NOTES ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF SOME RARE SWISS ANISOPTERA

Due to the recently intensified survey work on the distribution of Swiss dragonflies, the summer of 1979 yielded a number of observations that are considered worthwhile to be briefly recorded here. For an overall information on the status of the species concerned reference is made to the paper by J. DEMARMELS (1979, Notul. odonatol. 1: 37-40).

Gomphidae. — Gomphus vulgatissimus (L.): July 23, at the outflow of Lake Hallwil, "Aabach" brook, Seon, canton Aargau, I exuviae. Although the species still does occur in running waters, more appreciable populations seem to persist in big lakes only (cf. C. DUFOUR, 1978, Étude

faunistique des odonates de Suisse romande, Serv. fôrets & faune, Lausanne). At present it has become essentially scarcer than Onychogomphus forcipatus, although the number of records of the latter has also greatly decreased.

Gomphus simillimus Sel.: July 17, Rhine River, between Ellikon and Rheinau, canton Zürich, I exuviae (with dead imago); Aug. 6, Rhine River, nr. Teufen, canton Zürich, 2 exuviae. It is amazing that Ris's record of larval skins on the Rhine (cf. E. SCHMIDT, 1936, Senckenbergiana 18: 270-282) has escaped notice of most workers. This evidence, coupled with the observations of O.-P. WENGER (1959, translator's notes in P.-A. Robert, Libellen (Odonaten), Kümmerly & Frey, Bern) and DEMARMELS (1979, cf. above) prove that the species still breeds at this isolated Central European locality (along with Onychogomphus uncatus).

Onychogomphus uncatus (Charp.): Aug. 5, Rhine River, nr. Teufen, canton Zürich, 1 d. It appears extremely scarce at this "classical" locality, and not a single larval skin was detected among 100 Onychogomphus exuviae collected in 1979 at the Rhine.

Ophiogomphus serpentinus (Charp.): July 20-23, Reuss River, 3 km downstream from Bremgarten, canton Aargau, 15 exuviae; Sept. 2, same locality, 1 exuviae, 1 d. Next to the Aare River (WENGER, 1959, cf. above) the Reuss represents the only Swiss locality of this species known so far. It has been reported from there already more than a century ago (L.R. MEYER-DÜR, 1874, Mitt. schweiz. ent. Ges. 4: 281-352).

Aeshnidae. — Boyeria irene (Fonsc.): Aug. 21, Lake Zug, nr. Walchwil, canton Zug, 10 exuviae; Aug. 2. Lake Lucerne, at Vitznau, canton Lucerne (2 spots), 60 exuviae. This is the first record for the Zug Lake. The exposition and climatological conditions of the new Lucerne site are quite different from those prevailing at "Lopper" nr. Hergiswil, canton Nidwalden, from where the species has been recorded by F. RIS (1885, Mitt. schweiz. ent. Ges., Beil., 7: 35-85) and where it still occurs at present. It seems likely that B. irene breeds (or has bred) in most of the large Swiss lakes, though we were unable to confirm its

occurrence at the "Küssnachter See" (a part of the Lucerne Lake), from where it has been recorded by O. KLEIBER (1912, Mitt. schweiz. ent. Ges. 12: 67-68) and P.-A. ROBERT (1959, Libellen (Odonaten), Kümmerly & Frey, Bern).

Cordulegasteridae. - Cordulegaster bidentatus Sel. is generally believed to be rare. Its status can be attributed to its highly specialized habitat preferences and to the apparent lack of thorough investigations. The tiny streamlets, on steep, barren hill flanks, with interspersed cliffs, which may often completely dry out in summer, seem to represent the major biotope of this species. The new localities (mostly evidenced by exuviae) include the following: 5 sites in the "Albis" mountain ridge (municipalities of Zürich, Stallikon and Langnau a.A.), "Küssnachter Tobel" (a gully in the municipality of Küssnacht), "Kempter Tobel" (Wetzikon), "Breitmatt" (on the Irchel, nr. Dättlikon) and "Mooshölzli" (Unterstammheim), all in the Zürich canton. "Weiermühle" (Bonaduz/ Rhäzüns) and "Piano di Scignano" (Castaneda) are the localities in the Grisons.

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