

The first record of scorpion-fly *Panorpa schweigeri* Willmann, 1975 (Insecta, Mecoptera, Panorpidae) from Bulgaria

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Abstract. The author presents the first record of *Panorpa schweigeri* from Bulgaria as well as the first record of any species of the *Panorpa aspoeki* group outside Turkey. Two females (one dissected) were caught in 1973 in Kalovo (Strandzha Mountain), ca. 30 km NE of the locality Velika near Kırklareli in Turkey, where *P. schweigeri* was published in original description.

Key words: *Panorpa*, scorpion-fly, distribution, Bulgaria, new record.

Introduction

According to the present knowledge, there are seven known species and ten subspecies of the *Panorpa aspoeki* group: *Panorpa aspoeki* Willmann, 1973, *P. hageniana* Willmann, 1975, *P. pieperi* Willmann, 1975, *P. schweigeri* Willmann, 1975, *P. tatvana tatvana* Willmann, 1974, *P. t. resslii* Willmann, 1975, *P. thrakica* Willmann, 1976, *P. turcica turcica* Willmann, 1975, *P. t. anatolica* Willmann, 1975 and *P. t. pontica* Willmann, 1975 (Willmann, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1978). All these species (mainly black, with extensive black patterns on the wings) are known from Turkey only (Willmann, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1978). From these species, only two, *P. pieperi* and *P. schweigeri*, are known from the European part of Turkey (Willmann, 1975).

In this paper, the first record of *P. schweigeri* from Bulgaria as well as the first record of any species of the *P. aspoeki* group outside Turkey is published.

Material and Methods

Panorpa schweigeri, Bulgaria, Strandzha Mt., Kalovo, 07.1973, 2 ♀♀ (Fig. 1), Táborský leg., L. Dvořák det., coll. National Museum, Prague, Czech Republic. The identification was confirmed by dissection of one female and studying the genital plate.

Results and Discussion

The locality Kalovo lies practically on the borders with Turkey, ca. 30 km NE of the locality Velika near Kırklareli, where *P. schweigeri* was published in original description (Willmann, 1975).

There is no key for identification of the members of the *P. aspoeki* group. For the identification, I used original Willmann's descriptions (Willmann, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1978). *P. schweigeri* has unique genital plate, thus making the identification of this species

quite easy. Genital plate has length almost equal to width and it is almost triangular, convergent towards the apodemes. Arms of the genital plate are strong and partly convergent (Willmann, 1975: 550) (Fig. 2).



Fig. 1. *Panorpa schweigeri*, ♀ from Kalovo. Photo: Stanislav Benedikt.

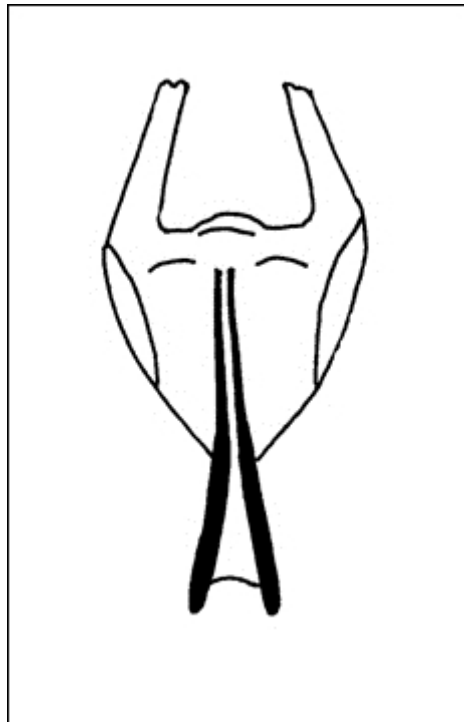


Fig. 2. *Panorpa schweigeri*, from Kalovo, ♀ genital plate. Orig. Libor Dvořák.

There are four known localities of *P. schweigeri*, no other record after Willmann (1975) was published. The currently known distribution is shown in Fig. 3.

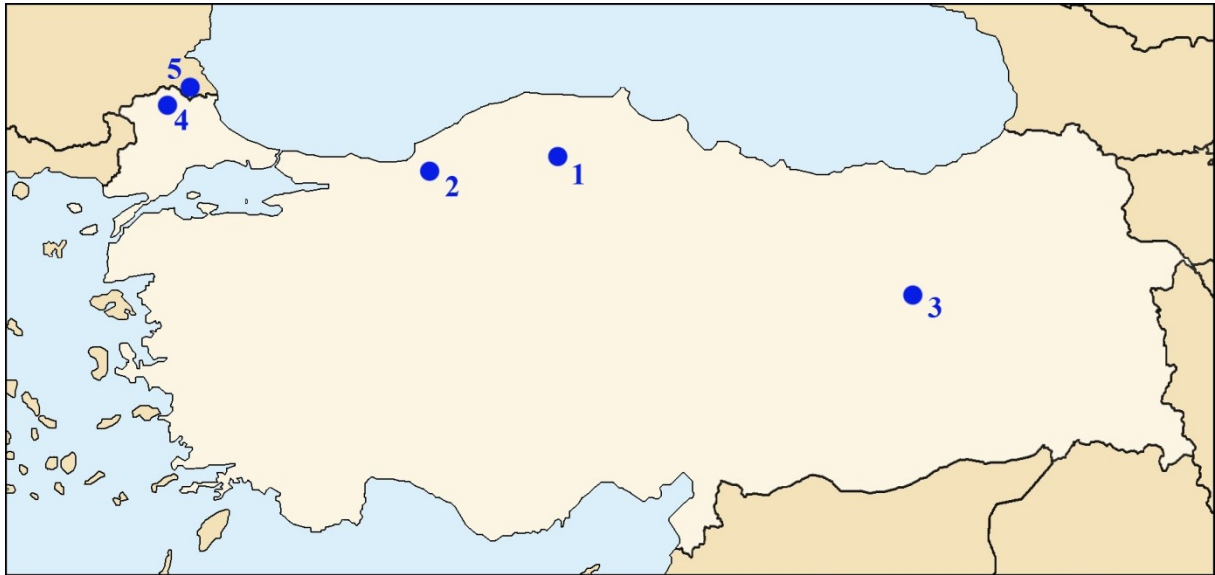


Fig. 3. The distribution of *Panorpa schweigeri*. Localities: 1: Ilgaz (holotype), 2: Bolu, 3: Pülü-Mür, 4: Velika nr. Kirklareli, 5: Kalovo.

Conclusions

Except the two specimens presented in this paper, there are no other records of any member of the *P. aspoeki* group known outside Turkey. The present record indicates that the distribution of this species group could be, in fact, wider than the present knowledge shows. So, the record of *P. schweigeri* in Greece or *P. pieperi* Willmann, 1975 (the second member of the *P. aspoeki* group known from the European Turkey) in Bulgaria or Greece is possible.

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