

**THE FIRST RECORD OF BARK-DWELLING THIRPS PHLAETHIRIPS
BISPINOSUS, PRIESNER 1919 (THYSANOPTERA, PHLAETHIRIPIDAE)
IN SLOVAKIA**

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ABSTRACT. This paper deals with the first record of corticolous thrips species *Phlaeothrips bispinosus*, Priesner 1919 in Slovakia. The record of this thrips refers to Martinský les oak wood, located in SW Slovakia and representing a rare isolated refuge of natural oak wood (*Aceri tatarici* - *Quercetum*, Zolyómi 1957), situated close to the town of Senec (SW Slovakia). The material of Thysanoptera was collected by sieving the upper soil horizon.

KEY WORDS: thrips, Thysanoptera, Phlaeothrips, bark-dwelling, Senec.

Introduction

Corticolous (bark - dwelling) as well as soil - dwelling thrips undisputedly belong to the most specific species (MASAROVÍČ et al., 2009). Some of them may use the bark and soil for overwintering as well as a shelter during unsuitable periods (LEWIS, 1973), what actually corresponds with their generally declared thigmotaxy. These two specific habitats are strongly ecologically connected. In Slovakia, there are several papers published on ecology of this group of thrips (e. g. DUBOVSKÝ et al., 2010; MASAROVÍČ et al., 2009; MASAROVÍČ et al., 2011; MASAROVÍČ et al., 2012, DORIČOVÁ et KUCHARCZYK, 2012).

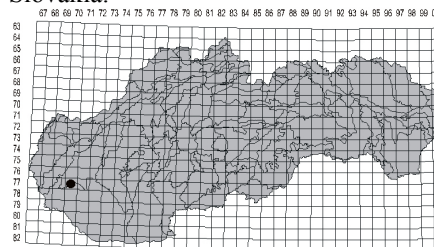
Phlaeothrips bispinosus (*Hoplandrothrips bispinosus*), Priesner 1919 (PELIKÁN, 1951) has been recorded as a bark – dwelling species with no details known on its biology. PELIKÁN (1951) caught 6 specimens in Pouzdřany (the Czech Republic) on a bark of *Quercus lanuginosa* and determined them as *Hoplandrothrips bispinosus*, Priesner 1919. SCHLIEPHAKE et KLIMT (1979)

consider this species as a typical bark – dwelling thrips sporadically occurring in aeroplanktonic assemblages.

Study area

This paper refers to the area of Martinský les wood, which is a rare isolated refuge of natural oak wood stands (*Aceri tatarici* - *Quercetum*, Zolyómi 1957) situated in lowland. With its relatively small size of 445.6 ha it is located in the vicinity of Senec (SW Slovakia) (48°16'N, 17°22'E; Databank of Slovakian fauna: 7770c, 185 m a. s. l.) (Fig. 1) and represents a unique locality with almost all the oak species occurring in Slovakia. Since 2004 it has been proposed as a special conservatory area.

Fig. 1. Study area in the map of Slovakia.



Phlaeothrips bispinosus, Priesner 1919 (syn. *Hoplandrothrips bispinosus*, Priesner 1919)

Material examined: SW Slovakia, Podunajská nížina lowland, Martinský les wood (48°16'N, 17°22'E):

10.9.2009, 1♀, the specimen was obtained by sieving the leaf litter in 95 years old oak wood (90% *Quercus cerris*, 10% *Quercus petraea*) with shrubs of *Acer campestre* (Fig. 2).

Leg. et det. M. Doričová and P. Fedor.

Distribution: European species known from South Europe (Romania, Albania), the Czech Republic, Mongolia, Transcaucasia (SCHLIEPHAKE et KLIMT, 1979, PELIKÁN, 1951, VASILIU - OROMULU et al., 2001, VASILIU – OROMULU, 2004, KOBRO, 2003).

Fig. 2. The locality of *Phlaeothrips bispinosus*.



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