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RARE AND INTERESTING BEETLES (COLEOPTERA) CAUGHT IN THE SIERAKOWSKI LANDSCAPE PARK

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Abstract: Paper presents partial results of two week studies of beetles in the Sierakowski Landscape Park in 2011. New data on 33 species from 19 families of beetles rarely collected in Poland have been given. Occurrence in Poland of two species: *Trixagus leseigneuri* and *Xyleborus pfeilii* is confirmed. Nine species are new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland. Eight species are listed in the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland.

Keywords: Coleoptera, Sierakowski Landscape Park, the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland, new records

INTRODUCTION

During a field course with students, a sample of beetles was collected in the Sieraków Landscape Park. The field research was conducted between 5–17 June 2011. This article presents the results of a partial inventory of this area. Only the localities of the rarest species from among all those caught, or those new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland, or placed on the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland (Pawłowski et al. 1992) are presented.

The area of research in the Polish division of regions for the purpose of faunistic studies belongs to the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland, according to the traditional division of "Catalogus Faunae Poloniae" (e.g. Burakowski et al. 1973)or to the Lakeland Part of the Wielkopolska-Lubusz region according to a new, revised division by Tykarski (2011).

All specimens have been collected by the author and are in his collection.

RESULTS

Below are presented rare and interesting beetles caught in the Sierakowski Landscape Park in systematic order.

Gyrinidae

Gyrinus (Gyrinus) distinctus Aubé, 1838

– Chalin ad Sieraków (UTM: WU72), fish ponds, N52°35'50'' E16°02'55'', 16 VI 2011, 1 ex.♂, 1 ex.♀.

One of the rarest Polish species of whirling beetles, known mostly from northern regions of the country (Burakowski et al. 1976).

Dytiscidae

Hydrovatus cuspidatus (Kunze, 1818)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), fish ponds, N52°35'50'' E16°02'55'', 17 VI 2011, 1 ex.

The diving beetle is very rarely caught and recorded in Poland. Known only from eight regions, but recorded recently from only four localities (Rynkiewicz & Przewoźny 2011) including the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland and recorded recently in Pamiątkowo (Przewoźny & Barłożek 2008). This is the fifth locality in Poland and the second in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland of this species. It occurs mainly in open and undeveloped bodies of water with dense vegetation (Boukal et al. 2007).

Carabidae

Blethisa miltipunctata (Linnaeus, 1758)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A rarely met ground beetle, more frequently encountered in northern Poland, living on the edge of water (Burakowski et al. 1973). Placed on the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland in the VU category (Vulnerable) (Pawłowski et al. 1992).

Ophonus (Metophonus) melletii (Heer, 1837)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.

Very rarely met in Poland, known only from two localities in two regions. Both records are quite old and there are no recent records. It was recorded in Szczecin (the Pomeranian Lake District) in Catalogus Faunae Poloniae on the basis of specimens from the Makólski collection. It's

second locality is the Karkonosze Mts., in which they were recorded by Horion nearly 70 years ago and also by the same author in Silesia (Burakowski et al. 1974). This species occurs in calcareous areas (op. cit.).

The above record is the first recent record of this species in Poland. It is also a new species for the Wlekopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Hydrophilidae

Enochrus (Lumetus) bicolor (Fabricius, 1792)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A rarely met species, but occurring probably in almost the whole country. From the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland it is recorded quite regularly, known from several localities. The last record comes from 5 years ago (Buczyński & Przewoźny 2005). Placed on the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland in the EN category (Endangered) (Pawłowski et al. 1992).

Enochrus (Lumetus) fuscipennis (Thomson, 1884)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 6 VI 2011, 1 ex.♀.

A species known from Poland from isolated localities in only four regions. Recorded in Poland for the first time in the Masurian Lake District by Pakulnicka (2003), then by Przewoźny (2004) from the Pomeranian Lake District. It was recorded in other two regions by Buczyński and Przewoźny (2008) in the Western Beskid Mts. and by Buczyński et al. (2009) from the Lublin Upland. Recently recorded again in the Pomeranian Lake District by Ruta (2009). It is a new species in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Limnoxenus niger (Gmelin, 1790)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), fish ponds, N52°35'50'' E16°02'55'', 16 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A species rarely found in Poland, known only from several localities. Recently recorded only five times, but recorded three times in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland, caught in single specimens everywhere but one locality. The most numerous Polish population of this species was recorded recently in the Rogalin Landscape Park (Przewoźny in print). The above locality is the fourth record from the Wielkopolska-Kujawy

Lowland and it shows that Wielkopolska is the main refuge of the population of this species in Poland.

Scirtidae

Prionocyphon serricornis (P.W.J. Müller, 1821)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36’11’’ E16°02’24’’, ad lucem, 6 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A species living in pools of water in tree hollows, where it develops. In Poland it occurs rarely but probably it is widely spread (Burakowski et al. 1983).

Throscidae

Trixagus leseigneuri Muona, 2002

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36’11’’ E16°02’24’’, ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.♂.

A recently described species, also recently recorded in Poland as new on the basis of four specimens caught in Skwierzyna in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland in 2004–2006 (Renner & Messutat 2007). This record was doubtful and the species was not counted in the Polish fauna of Throscidae by Klejdysz et al. (2010). The above locality confirms the occurrence of this species in Poland and sheds new light on the doubted locality in Skwierzyna.

Elateridae

Reitterelater dubius Platia & Cate, 1990

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36’11’’ E16°02’24’’, ad lucem, 16 VI 2011, 1 ex.♂.

A recently described species. Also recently recorded in Poland as new in two localities in two regions. From the “Bielinek nad Odrą” nature reserve (the Pomeranian Lake District) by Buchholz (2008) and from Rogalin (the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland) by Mokrzycki et al. (2008). A saproxylobiontic species, living in the hollows of old oak trees (Buchholz 2008). The above locality is the third record of this species in Poland.

Crepidophorus mutilatus (Rosenhauer, 1837)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36’11’’ E16°02’24’’, ad lucem, 6 VI 2011, 1 ex.

Known from several scattered localities in Poland. It lives in the hollows of old trees (Tarnawski & Buchholz 2008). Placed on the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland in the DD category (Data Deficient) (Pawłowski et al. 1992). A species new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Cardiophorus (Cardiophorus) gramineus (Scopoli, 1763)
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), 7 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A rarely met species in Poland. Xerotermophilous and sparoxylobiontic beetle. Known mostly from southern and western Poland. It lives in warm, open forests with oaks (Buchholz 2008).

Cardiophorus (Cardiophorus) nigerrimus Erichson, 1840
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 7 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A very rare beetle in Poland, known from several localities. It lives in warm, sunny oak forests (Buchholz 2008). Placed on the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland in the DD category (Data Deficient) (Pawłowski et al. 1992).

Dermestidae

Dermestes (Dermestes) bicolor Fabricius, 1781
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A beetle rarely recorded in Poland, known from only eight regions. It lives in bird's nests. The above locality is the sixth in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland (Ruta et al. 2011).

Bostrichidae

Lichenophanes varius (Illiger, 1801)
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 2 exx., 6 VI 2011, 1 ex.

Those species is a great rarity among fauna, listed only three times in Poland. First recorded only sketchily in Silesia by Dominik (1958). Then recorded in a single locality in the Kamień Śląski forest inspectorate in Lower Silesia by Capecki (1969). In later years, not confirmed until the

publication of Szafraniec and Szołtys (1997), who confirmed its recent presence in Poland, finding this species in the nature reserve "Las Murckowski" (Upper Silesia), where it was recorded on the basis of just one individual. The above record is therefore a second recent localisation of this species in Poland. Placed on the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland in the CE category (Critically Endangered) (Pawlowski et al. 1992). This is a southern European species, known in central Europe in isolated localities. The larvae live in hard wood, mainly beech, oak, poplar and linden (Burakowski et al. 1986a). A species new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Ptinidae

Hemicoelus fulvicornis (Strum, 1837)
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), 15 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A rarely recorded in Poland, mostly known from old data (Burakowski et al. 1986a).

Hadrobregmus pertinax (Linnaeus, 1758)
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A widely spread beetle in Poland, but not yet recorded in some regions. It is a pest of dry wood used in buildings. Recorded for the last time in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland 90 years ago (Burakowski et al. 1986a).

Cleridae

Tillus elongatus (Linnaeus, 1758)
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.♂, 1 ex.♀.

In Poland, spread across the whole country (Burakowski et al. 1986a), but caught only occasionally and in single individuals.

Laemophloeidae

Laemophloeus monilis (Fabricius, 1787)
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU62), beech wood near Chalinek lake, N52°36'06''

E16°01’44’’, on a dead, fallen beech, 9 VI 2011, 2 ex. 14 VI 2011, 3 exx., 15 VI 2011, 2 exx., 16 VI 2011, 1 exx.

An extremely rare species in the country. Recorded in only four regions: the Baltic Coast, Lower Silesia, Trzebnica Hills and Western Beskid Mts. Mainly based on old data, often from the nineteenth or early twentieth century. The last records come from Lower Silesia 40 years ago (Burakowski et al. 1986b). It occurs mainly under the bark of beech trees, often in the company of *Diplocoelus fagi*, *Enicmus brevicornis* and *Synchita separanda* (op. cit.). Records of this species and the other three (also listed below in my work) together under the bark of the same beech is confirmed by data in the literature. A species new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Biphyllidae

Diplocoelus fagi (Chevrolat, 1837)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU62), beech wood near the Chalinek lake, N52°36’06’’ E16°01’44’’, on a dead, fallen beech, 14 VI 2011, 4 exx.

A species known from eight regions, recorded in a few localities. Mainly based on old data, often from the nineteenth or early twentieth century (Burakowski et al. 1986b), recently recorded only in the Białowieża Forest (Borowiec et al. 1992). Placed on the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland in the DD category (Data Deficient) (Pawłowski et al. 1992). A species new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Coccinellidae

Vibidia duodecimguttata (Poda von Neuhaus, 1761)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36’11’’ E16°02’24’’, ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 4 exx.

A species known in Poland from a few, scattered localities.

Latridiidae

Enicmus brevicornis (Mannerheim, 1844)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU62), beech wood near Chalinek lake, N52°36’06’’ E16°01’44’’, on a dead, fallen beech, 9 VI 2011, 21 exx., 14 VI 2011, 20 exx.

A species known from only three western regions: the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland, Lower Silesia and the Western Sudetes Mts., mainly based on old data, often from the nineteenth or early twentieth century (Burakowski et al. 1986c). It is considered a leftover from primeval forests (op. cit.). Its numerous presence in this locality (more than 40 individuals caught) is worth mentioning. The beetles were sitting on a broken beech trunk in several concentrations amounting to a few dozen individuals each. They were observed biting their way under the bark of this beech.

Zopheridae

Aulonium trisulcum (Geoffroy, 1785)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A rarely met species, known from few localities in Poland, mainly associated with dying elms (Burakowski et al. 1986b).

Colydium elongatum (Fabricius, 1787)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem (light trap), 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A beetle widespread in Poland, known from almost the entire country, though rarely seen and caught (Burakowski et al. 1986b).

Synchita separanda (Reitter, 1882)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU62), beech wood near Chalinek lake, N52°36'06'' E16°01'44'', on a dead, fallen beech, 14 VI 2011, 6 exx., 17 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A beetle very rarely found and recorded in Poland. Recorded in five regions: the Pomeranian Lake District, Lower Silesia, Masurian Lake District, Eastern Sudetes Mts., Eastern Beskid Mts. At present known only in two localities in the two first mentioned regions (Burakowski et al. 1986c; Jałoszyński & Sienkiewicz 2010). A species new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Synchita variegata Hellwig, 1792

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU62), beech wood near Chalinek lake, N52°36'06'' E16°01'44'', on a dead, fallen beech, 9 VI 2011, 2 exx.

A beetle that is rarely met, known from five regions, all data on its occurrence are old, often from the nineteenth or early twentieth century

(Burakowski et al. 1986c). A species new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Tenebrionidae

Lagria (Lagria) atripes Mulsant & Guillebeau, 1855

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 7 exx.♂, 1 ex.♀., 8 VI 2011, 1 ex.♂.

A rare species, recorded in a few localities and in single individuals, known in five regions, recently recorded as new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland (Bunalski et al. 2010). This locality is the third site in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland (Przewoźny in print). The high number of individuals of this beetle in this locality is worth mentioning.

Tenebrio opacus Duftschmid, 1812

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 6 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A beetle known in Poland from a few localities in just three regions: the Baltic Coast, Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland, Lower Silesia (Burakowski et al. 1987). At present recorded only in the Rogalin Landscape Park in Wielkoposkla-Kujawy Lowland, where it is found in great numbers (Mokrzycki et al. 2008, Bunalski et al. 2011). Placed on the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland in the DD category (Data deficient) (Pawlowski et al. 1992). This locality is the second area of occurrence of this beetle in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Gonodera luperus (Herbst, 1783)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 2 exx.

A beetle known in almost the whole of Poland, but found rarely and individually. Recorded of late in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland in several localities (Bunalski et al. 2007).

Oedemeridae

Ischnomera cyanea (Fabricius, 1792)

– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 5 VI 2011, 1 ex.♀

Known in Poland from a few localities in 11 regions, although it is probably the most common representative of the genus (Kubisz 2006). Known in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland in three localities (Kubisz 2006, Przewoźny in print). This locality is the fourth in this region.

Curculionidae

Phloeophagus lignarius (Marsham, 1802)
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), 15 VI 2011, 1 ex.

A beetle only rarely and locally encountered in Poland (Burakowski et al. 1993). Recorded only once in the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland by Konwerski (2001) from the Citadel in Poznań. This is therefore the second location in the region for this species.

Taphrorychus bicolor (Hernst, 1794)
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU62), beech wood near Chalinek lake, N52°36'06'' E16°01'44'', on a dead, fallen beech, 14 VI 2011, 1 ex.

The species is spread across the whole of Poland, but is still unknown in some regions (Burakowski et al. 1992). A species new for the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland.

Xyleborus pfeilii (Ratzeburg, 1837)
– Chalin ad Sieraków (WU72), N52°36'11'' E16°02'24'', ad lucem, 6 VI 2011, 1 ex.

An extremely rare species in Poland, known in only five regions: Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland, Mazovian Lowland, Upper Silesia, Roztocze and Pieniny Mts. However all the data from these regions are old and the occurrence of this species on Polish territory needs to be confirmed with new material (Mokrzycki et al. 2011). Placed on the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland in Poland in the category VU (Vulnerable) (Pawlowski et al. 1992). This finding confirms the presence occurrence of this species in Poland.

DISCUSSION

The Sierakowski Landscape Park (SLP) has still not received a comprehensive study of the beetles in this area. Until now there has only been one article about some of the beetles of this region. This was a study of aquatic beetles

from the suborder Adephaga in the Miedzychodzko-Sierakowski Lakeland, which lies partly in the Sierakowski Landscape Park, by Biesiadka (1971). However this article does not describe the entire park, nor even the entire water beetle fauna. My studies are a further contribution to the knowledge of beetles in this area. Despite the short study period (2 weeks) as many as 33 species rare in Poland or the region were caught. This demonstrates the high natural values of this area. Also, it is indicative of the insufficient examination of its fauna and the urgent need for a full inventory of all beetles. Presently the Sierakowski Landscape Park can be seen as one of the most valuable landscape parks in Wielkopolska. During this short period of study 9 species new to the Wielkopolska-Kujawy Lowland were found: *Ophonus melletii*, *Enochrus fuscipennis*, *Crepidophorus mutilates*, *Lichenophanes varius*, *Laemophloeus monilis*, *Diplocoelus fagi*, *Synchita separanda*, *Synchita variegata*, *Taphrorychus bicolor* and 8 species from the Red List of Threatened Animals in Poland (Pawłowski et al. 1992). There was one species with one of the highest categories of threat – CE: *Lichenophanes varius*. One species from the EN category: *Enochrus bicolor*. Two species from the VU category: *Blethisa miltipunctata*, *Xyleborus pfeilii*. Four species from the DD category: *Crepidophorus mutilates*, *Cardiophorus nigerrimus*, *Diplocoelus fagi*, *Tenebrio opacus*. Additionally the current presence of two species in Poland has been confirmed: *Trixagus leseigneuri* and *Xyleborus pfeilii*. The values of the SLP also provides a large number of rare beetles associated with dead wood and the so-called leftovers of primeval forests (as *Enicmus brevicornis*).

Hitherto, the Rogalin Landscape Park was always considered the most valuable area in terms of beetles (Mokrzycki et al. 2008). Following the results of this preliminary inventory, the SLP appears to be almost as valuable an area. It is a refuge of rare and vestigial species of beetles, especially saproxylobiontic varieties. In this area there can also be found species of beetles previously known in Wielkopolska only from Rogalin, such as *Reitterelater dubius* or *Tenebrio opacus*. It should also be noted that it, too, is a park located in the Warta River valley, which confirms the high natural values of this river valley in the Wielkopolska region and its great importance for the conservation of fauna.

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