

THE FIRST RECORD OF ANAPHOTHRIPS GRACILLIMUS (PRIESNER, 1923) (THYSANOPTERA: THIRIPIDAE) FROM SLOVAKIA

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ABSTRACT. This paper deals with the first record of graminicolous thrips species *Anaphothrips gracillimus*, PRIESNER 1923 (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) from Slovakia. The material was obtained using a soil photoelector, based on positive phototaxis of insects, installed close to the city of Pezinok on an old gold-antimony ore dump.

KEY WORDS: graminicole, Pezinok, thrips, Thysanoptera

Introduction

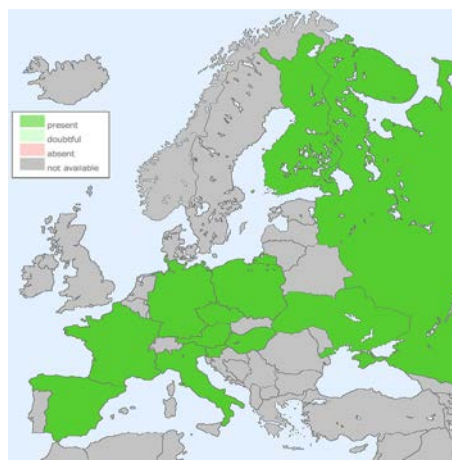
Despite their economic and ecological importance Thysanoptera usually attract fewer entomologists than many other insect orders do. Of more than 580 thrips species catalogued in Europe (ZUR STRASSEN, 2003) there are over 180 recorded from Slovakia (FEDOR et al., 2004; 2012), with many of them discovered recently (e.g. DORIČOVÁ et FEDOR, 2012, FEDOR et al., 2012, MASAROVIČ et al., 2009, 2011, 2013, 2014). In accordance with high habitat diversity in Central Europe the occurrence of more Thysanoptera species has been consequentially expected.

Anaphothrips is a well-known genus, markedly represented by *Anaphothrips obscurus*, MULLER 1776, which presence has been recorded almost in whole Europe (ZUR STRASSEN, 2003). Of a total diversity of 7 European *Anaphothrips* species at least 3 (*Anaphothrips badius*, *A. obscurus*, *A. euphorbiae*) occur in Slovakia (FEDOR et al., 2012).

Anaphothrips gracillimus is a graminicolous species preferring grasslands, sparse forests and their ecotones. It usually lives on tall grass leaves (TRDAN, 2001), especially *Calamagrostis epigeios* (ZUR STRASSEN,

2003). Its distribution area (fig. 1) includes Central European countries from Poland (SIERKA, 2004), to Slovenia (TRDAN, 2001) and Hungary (JENSER, 2011).

Fig. 1. Distribution of *Anaphothrips gracillimus* in Europe (<http://www.faunaeur.org>)

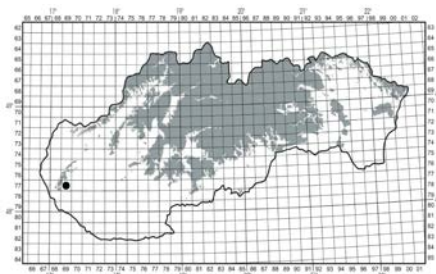


Material examined

One female specimen captured on a closed gold-antimony ore dump near the city of Pezinok (W Slovakia), 48°32' N,

17°23' E (fig. 2), May 23, 2013. Soil photoeclector traps were installed at the study plot for the period of 121 days (May 7, 2013 – September 4, 2013) (fig.4). The specimen stored in Ethylalcohol (70%). Standard preparatory techniques used (FEDOR et al., 2012; SIERKA et FEDOR, 2004). Leg. J. Žáková, det. J. Sigmund, M. Zvaríková, R. Masarovič, coll. J. Sigmund. The first record from Slovakia.

Fig. 2. The study area in the map of Slovaki



Anaphothrips gracillimus (fig. 3) is characterized by yellow or yellowish brown body colour, size of a female between 1320-1480 μm , male between 940-1070 μm . ♀ body winged (macropterous) or short-winged (brachypterous), ♂ short-winged (brachypterous). Sense cone on antennal segment III simple and on IV forked. Antennal segment I whitely yellow, II tawny, segments III – VI from yellow to brown increasing distally. Postero-marginal setae on pronotum 20 – 32 μm long. Metanotum without campaniform sensilla. With well developed comb on tergum VIII. (ZUR STRASSEN, 2003)

Fig. 3 *Anaphothrips gracillimus* (Photo: J. Sigmund)

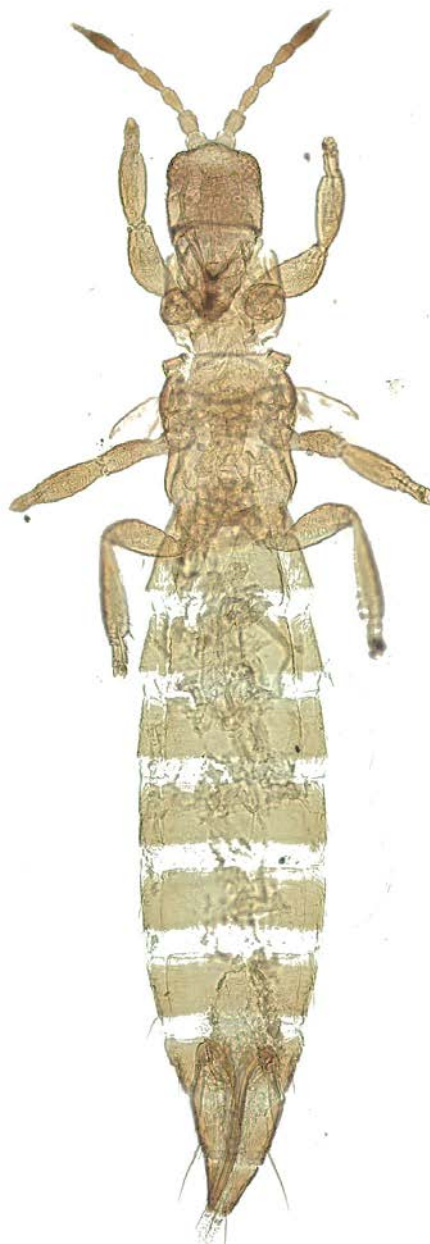


Fig. 4 The locality of *Anaphothrips gracillimus* (Photo: J. Sigmund)



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