

First record of *Thereva aurata* (Loew, 1854) in Bulgaria (Insecta: Diptera: Therevidae)

TSVETOMIR TSVETANOV

Lyulin 10, 1335 Sofia, Bulgaria, tsv_tsvetanov@abv.bg

Abstract. The therevid fly *Thereva aurata* (Loew, 1854) is recorded for the first time in Bulgaria.

Key-words: *Thereva aurata*, first record, Bulgaria.

Introduction

Bulgarian fauna of the flies from Therevidae family is not well investigated. Although the first records from Bulgaria are from the middle of the 19th century (Loew 1862), the number of the subsequent records is limited (Nedelkov 1910, 1912, Drensky 1934, 1942, Lyneborg 1989, Beschovski 2006). According to the literature, only 10 species are known from the country so far:

Acrosathe annulata (Fabricius, 1805) [Thereva] – 0-20 m; Loew 1862.

Cionophora kollari (Egger, 1854) – 0-20 m; Loew 1862; Lyneborg 1989.

Clorismia ardea (Fabricius, 1794) [Psilocephala] – 600-1300 m; Nedelkov 1912; Drensky 1934.

Pandivirilia eximia (Meigen, 1820) [Psilocephala] – 1300-1400 m; Nedelkov 1910, 1912; Drensky 1934.

Thereva cinifera (Meigen, 1830) [T. subfasciata Schummel, 1839] – 800-1300 m; Nedelkov 1910, 1912; Drensky 1934.

Thereva marginula (Meigen, 1820) – 800-1300 m; Nedelkov 1910, 1912; Drensky 1934.

Thereva plebeja (Linnaeus, 1758) – 0-30 m; Drensky 1942.

Thereva praecox (Egger, 1859) – 150-500 m; Nedelkov 1910, 1912; Lyneborg 1989; Beschovski 2006.

Thereva spinulosa (Loew, 1847) – 0-30 m; Loew 1862.

Thereva tuberculata (Loew, 1847) – 0-1300 m; Loew 1862; Drensky 1934.

This paper presents the first record of *Thereva aurata*, observed in Vinarovo Village, Vidin Province, Northwest Bulgaria.

Results and Discussion

A single female specimen was observed and photographed on 27.06.2021 in a private yard in Vinarovo Village, Vidin Province, 44.0988° N, 22.8127° E, 147 m a.s.l., with Canon EOS 1200D digital camera. The specimen was not collected (Fig. 1).

Thereva aurata is characterized by the bright yellowish femora as tibiae. Posterior parts of tergites yellowish and only thinly greyish dusted. In males frons and face with golden yellowish pilosity, only a few black hairs on extreme top of frons. Third antennal segment dark. Genal pilosity all yellowish. Wings uniformly greyish hyaline. Halteres with yellowish knob. Abdomen with tergites 2-5 very sharply bicoloured. Body length of males: 10.2 – 12.0 mm. The females have shiny part of frontal callus broadly separated from eye-margin. Their anterior margin is nearly straight. The callus touches the eye-margins for a

short distance as well as lower part of ocellar triangle. Wings as in males. Abdomen with black anterior bands on tergites 2-5, posterior part of these tergites yellowish-grey. Tergites 6-7 black. Body length of females: 10.7 – 11.3 mm (Lyneborg & Spitzer 1974).

The flight period of *Thereva aurata* is July-August. The species occurs in semi-arid steppes and low deciduous forests situated on volcanic rocks or limestone substrate (Lyneborg & Spitzer 1974).

The distribution of the species includes Southern Europe and Asia Minor (Lyneborg & Spitzer 1974). In Europe it is known from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Italy, Hungary, Romania, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro and Greece (Holston 2013).

Keeping in mind that the family is not well investigated in Bulgaria, it can be expected that in the future other species will be recorded from the country.



Fig. 1. *Thereva aurata* (Loew, 1854), Vinarovo Village, Vidin Province, 27.06.2021, female specimen, obs. T. Tsvetanov.

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