

**THE FIRST RECORD OF BARK-DWELLING THRIPS - POECILOTHRIPS  
ALBOPICTUS UZEL, 1895 (THYSANOPTERA, PHLAETRIDAE)  
IN SLOVAKIA**

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**ABSTRACT.** This short communication presents the first record of corticolous and mycophagous thrips *Poecilothrips albopictus* UZEL, 1895 in Slovakia. The species was recorded in Martinský les wood, which is a rare isolated refuge of natural oak forest (*Aceri tatarici-Quercetum*, Zólyomi 1957), situated close to the town of Senec (SW Slovakia). The material was collected using a tree photoelector.

**KEY WORDS:** Thysanoptera, bark-dwelling, Martinský les forest, trees, photoelector.

*Poecilothrips albopictus* is a bark-dwelling species which is sporadically known from various trees (PELIKÁN, 1950) or decaying wood (UZEL, 1895) and hardly ever leaves forest habitats (JENSER, 1993). Despite rather rarely observed in Poland (KUCHARCZYK et ZAWIRSKA, 2002), it can be very common locally (PELIKÁN, 1945). Since its description by UZEL (1895) the species has been recorded in whole Central Europe (e.g.: PRIESNER, 1926; KUCHARCZYK et ZAWIRSKA, 2002; JENSER, 1993).

The species was observed in Martinský les which is a rare isolated refuge of natural oak forest (*Aceri tatarici-Quercetum*, Zólyomi 1957), situated close to the town of Senec (SW Slovakia). Old forest stands with high ecological stability have encouraged many biologists to have a closer look at various insects, including thrips (FEDOR et DORIČOVÁ, 2009, DUBOVSKÝ et MASAROVIČ, 2007, DUBOVSKÝ et al. 2010, MASAROVIČ, 2009)

*Poecilothrips albopictus* (Uzel, 1895)  
Material examined: SW Slovakia, Podunajská nížina lowland, Martinský les forest env. (48°16' N, 17°23' E), 11.V.2007, 2 ♀♀ at the northern side of the *Quercus* spp. trunk 3 m above the ground, leg. et det. M. Dubovský, R. Masarovič; 11.V.2007, 1 ♀ at the western side of the *Quercus* spp. trunk 1m above the ground, leg. et det. M. Dubovský, R. Masarovič, 1.VI.2007, 1 ♀ at the eastern side of the *Quercus* spp. trunk 2 m above the ground, leg. et det. M. Dubovský, R. Masarovič. Recorded from tree photoelectors.

Distribution: In Central and Southern Europe and North America (SCHLIEPHAKE et KLIMT, 1979). JENSER (1999) characterized it as a West-Palaeartic species.

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