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***Philoscia muscorum* (Crustacea: Oniscidea: Philosciidae), new species of terrestrial isopod for the Czech Republic**

***Philoscia muscorum* (Crustacea: Oniscidea: Philosciidae), nový druh suchozemského stejnonožce pro Českou republiku**

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- **Abstract.** The occurrence of the terrestrial isopod *Philoscia muscorum* (Scopoli, 1763) in the Czech Republic (Praha-Motol) is reported for the first time.
- **Key words:** Crustacea, terrestrial isopod, distribution, faunistic record

Introduction

According to the recent world catalogue of terrestrial isopods (Schmalfuss 2003), *Philoscia muscorum* (Scopoli, 1763) (Crustacea: Isopoda: Oniscidea: Philosciidae) (Fig. 1) has Atlantic distribution, reaching from southern Norway and Sweden, Denmark, north-western Poland along Atlantic coast (British Isles, Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium) to southern France, and reaches northern Italy and central Greece (Schmalfuss 2003). Frankenberger (1959) referred to its occurrence also in western Alpine regions. Records from Spain, Portugal and former Yugoslavia are based on females and need confirmation (Schmalfuss 2003). This species was introduced to America (Schmalfuss 2003). Concerning the territory of the Czech Republic, Frankenberger (1959) considered its occurrence possible in northern and western parts of Bohemia. His assumption was not supported by any record; therefore this species was not included in the check-list of terrestrial isopods of the Czech Republic (Flasarová 2000).

In this contribution, the occurrence of *Philoscia muscorum* in the Czech Republic is reported for the first time.

Sampling details

Two specimens (one male and one female) of *P. muscorum* (Scopoli, 1763) were sampled in Praha-Motol (50° 04' N, 14° 19' E, faunistic square 5952a), central Bohemia, October 11, 2005, P. Saska lgt., det. et coll., M. Řezáč revid. Both specimens were found under the stone next to the streamlet in moist ruderal area at the foot of the Bílá Hora hill, together with *Cylisticus convexus* (DeGeer, 1778) and *Trichoniscus pusillus* Brandt, 1833. The ruderal area was formed by mounds of deposited soil, sparsely grown by *Artemisia vulgaris* L., *Tripleurospermum inodorum* (L.) Schultz-Bip., *Chenopodium album* agg., *Atriplex* sp. and *Verbascum* sp.

New species and new genus for the fauna of the Czech Republic.

Diagnosis of *P. muscorum* regarding to species occurring in the Czech Republic

Differs from other genera of terrestrial isopods that occur in the Czech Republic by an outline of pereion and pleon not continuous, pleon being slenderer than pereion; flagellum of antennae 3-segmented (Sutton 1972). Differs from closely related *P. affinis* Verhoef, 1908 (nearest occurrence in south-western Germany; Schmalfuss 2003) by the meropodite of pereopode 7 having a tooth-like process at the base (Frankenberger 1959). This species is medium sized (8–11 mm in adults), slim bodied, long legged and fast moving (Frankenberger 1959; Harding et Sutton 1985), typical runner (Paoletti et Hassall 1999). Usually brown with darker head and median stripe along body, but red forms and yellow forms occur (Sutton 1972).

Discussion

The occurrence of *P. muscorum* in the Czech Republic was predicted already 50 years ago (Frankenberger 1959), but no evidence existed until this record. The occurrence of *P. muscorum* is thus confirmed for the territory of the Czech Republic. It is surprising that this species has not been recorded in the Czech Republic before, although it has rather wide distribution range (Schmalfuss 2003) including Central Europe (the Alps; Frankenberger 1959). In Western Europe it is dominant in many habitats, including sand dunes, grasslands, roadside verges, forests, field margins and ruderal habitats (Harding et Sutton 1985). The habitat sampled in Prague corresponds to the information given by Frankenberger (1959): it lives in moist places in the forests or shrubberies, in the leaf litter or under stones and woods. Due to the low habitat requirements and common occurrence in the neighbouring countries more records of this species can be expected in the territory of the Czech Republic

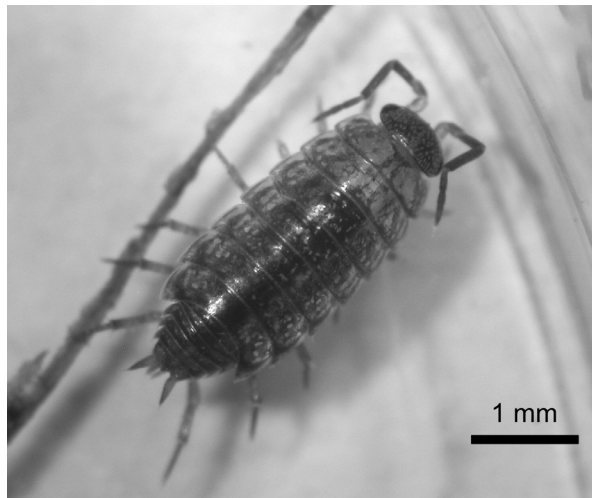


Fig. 1. *Philoscia muscorum*, juvenile (the Netherlands, Wageningen)
Obr. 1. *Philoscia muscorum*, juvenilní jedinec (Nizozemsko, Wageningen)

Souhrn

Suchozemský stejnonožec druhu *Philoscia muscorum* (Scopoli, 1763) (Crustacea: Isopoda: Oniscidea: Philosciidae) (obr. 1) je znám z území ohraničeného na severu jihem Norska, Švédsko a severozápadu Polska, na západě Britskými ostrovy a na jihu jižní Francií, severem Itálie a středním Řeckem (Schmalfuss 2003). Druh byl dále zavlečen do Ameriky (Schmalfuss 2003). Jeho výskyt byl na území České republiky předpovězen již před 50 lety Frankenbergerem (1959), nebyl však u nás dosud nalezen.

V tomto příspěvku je uveden první nález tohoto druhu pro Českou republiku: střední Čechy, Praha-Motol (50° 04' N, 14° 19' E, čtverec síťového mapování 5952a), 11. 10. 2005, P. Saska lgt., det. et coll., M. Řezáč revid. Dva jedinci (samec a samice) byli nalezeni pod kamenem na rudérálním stanovišti na úpatí Bílé Hory, v blízkosti pramínku, spolu se stejnonožci *Cylisticus convexus* (DeGeer, 1778) a *Trichoniscus pusillus* Brandt, 1833.

Druh je charakteristický články pleonu výrazně užšími než pereion, okraj těla tak netvoří spojitou linii (Sutton 1972). Bičík tykadel je tvořen třemi články (Sutton 1972). Od blízce příbuzného druhu *P. affinis* Verhoef, 1908 (nejblíže znám z jihozápadního Německa; Schmalfuss 2003) se liší přítomností zoubku na bázi meropoditu sedmého pereiopodu (Frankenberger 1959). Jedná se o středně velký (v dospělosti 8–11 mm), rychle se pohybující druh s dlouhými nohama (Frankenberger 1959; Harding et Sutton 1985). Typické zbarvení je hnědé, s tmavou hlavou a podélným pruhem (Sutton 1972).

Vzhledem k hojnému výskytu v sousedních zemích a schopnosti osidlovat druhotná stanoviště (v západní Evropě často dominantní druh ruderálních stanovišť; Harding et Sutton 1985) lze u nás předpokládat další nálezy.

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