

AN EXTREMELY LATE RECORD OF *SYMPETRUM FONSCOLOMBEI* (SÉL.) IN POLAND (ANISOPTERA: LIBELLULIDAE)

*S. fonscolombei* is probably almost always an allochthonous species in the northern part of central Europe, where it migrates from the South and sometimes reaches N Poland, N Germany, Holland and even the British Isles and Latvia (R.R. ASKEW, 1988, *The dragonflies of Europe*, Harley, Colchester). As data from Germany show, this species probably only very rarely overwinters in this part of Europe and emerges in May or June. More frequent seems to be the emergence of a second generation in the late summer and early autumn, as a result of reproduction of (mainly?) migrants from the South, which arrived in the spring or early summer (summarized in J. LEMPERT, 1987, *Libellula* 6: 59-69).

On 29 October 1996, a male (probably having matured only recently) was caught in Poznań, W Poland (52°23'N, 16°59'E), by a small, shallow (max. 40 cm) pool, overgrown by Characeae and along shores by *Sparganium ramosum*, *Typha latifolia*, *Alisma plantago-aquatica*, *Schoenoplectus lacustris*, *Heleocharis palustris* and grasses. This is the 16th record of this species in Poland and the 7th in central and northern parts of it (A. ŁABĘDZKI & M.J. ŁUSZCZAK, 1984, *Notul. odonatol.* 2: 50-51; A. CZEKAJ, 1993, *Wiad. entomol.* 12: 155-161; 1994, *Notul. odonatol.* 4: 53; R. BERNARD & J. MUSIAŁ, 1995, *Opusc.*

*zool. flumin.* 138: 1-9; R. BERNARD, 1996, *Rocz. nauk. pol. Tow. Ochr. Przyr.* 1: 157-166).

The flight period of this species in Poland resembles that given by LEMPERT (1987, *ibid.*) for Germany, Belgium and Holland. It was recorded in June (4 records, earliest on the 5th), July (3), August (4), September (1 on the 6th), October (this note). The Sep.-Oct. records are certainly referable to the second generation, like in Germany (LEMPERT, 1987, *ibid.*). Surprising is the 29 Oct. record, because in the climatic conditions of Poland, this is normally one of the last days of flight period of the last dragonfly species. That year it was the last day when dragonflies were flying by the described pool. *S. fonscolombei* was accompanied by single *Sympetrum vulgatum*, *Aeshna mixta* and a few *S. striolatum*.

This male could represent the local second generation, but more probably it flew in from the S or SE of the country (where weather conditions were that year significantly more favourable than in W Poland) or from countries to the S or SW of Poland. It was quite probable because, after rainy, windy and fairly warm 28 Oct., the morning of 29 Oct. was sunny, very warm (15-17°C), with warm southerly, strengthening wind. This strong air current, coming from the S and SW, preceded an atmospheric front and could trigger (or make easier) the migration of this male.

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