

***Icius hamatus* (Salticidae, Araneae) in Poland?**

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**ABSTRACT.** *Icius hamatus* was recorded from Poland for the first time.

**KEY WORDS:** new faunistic record, Salticidae, Poland

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In Western Palaearctic the jumping spider genus *Icius* is represented by six species. Their range is restricted to Southern Europe, the Mediterranean Islands and North Africa (ALICATA & CANTARELLA 1993, PLATNICK 2005).

*Icius hamatus* (C. L. KOCH, 1846) is widely distributed in Mediterranean region. It was recorded from Algeria, Spain, Southern France including Corsica, Italy including Sicily, Malta, former Yugoslavia, Greece including Crete and Cyprus (PRÓSZYŃSKI 2005). According to HANSEN (1982), who provided information on its biology, the species inhabits bush layer in xerothermic habitats.

In November 2005 an adult female of *I. hamatus* (Figs 1-4) was found in a silk retreat inside top of a pomegranate (*Punica granatum*) bought in a vegetable shop in Wrocław. Few other fruits showed similar traits of spider existence, however all silk retreats were abandoned. The fruits were probably imported from Spain. It is the first record of this species in Poland.

Although the single record of *I. hamatus* is insufficient to include the species into Polish fauna, it indicates the possibility of the inadvertent introduction and spread of this species into synanthropic habitats in Central and West Europe. It is the second Mediterranean species from this genus recorded in temperate Europe - *Icius subinermis* SIMON, 1937 was lately recorded in a greenhouse in western Germany (JÄGER 1995).

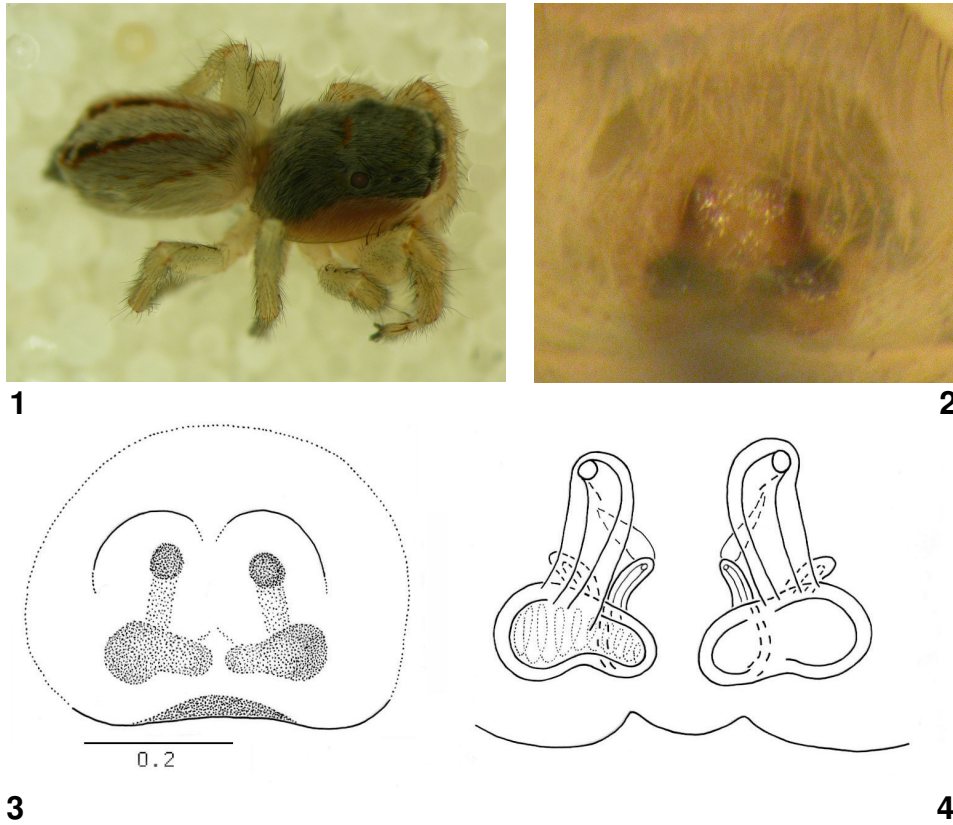
Finding of *I. hamatus* constitutes another example of bringing of tropical and subtropical spiders with imported fruits and plants into temperate areas. The arrival of *Uloborus plumipes* LUCAS, 1846 (Uloboridae) to Poland was probably due to this mechanism as well. This species was first found in a florist shop in Białystok in 2000 (STANKIEWICZ & KUPRYJANOWICZ 2002), and nowadays it is regularly observed (so far only females) in greenhouses and florist shops in Lublin (R. ROZWAŁKA, pers. comm.) and Wrocław (unpublished data).

#### **Material examined**

1 female, in pomegranate fruit, vegetable shop, Wrocław, November 2005, leg. B. TOMASIEWICZ, kept in collection of Zoological Institute of Wrocław University.

#### **Acknowledgements**

We wish to thank MARCIN KADEJ for making the photographs.



**Figs 1 - 4.** Female of *Icius hamatus*; 1 - dorsolateral view; 2-3 - epigyne; 4 - internal structure of epigyne. Scale bar - 0.2 mm.

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Received: January 25, 2006

Accepted: February 7, 2006