 1997). From this research a large number of endemic and relict species were identified within the area of the Balkans (e.g., Radovanović 1942; Marinković-Gospodnetić 1971a, 1976; Malicky 1981), thus the Balkan Peninsula was identified as a diversity centre for the genera *Rhyacophila*, *Chaetopteryx*, *Drusus*, *Potamophylax*, etc. (Kumanski & Malicky 1999). In terms of endemism, speciation and diversity, one of the most interesting genera is the genus *Drusus* (e.g., Marinković-Gospodnetić 1978, 1979; Pauls *et al.* 2006, 2008, 2009). It is 1 of 8 genera belonging to the subfamily Drusinae, family Limnephilidae (Sipahiler 2002; Pauls *et al.* 2008, 2009).