The bees of the genus *Hylaeus* Fabricius 1793 of the Asian part of Russia, with a key to species (Hymenoptera: Apoidea: Colletidae)

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Abstract


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Introduction

The genus *Hylaeus* Fabricius 1793 is a worldwide lineage of bees constituting a rather small percentage of the total bee fauna (Michener 2007). It is easily identified by the following characters: minute to small; slender (“hylaeiform”); often nearly hairless; black or rarely partly red, usually with limited yellow or white integumental markings on the head and mesosoma; the glossa of both sexes is short and subtruncate to weakly bilobed, and lacks seriate hairs but has fine hairs on the posterior surface; malar space usually very short; the mesepisternum normally lacks a strong ridge or spine in front of the mesocoxa; the apex of the metatibia, on the outer surface, lacks spines; scopa of female entirely absent (Ikudome 1989, Michener 2007). Characteristic for the males of most species is a pale - white or yellow - face mask; a “complete mask” means that the paracocular areas, the clypeus and the supraclypeal area are entirely pale. The genus comprises 46 subgenera and about 600 species (Michener 2007). About 200 species are known from the Palaearctic region, but the *Hylaeus* fauna of Russia has been comparatively poorly investigated.

Russia stretches over a vast expanse of Eurasia between the Baltic Sea in the west and the Pacific Ocean in the East. The Asian part of Russia comprises 27 administrative units covering 13.1 million km² (about 77% of the total area of Russia). Asian Russia can be divided into four major regions: Ural, Western Siberia, Eastern Siberia and Far East (Fig. 1). In the north, the Asian part of Russia is delimited by the Arctic Ocean and in the east by the Pacific Ocean. In the extreme southeast Russia borders Japan and North Korea, and in the south China, Mongolia and...