

Cypha suecica (PALM), a new aleocharine rove beetle in the fauna of Poland (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)

Paweł JAŁOSZYŃSKI

Museum of Natural History, Wrocław University, Sienkiewicza 21, 50-335 Wrocław, Poland; e-mail: scydmaenus@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT: The first Polish record of an aleocharine rove beetle, *Cypha suecica* (PALM), is given, on the basis of a male specimen collected near Wrocław, Lower Silesia (WS Poland).

KEY WORDS: Coleoptera, Aleocharinae, Hypocyphini, *Cypha*, Poland, new record, faunistics.

The tribe Hypocyphini is a relatively small group within the large subfamily Aleocharinae. Seven genera are known from the Palearctic, of which the largest are *Oligota* MANNERHEIM, 1830 (formerly classified as *Oligotini*) and *Cypha* LEACH, 1819. The latter genus is represented in the Palearctic by nearly 50 species (LÖBL, LÖBL 2015), out of which nine widely distributed European representatives have been found in Poland: *C. apicalis* (BRISOUT DE BARNEVILLE, 1863), *C. discoidea* (ERICHSON, 1839), *C. laeviuscula* (MANNERHEIM, 1830), *C. lindbergi* (PALM, 1935), *C. longicornis* (PAYKULL, 1300), *C. ovulum* (HEER, 1839), *C. pulicaria* (ERICHSON, 1839), *C. seminulum* (ERICHSON, 1839) and *C. tarsalis* (LUZE, 1902) (BURAKOWSKI et al. 1980, RENNER, MESSUTAT 2007). Only *C. longicornis* is not a rare species, though in literature constantly reported only from a part of Poland. The remaining representatives of the genus are either encountered in our country occasionally or their distribution demands a confirmation provided from newer findings (for example *C. apicalis* or

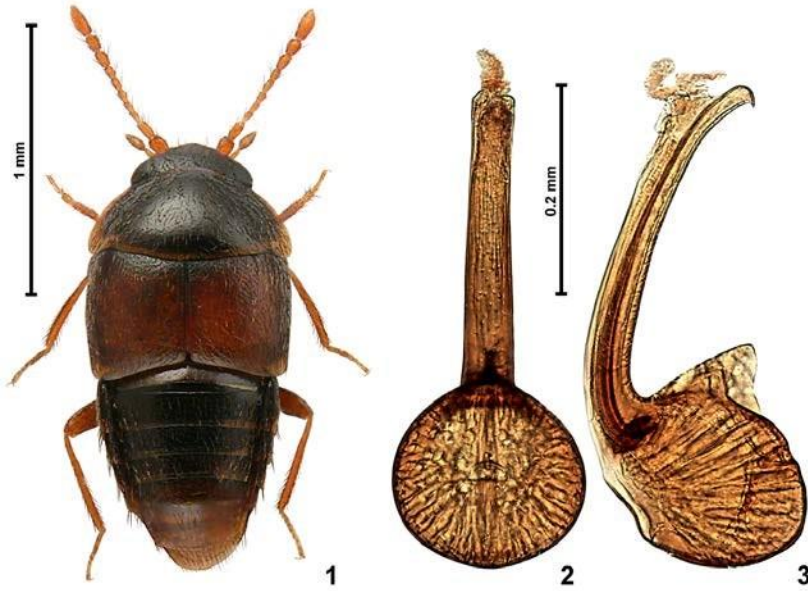
C. lindbergi). *Cypha tarsalis* was recorded from Poland not long time ago (RENNER, MESSUTAT 2007).

The genus *Cypha*, like all Hypocyphtini, comprises rove beetles with small bodies, often below 2 mm in length, which is most certainly one of the reasons for which they were not granted more attention in the Polish faunistic literature. Identification of some species demands an examination of male reproductive organs, which is often illustrated in various publications in quite a simplified, or a downright inaccurate, manner. The preparation of genitals involves also the dividing of large parameters from the middle lobe, which, considering the small sizes of the edeagus, requires a certain degree of skill. The subfamily Aleocharinae, to which Hypocyphtini belongs, is a very large and difficult group, and few specialists study it. All these factors lead to a conclusion that the published faunistic records reflect to a greater extent methodological problems rather than the actual distribution of the species from the genus *Cypha*. Another species new to Poland was reported from the environs of Wrocław.

Cypha suecica (PALM, 1936)

– Lower Silesia: XS37 Wrocław-Świniary, 24 X 2015, 1♂, on the edge of a meadow and a deciduous forest (oak, ash, elm, among others) along the Widawa River, captured with a butterfly net, leg. et coll. P. JAŁOSZYŃSKI.

Cypha suecica is a rare species in the entirety of its range; it is known from the whole Scandinavia, Austria, Germany, Italy, Latvia, the northsouthern Russia and Switzerland (LÖBL, LÖBL 2015). From the area of Germany, the species was recorded only in 2004 (ASSING 2004). The following paper also contains the photography of the male copulatory organ and the comparison of *C. suecica* with a similar *C. discoidea*. Both species have a redish elytra; *C. suecica* (Fig. 1) has the pronotum as wide as the elytrum (the pronotum of *C. suecica* is wider than its elytra), the rear corners of pronotum are blunt but distinctly marked (*C. discoidea* less distinct, rounded), and, most importantly, a clearly different shape of the middle lobe of the edeagus (Fig. 2, 3).



Figs. 1-3. *Cypha suecica* (PALM). Male habitus (1); aedeagus in ventral (2) and lateral (3) views.

SUMMARY

Cypha suecica (PALM) is recorded from Poland for the first time. A male individual was collected in WS Poland (Lower Silesia), near the city of Wrocław. This is the tenth representative of *Cypha* known to occur in the territory of Poland. The habitus and details of the male copulatory organ are illustrated.

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