

FIRST RECORD OF *POLIETES MERIDIONALIS* PERIS ET LLORENTE, 1963 (DIPTERA: MUSCIDAE) FROM SLOVAKIA

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Abstract: We give a first record of the *Polietes meridionalis* Peris et Llorente, 1963 (Diptera: Muscidae) from the territory of Slovakia. One female was found in Malá Fatra Mts – Vrátna dolina Valley. The species' European distribution is reviewed and shortly discussed.

Key words: Diptera, Muscidae, Muscini, *Polietes meridionalis*, first record.

Muscidae is a large and cosmopolitan family of Diptera that belong to the Calyptrata family group. This family of small and middle-sized flies, with a very diversified ecology includes some of the most common synanthropic flies (PONT 1986; GREGOR et al. 2002). In the Catalogue of Palaearctic Diptera (PONT 1986) 835 valid species are listed, but in recent years many new species have been described. In Europe 578 species are recorded so far (PONT 2005; GREGOR & ROZKOŠNÝ 2007; PONT & GRACH 2008; PONT & GREGOR 2008; GREGOR & ROZKOŠNÝ 2009a), 251 of which occur in Slovakia. Faunistic data for the Slovak Muscidae are summarized in the Checklist of Diptera of the Czech Republic and Slovakia (GREGOR & ROZKOŠNÝ 2009b).

One female of *P. meridionalis* was found and photographed near Starý dvor in Malá Fatra Mts – the Vrátna dolina Valley in Slovakia. GREGOR et al. (2002) was used for identification.

Family: Muscidae

Subfamily: Muscinae

Tribe: Muscini

***Polietes meridionalis* Peris et Llorente, 1963**
(Figure 1)

Material examined: Slovakia, Starý dvor, Malá Fatra Mts – Vrátna dolina Valley, 49° 13' 49.6" N, 19° 2' 7.35" E, 700 m a. s. l., 18. 9. 2011, 1 F, F. Mucha photo, N. Vikhrev det.

Distribution: *P. meridionalis* is recorded from Albania, Bulgaria, Crete, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Sicily, Spain and Ukraine, recently from Sardinia (PONT 2007, AVESANI 2011). New species for fauna of Slovakia.

Polietes meridionalis is the third species of the genus *Polietes* recorded from Slovakia. It is characteristic by yellow anterior spiracle and yellowish white to golden yellow shine in anterior part of head (see also Figure 1). *P. meridionalis* was unknown from the territory of Slovakia until now (GREGOR & ROZKOŠNÝ 2009b, ROZKOŠNÝ (pers. comm.) and STRAKA (pers. comm.)). Description of preimaginal instars and the biology of this species was given by ROJO & MARCOS-GARCÍA (1990, 1995). It is a typical late autumn species. We suppose, that thanks to the ongoing climate change *P. meridionalis* changes its expansion area. Is very likely that *P. meridionalis* is already present also in Czech Republic, but it is overlooked.

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Figure 1. *Polietes meridionalis*, dorsal and lateral view, photograph by František Mucha (18. 9. 2011, Starý dvor, Terchová).