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## First record of *Melanthrips acetosellae* (Thysanoptera, Aeolothripidae) in Slovakia

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Thrips (Thysanoptera) have been studied in Slovakia for more than hundred years since JABLONOWSKI (1899) published his first faunistic data on this matter from various places of northern Hungarian Empire. Today the research has brought an evidence of 165 species of 2 suborders: Terebrantia (115) and Tubulifera (50) (FEDOR, 2004a). Most of them were recorded in a number of scientific papers and short faunistic notes by PELIKÁN (1957, 1977, 1990, 1992), SIERKA (2003, 2004, 2005), SIERKA & HALGOS (2003) as well as by FEDOR (2003, 2004b). Recently, the research has become more general and complex as the first checklist of the thrips of Slovakia was published by FEDOR et al. (2004).

The relatively diverse invertebrate fauna in Slovakia corresponds with a variety of ecological conditions and habitats. Devínska Kobyla National Nature Reserve represents one of the most unique xerothermic sites of this region, which has been under attention of science for more than a century. A particular interest may correlate with its location in the most south-western point of the Slovakian Carpathian system, not far from the Capital suburbs. The sunshined slopes opened towards the Pannonian lowland and simultaneously influenced by mountainous phenomena provide original conditions for varied biodiversity.

There are only a few of faunistic data on thrips from Devínska Kobyla throughout the history including those

from PELIKÁN's (1951, 1952) papers and the DOBROVODSKÁ's (1973) diploma thesis. Recently FEDOR (in litt.) analysed the fauna of thrips in the reserve and declared a richness of 44 species of 3 families. DOBROVODSKÁ (1973) even hinted at 30 more species, that really may occur in the complex of Devínska Kobyla, however her faunistic data together with localization often seems to be confusing.

All captured specimens were identified using the keys by SHLIEPHAKE & KLIMT (1979). The thrips were preserved according to the common and standard methods (LEWIS, 1973). The material has been deposited in the author's collection.

### Aeolothripidae Uzel, 1895

#### *Melanthrips acetosellae* John, 1927

Material examined: SW Slovakia, Malé Karpaty Mts, National Nature Reserve Devínska Kobyla, 7867b (DSF – grid reference number of Databank of Slovak Fauna), 48°08' N, 16°58' E. 2.XII.2001. 3 ♀♀ on flowers of *Rumex acetosella*. leg. et det. P. Fedor.

Distribution. Turano-Mediterranean (ZUR STRASSEN, 2003). Remarks: Syn. *Melanthrips kratochvili* Pelikan, 1958. Holotype in Lièrgues, France. Specimens occur in xerothermous habitats. In warm and dry habitats of Slovakia the occur-

rence of the species has been expected for a long time. However, due to lack of intensive thysanopterological research it was not captured before. As a florivore it inhabits flowers of *Rumex acetosella*. The species is supposed to occur in more similar habitats of southern Slovakia.

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