

## FIRST RECORD OF *CHRYSOPILUS LAETUS* ZETTERSTEDT, 1842 (DIPTERA: RHAGIONIDAE) FOR SLOVAKIA

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### Short communication

#### ABSTRACT

The species *Chrysopilus laetus* Zetterstedt, 1842 (Diptera: Rhagionidae) is recorded for the first time from the territory of Slovakia. One male was found in the urban area of Prešov town. The list of Rhagionidae recorded from the territory of Slovakia increased to 27 species. However, future thorough inspection of species *Chrysopilus luteolus* (Fallén, 1814) and *Chrysopilus nubecula* (Fallén, 1814) recorded from the territory of Slovakia is necessary as it is possible that some specimens could also belong to the species *Ch. laetus*.

#### KEYWORDS

snipe flies, faunistic, new record

#### INTRODUCTION

*Chrysopilus laetus* Zetterstedt, 1842 resembles much to the species *Chrysopilus luteolus* (Fallén, 1814) and *Chrysopilus nubecula* (Fallén, 1814) (both are already known from Slovakia; see Rozkošný (2009b)). The variability of the *Chrysopilus luteolus* group led to the description of several new species by Krivosheina (2008); the validity of these new species is unclear due the fact that the variability of external features within populations is much larger than described by Krivosheina (Theo Zeegers, pers. comm.).

According to Zeegers et al. (2021) the problem of identification for the members of the *Chrysopilus luteolus* group is that the sexual dimorphism is strong in *Ch. laetus*, but weak in *Ch. nubecula*. Characteristics separating all three species in combination with sexual dimorphism are critically reviewed in the new identification key proposed by Zeegers et al. (2021).

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

##### *Chrysopilus laetus* Zetterstedt, 1842

**Material examined:** 1 male, Prešov town, balcony of flat (Marka Čulena 8), second floor, 48°59'50.4"N 21°13'19.7"E, 12.6.2021, leg. by hand J. Oboňa, det. et coll. L. Dvořák. **First record for Slovakia.**

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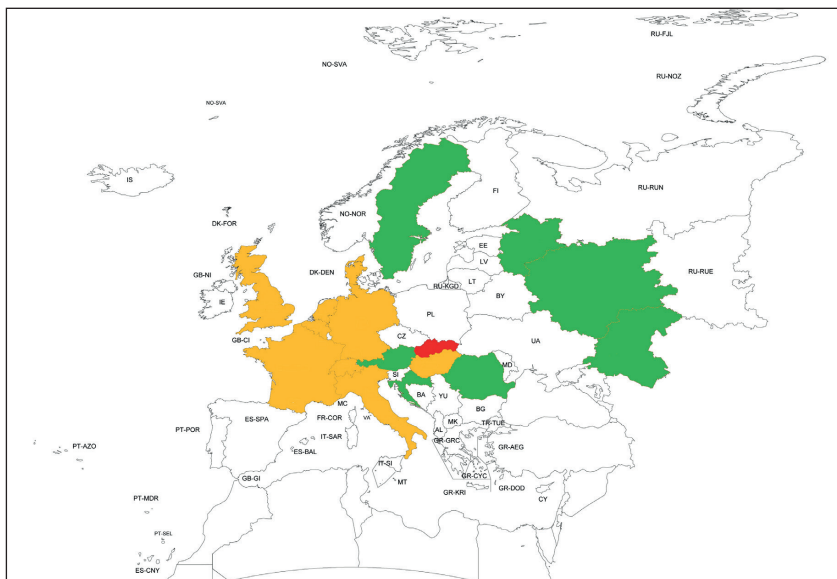
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**Note:** This specimen displays the differential diagnostic characters (shape of clypeus, shape of gonostylus, body and wing colour pattern) typical of *Ch. laetus*.

**Distribution:** Verified distribution of *Ch. laetus* sensu ZEEGERS et al. (2021) include: Great Britain, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands (STUUBS & DRAKE, 2001; ZEEGERS et al., 2021), Belgium (GROOTEART et al., 2020), Switzerland (MAJER & BÄCHLI, 1997). The distribution according to MAJER (2013) requires revision of the material, as misidentifications due to the important variability of this species are highly probable. This would concern the following countries: Austria, Croatia, Romania, Sweden, and Russia (Central European, Northwest European and South European); see also Fig. 1.



**Figure 1.** The map of recent distribution of *Chrysopilus laetus* Zetterstedt, 1842. Slovakia is coloured by red. Orange colour represents countries where the presence of *Ch. laetus* is certain (verified occurrence sensu ZEEGERS et al. (2021)) and green colour represents countries where a revision is needed (distribution according to MAJER (2013)).

**Notes on *Chrysopilus luteolus* group in Slovakia:** Records of *Ch. luteolus* from Slovakia are rare (STRAKA, 1984, 2005b,c, 2015; ROZKOŠNÝ, 2009a) while *Ch. nubecula* seems to be common here (see STRAKA, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1995, 2000, 2005a, 2011, 2015; STRAKA & MAJZLÁN, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2014, 2016; DVOŘÁK & OBOŇA, 2014; STRAKA & OX, 2017). The major part of the material mentioned in the cited references is unfortunately not accessible for checking the identifications; it is possible that some specimens could also belong to the species *Ch. laetus*.

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