

New records for Limoniidae and Pediciidae (Diptera) from the Caucasus, Russia

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Abstract

Ormosia (Ormosia) hederæ (Curtis, 1835) (Limoniidae) and *Dicranota (Paradicranota) minuta* Lackschewitz, 1940 (Pediciidae) are new for Russia. The first species is new for the North Caucasus, the second one and *Dicranomyia (Idiopyga) halterella* Edwards, 1921 (Limoniidae) are new to the Caucasus. The material was collected in the Rtsyvashki valley (the Central Caucasus). Data on species ecology were presented.

Key words: Limoniidae, Pediciidae, new for Russia and the Caucasus

Introduction

During 3 to 9 September 2008 the author took part in a trip to the Central Caucasus (the Rtsyvashki River valley) as a member of an expedition team of the Laboratory of Invertebrate Diversity (Institute of Ecology of Mountain Territories RAS).

The basin of the River Rtsyvashki is on the northern border of the buffer zone of Kabardino-Balkarian High-mountain Nature Reserve. This area of the Bolshoy Kavkaz (the Great Caucasus) is called the Suganskie Alpy and is within the limits of the Bokovoy Hrebet (Lateral Ridge) (the peak of Mt. Sugan 4489 m a.s.l. (m above sea-level)) (Panov 1979). The session was carried out mainly in a parvifoliolate forests zone from 1220 to 1650 (1800) m above sea-level (a background species—*Betula verrucosa*; on the banks of streams and in the river bottomland—*Alnus incana*) (Bondarenko 2007).

Preliminary tipuloid data from the regional fauna was already published (Lantsov 2009). Fifteen species of tipuloid dipterans from the valley of the Rtsyvashki River were recorded: 10 species of Limoniidae (three species of *Chioneinae*, seven of *Limoniinae*) and five species of Tipulidae. For the first time for the Central Caucasus, five additional species of them are specified—*Dicranomyia (Dicranomyia) didyma* (Meigen, 1804); *Dicranomyia (Dicranomyia) longipennis* (Schummel, 1829); *Dicranomyia (Dicranomyia) melanantha* Savchenko, 1984; *Rhipidia (Rhipidia) maculata* Meigen, 1818; *Tipula (Savtshenkia) benesignata* Mannheims, 1954; *Tipula (Savtshenkia) subsignata subsignata* Lackschewitz, 1933.

Further examination of the specimens produced new information that is presented here. Before our work, mentioned above (Lantsov 2009), the tipuloid fauna of this region of the Central Caucasus was unknown.