

Dryobotodes monochroma ESPER, 1790 – a new moth
in the fauna of Poland (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

Dryobotodes monochroma ESPER, 1790 – nowy gatunek ćmy
w polskiej faunie (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

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ABSTRACT. The first record of *Dryobotodes monochroma* ESPER (Lepidoptera, Noctuidae) from Poland is given. The species was found in the Bieszczady Mountains, Southeastern Poland.

KEY WORDS: Lepidoptera: Noctuidae, *Dryobotodes monochroma*, new record, Poland.

The genus *Dryobotodes* WARREN, 1910 consists of about 20 species, whose majority occurs in the Himalayan-Pacific region. 6 species of the genus have been reported in Europe so far (RONKAY et al. 2001) and only 1 (*D. eremita*) of them in Poland (BUSZKO et NOWACKI 2000). It should be noted that more species of the genus are known from other European countries. All European species (6) have been reported from Italy, 5 species from France (Ronkay et al. 2001) and Bulgaria (Beskov 2000), 3 species from Spain, Romania (RONKAY et al. 2001), and Ukraine (KLYUCHKO 2006).

Based on the range of *D. monochroma*, its occurrence in Europe as well as the climate changes which have been witnessed during the recent years and the abundance of oak trees (major food source) in Poland, the following hypothesis was adopted which stated that the species should also occur in Poland. For many years, light and food traps were set in habitats potentially suitable for the species occurrence.

A field study of noctuid moths in Poland reported the occurrence of *Dryobotodes monochroma* (ESPER, 1790) (Fig. 1-3) in Poland for the first time:

- the Bieszczady Mountains, EV95, Krzywe near Cisna 11 IX 2013, 1♂. The specimen was collected at night, with a 250 W mercury vapour lamp set next to a white screen in a grassy mountain meadow area, leg. Ł. MATUSZEWSKI.

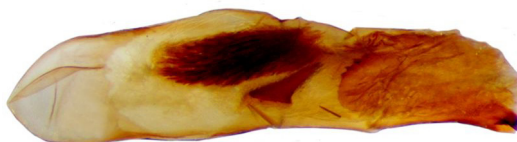
1



2



3



Figs/Ryc. 1-3. *Dryobotodes monochroma* (ESPER, 1790), Bieszczady Mts., EV95 Krzywe near Cisna, 11 IX 2013, leg. Ł. MATUSZEWSKI: 1 – imago/postać dorosła, 2 – male genitalia/genitalia samcze, 3 – aedeagus/edeagus.

The species in question inhabits the western Palearctic. In Central Europe it lives in southern, hilly grassland xerothermic habitats such as warm oak forests, mixed deciduous forests, bedland forests, and bushes. In Europe it has been recorded in all the Mediterranean and Black Sea countries; moreover, it was observed in Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Yugoslavia (KARSHOLT et NIEUKERKEN 2013), and Ukraine (KLYUCHKO 2006). Outside Europe it was recorded in Maghreb area (Algeria, Morocco) and Asia Minor (RONKAY et al. 2001). In Central Europe *D. monochroma* occurs only locally in isolated localities of xerothermic character, most often dry and warm oakwoods and shrubs. The overwintering stage is the egg and the larvae of the species feeds on *Quercus* species. Imagoes occur in one generation starting from the end of August until October (NOWACKI 1998, RONKAY et al. 2001).

STRESZCZENIE

W trakcie badań faunistycznych prowadzonych na terenie Bieszczadów, potwierdzono występowanie nowego dla fauny Polski gatunku motyla z rodziny sówkowatych, jest nim *Dryobotodes monochroma* (ESP.).

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