

Back to the record of *Mycterothrips albidicornis* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) in nests of birds

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The recent research on nidicolous invertebrates inhabiting nests of birds and mammals in numerous habitats of Slovakia (PELIKÁN et al., 2002; FEDOR et al., 2001, 2002) has contributed to general knowledge on diversity and ecology of thrips in C Europe. Being focused onto some ecological aspects, occurrence of thrips in nests and its reasons as well as consequences, the papers did not project basic faunistic data, particularly at species which were recorded in Slovakia for the first time. Hence this short note refers to a plea for more detailed information to describe occurrence of *Mycterothrips albidicornis* (*Physothrips albidicornis*) as an active part of nidicolous assemblages.

A role of thrips (Thysanoptera) in nests has not been complexly explained yet. A new challenge for research in this matter was emphasized by MCATEE (1927) in the 50's HICKS (1959) hints at 7 species from 2 families (Phlaeothripidae and Thripidae). The most detailed data with generalized syntheses appeared in the paper by PELIKÁN (2002).

Although there have been published a lot of thysanopterological papers in Slovakia yet, the first record of *M. albidicornis* in nests of birds undisputedly appears as a surprising fact. The most intensive research on thrips in Slovakia still refers to the National Nature Reserve (NNR) Jurský Šúr (near Bratislava) with plenty of faunistic and ecological papers published since 1960's (e.g., HESKOVÁ, 1967; PELIKÁN et al., 2002; SIERKA & HALGOS, 2003; SIERKA, 2003, 2004, 2005). However, the parasitological analyses on nidicolous fauna (FEDOR et al., 2001) were the first to note the species in the locality.

All specimens captured were identified using the key by ZUR STRASSEN (2003). The thrips were preserved according to common and standard methods (LEWIS, 1973). The material has been deposited in the author's collection.

Mycterothrips albidicornis (Knechtel, 1923)

Material examined: SW Slovakia, NNR Jurský Šúr (48°12' N, 17°13' E), 5.XII.1985, 2 ♂♂, 8 ♀♀ in nests of *Turdus merula* L., 1758; 1 ♀ in nest of *Sylvia* sp., 5.I.1987, 9 ♀♀ in nest of *Turdus* sp., 5.I. 1987, 17 ♀♀ in nest of *Turdus philomelos* Brehm, 1831; Mlyňany (48°20' N, 18°23' E), 30.V.1985, 1 ♀ in nest of *Passer* sp., all leg. and det. J. Pelikán. First records from Slovakia.

Distribution: European.

Remarks: Arboricolous, follicolous species. Syn. *Physothrips albidicornis*.

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