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## Species of *Platypalpus* Macquart (Diptera: Hybotidae) from Uzbekistan, with descriptions of thirteen new species

MIROSLAV BARTÁK<sup>1,3</sup> & IGOR SHAMSHEV<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Zoology and Fisheries, Faculty of Agrobiological, Food and Natural Resources, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, CZ-16521 Praha 6-Suchbát, Czech Republic. E-mail: bartak@af.czu.cz, kubik@af.czu.cz

<sup>2</sup>Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, Universitetskaja nab. 1, St. Petersburg, 199034, Russia. E-mail: shamshev@mail.ru

<sup>3</sup>Corresponding author

### Abstract

The genus *Platypalpus* Macquart is studied from Uzbekistan for the first time. Thirteen species are described as new for science: *Platypalpus amankutanensis* sp. nov., *P. chimganensis* sp. nov., *P. commutatooides* sp. nov., *P. penesmirnovi* sp. nov., *P. sagma* sp. nov., *P. samarkandensis* sp. nov., *P. spatenkai* sp. nov., *P. subinfectus* sp. nov., *P. sublutescens* sp. nov., *P. tumidiarista* sp. nov., *P. uzbekistanicus* sp. nov., *P. virgatus* sp. nov., and *P. zeravshanensis* sp. nov. Eight additional probable new species remain unnamed due to insufficient material. *Platypalpus farabiensis* Shamshev, 1998, *P. kirtlingensis* Grootaert, 1986, and *P. longiseta* (Zetterstedt, 1842) are recorded from Uzbekistan for the first time. A key to species of *Platypalpus* known from Middle Asia is compiled.

**Key words:** Diptera, Hybotidae, *Platypalpus*, taxonomy, key, new species, Palaearctic

### Introduction

*Platypalpus* Macquart, 1827 is a megadiverse genus of the family Hybotidae with more than 550 species described worldwide (Yang *et al.* 2007). The group has been most extensively studied from the Palaearctic where about 350 species are currently known, but the majority of them have been recorded from Europe, including the Mediterranean and some adjacent territories. Middle Asia (conventionally covering Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan) occupies a considerable part of the Palaearctic. However, there are only three publications dealing with *Platypalpus* from this region and includes only five species (Shamshev 1998, 1999a; Shamshev & Grootaert 2002).

Uzbekistan is one of the largest Middle Asian states. Most of the territory of Uzbekistan is covered with steppes, deserts and mountains (reaching 4643 m in altitude) with its climate varying from arid to semiarid. Subsequently, Uzbekistan has a specific biota with high species diversity.

The present paper is the first report on *Platypalpus* from Uzbekistan that is based on material collected by the senior author in the year 1989 during an expedition to Middle Asia.

### Material and methods

The material studied is deposited in the following collections: CULSP (Czech university of life sciences in Prague) and ZIN (Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg). Acronyms are used further in the text.

Genitalia together with 2–3 pregenital segments were removed and macerated in potassium hydroxide solution (approx. 10 %) in small vials submerged in hot water for 1–2 hours. After neutralizing with 8 % acetic acid, the genitalia were dissected in glycerine and their parts photographed by means of an Olympus E-41 digital camera

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