

Dolichopodid species new to the Belgian fauna with notes on their habitat (Diptera: Dolichopodidae)

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Abstract: The dolichopodid species *Medetera brevitarsa* Parent, *M. jugalis* Collin, *Telmaturgus tumidulus* Raddatz, *Rhaphium lanceolatum* Loew, *Nematoproctus longifilus* Loew and *N. praesectus* Loew are recorded as new to the Belgian fauna, whereas new records are given for *Sciapus spiniger* Zetterstedt, *Nematoproctus distendens* Meigen and *Syntormon monilis* Haliday. A short description of the habitats of these species is added.

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Introduction

Recently, Meuffels & Grootaert (1987) published a preliminary check list of the dolichopodid species from Belgium. This list comprised 279 species, six out of which are still doubtful, since they were not found in any collection: *Rhaphium albifrons* Zetterstedt, 1843, *R. nigribarbatum* (Becker, 1900), *Syntormon luteicornis* Parent, 1927, *Xanthochlorus ultramontanus* Becker, 1918, *Dolichopus caligatus* Wahlberg, 1850, and *D. cruralis* Wahlberg, 1850. It was expected that some more species might be found in this country.

In this paper we present the records of six species new to the Belgian fauna; the four last-mentioned species of these six had already been included in the Belgian check list. Furthermore, new records are given for *Sciapus spiniger*, *Nematoproctus distendens* and *Syntormon monilis*. Our new records are based upon collections recently made on the localities given in fig. 1. Except for *Syntormon monilis*, *Telmaturgus tumidulus* and *Nematoproctus distendens*, the species discussed have thus far not been found in The Netherlands. In the following parts, the collecting data and additional descriptions of the habitats of the species are given.

Dolichopodid species were collected by sweeping, Malaise traps and water traps. The latter sampling technique consists of plastic recipients of different colours, filled with 2.5% formalin solution (De Bruyn, 1986; Pollet & Grootaert, in press).

Results

Medetera brevitarsa Parent, 1927

1 ♂ (25.v.-1.vi.1986) and 1 ♂ (14-22.vi.1986), both caught in a blue water trap in the woodland area "Wijnendalebos", Torhout, U.T.M.-10 km ESO5, leg. M. Pollet.

The habitat is a moderately to very wet woodland site with a thin tree layer of poplar (*Populus × canadensis* Moench) and a shrub layer of maple (*Acer pseudoplatanus* L.), elder (*Sambucus nigra* L.), elm (*Ulmus minor* Mill.) and alder (*Alnus incana* (L.) Moench). *Lamium galeobdolon* (L.) L. and *Rubus* sp. are the dominant herb species. For more information about this site, see Pollet & Grootaert (in press). The captures of this species are quite striking since it was not found since the original description of a male from Roumania by Parent (1927). Most probably females of this spe-

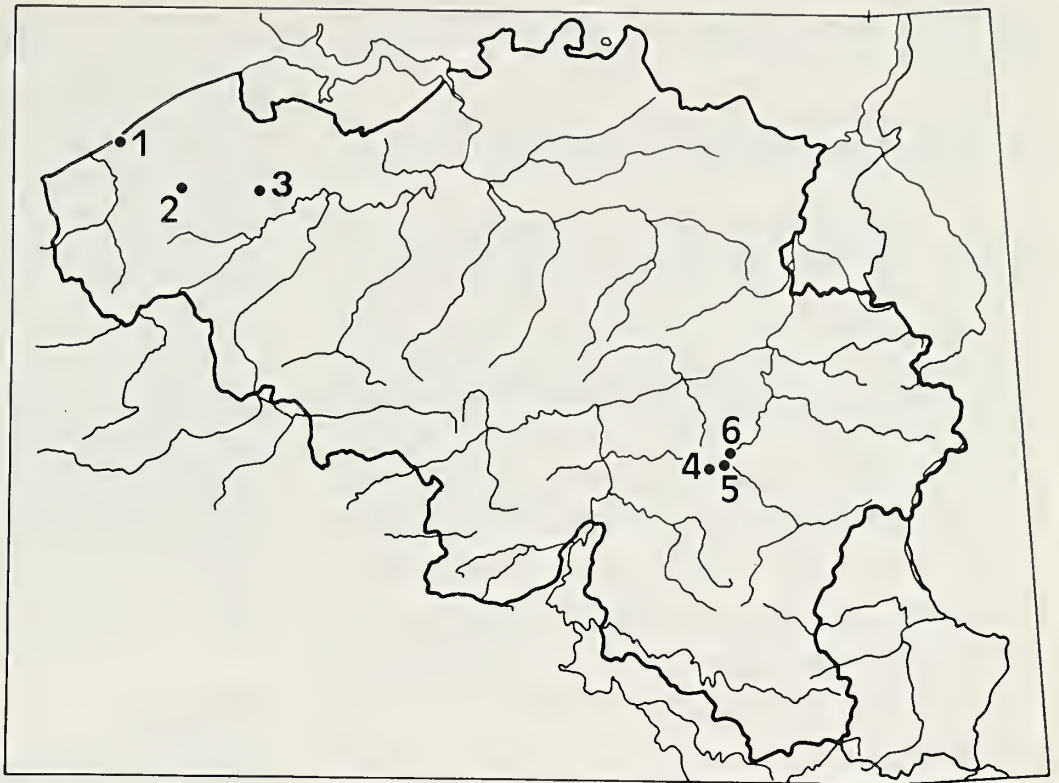


Fig. 1. Location of the investigated habitats, mentioned in the text. 1, Raversijde ("domein Prins Karel"); 2, Torhout ("Wijnendalebos"); 3, Wingene (Nature Reserve "De Gulke Putten"); 4, Heure-en-Famenne (different habitats); 5, Baillonville-Noiseux (different habitats); 6, Grandhan (different habitats).

cies were also collected, but these are not identified yet.

Medetera jugalis Collin, 1941

1 ♂ (white water trap, 25.v.-1.vi.1986), 2 ♂ (Malaise trap, 14-22.vi.1986) and 1 ♂ (Malaise trap, 23-30.viii.1986), woodland area "Wijnendalebos", Torhout ESO5, leg. M. Pollet; 1 ♂ (8-22.vi.1986), 1 ♂ (6-13.vii.1986) and 1 ♂, 1 ♀ (13-20.vii.1986), all in a Malaise trap in "domein Prins Karel", Raversijde DS87, leg. G. Haghebaert.

This species was caught in the same wet woodland at "Wijnendalebos" as the preceding species and in a similar humid woodland of mainly poplars (*Populus* × *canadensis*) and willows (*Salix* sp.) at Raversijde.

Due to their arboreal way of life, many species of the genus *Medetera* might be overlooked. An intensive search on tree trunks might undoubtedly yield new species.

Telmaturgus tumidulus (Raddatz, 1873)

1 ♂ (Malaise trap, 9-16.vi.1986), Nature Reserve "De Gulke Putten", Wingene ES25, leg. K. Decler.

This very small but easily recognizable species was collected in a shrubby site within an *Erica* heathland. This species is known from two localities in The Netherlands: Amersfoort (1 ♀, 10.vi.1905, 2 ♀, 20.vi.1905) and Kortenhoeft (♂, 27.v.1917), all collected by J. C. H. de Meijere.

The recent captures of the following species were done by means of sweeping, if not mentioned otherwise.

Sciapus spiniger (Zetterstedt, 1859)

1 ♂, 6.vii.1943, Bois Smuid, Mirwart FR64, leg. R. Tollet; 1 ♂, Torgny FQ78 (Bequaert, 1955); 1 ♂, 26.vii.-2.viii.1984, Gembloux FS10-20, Malaise trap, det. H. Meuffels; 1 ♂, 1-3.vii.1986, Heure-en-Famenne FR67, leg. M. Pollet.

The habitat at Heure-en-Famenne is a rather moist ash-tree (*Fraxinus excelsior* L.) woodland with an undergrowth of hazel shrubs (*Corylus avellana* L.), *Urtica dioica* L. and *Filipendula ulmaria* (L.) Maxim. The species is found in Sweden and Hungary (Becker, 1917). Very few data concerning its distribution and ecology are available. The female of this species is still unknown.

Rhaphium lanceolatum Loew, 1850

2 ♀, 03.vii.1986, Heure-en-Famenne FR67, leg. M. Pollet.

The habitat of this species can be characterized as a water-meadow neighbouring deciduous woodland. The herb layer is very well developed and rich in species. It must be mentioned that this species is called *Xiphandrium caliginosum* (Meigen, 1824) in Parent (1938).

R. lanceolatum is said to be rare all over Europe.

Nematoproctus distendens (Meigen, 1824)

8 ♂, 1 ♀, 1.vi.1986, Virelles ER94, Malaise trap, det. H. Meuffels; 2 ♀, 1-3.vii.1986, humid woodland, Heure-en-Famenne FR67; 3 ♀, 2.vii.1986, river bank of the Ourthe, Baillonville-Noiseux FR67; 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 2.vii.1986, eutrophic ponds along the Ourthe, Baillonville-Noiseux FR67; 1 ♀, 4.vii.1986, bed of a rivulet, Grandhan FR77, leg. M. Pollet.

Formerly, the only records for Belgium were Moorsel (ES74) and Deurne (FSO7). Very recently, this species was found in the localities mentioned. In The Netherlands this species is termed rare, since only six records are known: Ommen, Winterswijk, Best, Oirschot, Bunde and Gulpen.

The catches of the two other species are still more interesting, since both were not found in Belgium before:

Nematoproctus longifilus Loew, 1857

2 ♂, 1 ♀, 2.vii.1986, river bank of the Ourthe, Baillonville-Noiseux FR67; 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 2.vii.1986, eutrophic ponds along the Ourthe, Baillonville-Noiseux FR67; 1 ♂, 4.vii.1986, reed marsh, Grandhan FR77; 2 ♀, 4.vii.1986, bed of a rivulet, Grandhan FR77, leg. M. Pollet.

Nematoproctus praeseclus Loew, 1869

1 ♂, 1 ♀, 15.vi.1986 and 3 ♂, 2 ♀, 2.vii.1986, all caught on the river banks of the Ourthe at Baillonville-Noiseux, FR67, leg. M. Pollet. Among the flies, collected on 2.vii.1986, three specimens were freshly emerged.

All three European *Nematoproctus* species were found together on the river banks of the Ourthe in the vicinity of Baillonville-Noiseux. In contrast to the two previously mentioned species, *N. praeseclus* seemed to be rather stenotopic as it was only found on river banks. These places usually showed a poorly developed or even no vegetation.

Syntormon monilis (Haliday, 1851)

This species was recorded from a marsh as new to the Belgian fauna by Pollet & Grootaert (1986). We can add two other records: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 20.vi.1919, Ukkel, Calvoet, ES92, leg. A. Tonnoir, det. H. Meuffels and 1 ♂, 4.vii.1986, reed marsh, Grandhan FR77, leg. M. Pollet. *S. monilis* seems to be equally rare in The Netherlands as it is only known from one record: vii.1896, Zwammerdam, leg. J. C. H. de Meijere (Meuffels, 1978).

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