



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3681.2.7>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:4F208B1A-8590-4561-941E-50272B079806>

A new *Platycheirus* Le Peletier et Serville, 1828 (Diptera, Syrphidae) species of the *manicatus* subgroup, from the Taimyr Peninsula (Northern Siberia)

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Abstract

A new species of the genus *Platycheirus* Le Peletier et Serville, 1828 (Diptera, Syrphidae) is described from the Taimyr Peninsula (North of Krasnoyarsk Region). The new species belongs to the *manicatus* subgroup, being close to *P. groenlandicus* Curran, 1927, but differing by the narrower angle of approximation of the eyes (approximately equal 90°) and the presence of short black setae on the ventral side of the mid metatarsus. In *P. groenlandicus* the angle of approximation of the eyes is 120° and the mid metatarsus has yellow setae ventrally. A key to Siberian species of the *manicatus* subgroup is presented and morphological characters of all species are illustrated.

Key words: new species, *Platycheirus*, tundra, Siberia, key to species

Introduction

The genus *Platycheirus* Le Peletier et Serville, 1828 is one of the largest genera in the family Syrphidae (hover flies) in the Palaearctic Region. In Siberia there are currently 56 species, many of which have been described recently (Barkalov and Nielsen 2007, 2008a, 2008b, 2009, 2012, Smit and Barkalov 2008). Judging by the unusually high number of *Platycheirus* species in the arctic and alpine faunas of Siberia (Barkalov 2012), the ecological preferences of this genus tend toward boreal and tundra landscapes, with a clear centre of species richness in the Altai Mountains (Barkalov 2011, Barkalov & Nielsen 2008a).

Recognition of species-groups in the genus *Platycheirus* was initiated by Vockeroth in 1990. He identified five groups and within his 2nd and the 4th groups defined several subgroups. Subgroup *manicatus* of the second group of Vockeroth (1990) includes species with the following characters: Fore femur without distinctive vestiture; fore tibia at most very slightly broadened toward apex, much narrower than 1st tarsomere; fore tarsus with first 2 tarsomeres broadened; mid femur simple; mid tibia usually with patches of short dense hairs or with a few stiff long hairs, mid tarsus sometimes with first 1 or 2 tarsomeres slightly compressed; hind tibia sometimes with long hairs; face slightly projecting below; abdomen with silvery or yellowish subquadrate or subrectangular spots which may be broadly confluent medially. A key to some Palaearctic species of the *manicatus* subgroup is given by Barkalov and Nielsen (2012).

Material and methods

The new species was collected in 2011, during an expedition to the Taimyr Peninsula by the Institute of Systematics and Ecology of Animals RAS, Novosibirsk, Russia (abbreviated as SZM in the following). Specimens were collected by hand net and sweep netting in the southern tundra. The males of the new species were sitting on the sunny side of a sandy slope, occasionally flying from place to place (Fig. 1) or sitting on flowers of *Dryas punctata* (Juzepczuk, 1929).