

THE FIRST RECORD OF *CARNUS HEMAPTERUS* (DIPTERA, CARNIDAE) ON NESTLINGS OF THE TREE SPARROW (*PASSER MONTANUS*)

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Abstract: In June 2006, 4 specimens of *C. hemapterus* were collected from a tree sparrow (*Passer montanus*) nests, located in an alder forest in Jurský Šúr reserve (SW Slovakia). According to the data of the literature cited, we mention for the first time the presence of this fly species on nestlings of tree sparrow (*Passer montanus*).

Key words: *Carnus hemapterus*, *Passer montanus*, SW Slovakia

Carnus hemapterus Nitzsch, 1818, a dipteran with Holarctic distribution has been exclusively recorded on nestlings in nests of Phalacrocoraciformes (GUIGUEN et al. 1983), Ciconiiformes (MAA 1968), Falconiformes and Strigiformes (BEQUERET 1942), Columbiformes (BEQUERET 1942), Coraciiformes (KRIŠTOFÍK et al. 1996) and Passeriformes (BEQUERET 1942, WALTER & HUDDE 1987). There is only one information on its occurrence in nests of the house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), *Passeridae* (Passeriformes) (BEQUAERT 1942). Possible parasitism of this dipteran has been discussed.

The second author collected *C. hemapterus* in the nests of tree sparrow (*Passer montanus*) in an alder forest of the Jurský Šúr nature reserve (grid square 7769c of the Databank of the Slovak fauna). During the second breeding she collected material of *C. hemapterus* three times.

All the collected specimens were apterous. Moreover *C. hemapterus* was observed (not collected) in two nest boxes on the 13th of June 2006 on 8 day old nestlings. Occurrence of *C. hemapterus* in nests of the tree sparrow in 2006 corresponds with the second breeding with presence of nestlings from June 6 to June 27, 2006.

For determination of *C. hemapterus* we used the key by PAPP (1978). Paramere and surstylus of one male (collected on the 3rd of June 2006) have been stored on slide and drawn (Fig. 1). They corresponded with the relevant parameters published by GRIMALDI (1997). Structure of these sclerites have been considered as specific.

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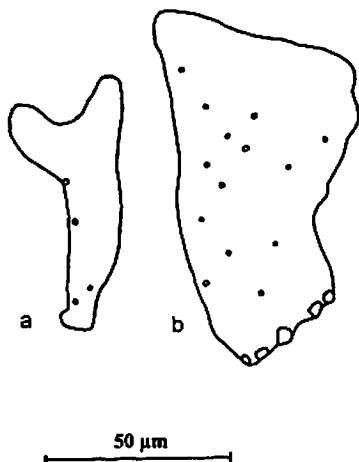


Fig. 1. Part of the male terminalia: a – paramere, b – surstylus.

List of records:

- June 3, 2006 1 ♀ and 1 ♂ (6 day old nestlings)
- June 16, 2006 1 ♂ (2 day old nestlings)
- June 24, 2006 1 ♂ (3 day old nestlings)