

New data for *Omoglymmius germari* (Ganglbauer, 1892) (Rhysodidae: Coleoptera) in Bulgaria

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Abstract. A new data about the distribution in Bulgaria of the rare species *Omoglymmius germari* is given. His nature conservation value is discussed.

Key words: Coleoptera, Rhysodidae, biodiversity, nature protection.

Introduction

Genus *Omoglymmius* Ganglbauer, 1892 includes about 50 species, 5 of them inhabit Palearctic region. Only *Omoglymmius germari* (Ganglbauer, 1892) is located in Central and South Europe. All species are discovered in old, fallen trunks of deciduous trees and are considered as virgin forest relict species (Bell 2003: 78; Bussler *et al.* 2005).

This very rare species was cited for Bulgaria by Palm (1966: 11-12, as *Rhysodes germari*) from vicinity of Nesebar. The species was also cited for Bulgaria in the recent catalogue of the Palaearctic beetles (Bell 2003). The new record confirms its presence in Bulgaria.

Material and methods

The specimen was collected during a field trip in Strandzha Mts., by hand under bark of old *Fagus orientalis* Lipsky. The material is preserved in the collection of the National Museum of Natural History-Sofia.

Material examined

Omoglymmius germari (Ganglbauer, 1892)

(Fig. 1)

New locality: Strandzha Mts, Kondolovo Vill., Byala prast locality, N 42° 05.795 E 27° 39.916, 258 m, 14.04.2009, 1 male, leg. R. Bekchiev.



Fig. 1. Habitus and distribution of *O. germari* in Bulgaria (scale=0.4 mm).

Discussion

The area of *O. germari* in Bulgaria (Fig. 1) is restricted to the south-east part of the county. This saproxylic species is with great conservation value. It was mentioned for the first time as coleopteran species useful for identifying forests of international importance by Speight (1989) and then by Good & Speight (1996). The species is included in IUCN Red List of saproxylic species (Nieto & Alexander 2010). Despite his rarity and indicator importance, in Bulgaria the species is not protected. The only attempt to correct this mistake was the proposition of inclusion of *O. germari* in Red book of Bulgaria. Unfortunately because of decrease of the volume of the book this species was excluded (B. Guéorguiev, pers. comm.).

The new founding of this rare species have no only faunistical importance, but could contribute to the efforts to protect the unique nature in Strandzha Mts.

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