

# The fauna of Conopidae (Diptera) in the Gemer area (central Slovakia) with updated checklist of Slovakia

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**Abstract:** Results of the study of family Conopidae (Diptera) in the Gemer area (Slovakia) are presented. A total of 35 species are treated based mostly on newly collected material and partly also older museum material (altogether 295 specimens, mainly from the Muránska planina National Park and the Cerová vrchovina Protected Landscape Area) supplemented with previously published records. Each species is listed with comments about its general distribution, biology and faunistic and/or nature-conservancy importance. The Gemer regional fauna of Conopidae is distinguished for relatively high species diversity and for the occurrence of several rare or stenotopic species. Five species, *Leopoldius breviostris* (Germar, 1827), *L. signatus* (Wiedemann, 1824), *Merziella longirostris* (Lyneborg, 1962), *Sicus nigritarsis* Zimina, 1975, and *Thecophora bimaculata* (Preyßler, 1791), are new additions to the fauna of Slovakia. In addition, four more species belong to rare and little-known taxa, with only a few previous records from the country. The known fauna of the Gemer area is enriched by 14 species; 14 species are recorded from the Muránska planina NP and 24 from the Cerová vrchovina PLA for the first time. The peculiarities of the fauna of Conopidae in the Gemer territory are discussed regarding the species most important from the faunistic, ecological and nature-conservancy points of view. The updated checklist of Conopidae of Slovakia is compiled and presented.

**Keywords:** Diptera, Conopidae, biodiversity, faunistics, new records, nature conservancy, Slovakia, Gemer, Muránska planina NP, Cerová vrchovina PLA

## Introduction

Flies of the family Conopidae or the thick-headed flies have not been studied in the Gemer area in detail. Previous records of Conopidae from the Gemer area are scarce and almost all older ones were summarized by Čepelák & Chvála (1986) in the faunal compendium Diptera Slovenska II (Diptera of Slovakia II) edited by J. Čepelák. It is to note that most of them originate from the Slovenský kras National Park. The knowledge of Conopidae has been particularly poor in the Muránska planina National Park and the Cerová vrchovina Protected Landscape Area because these parts of the Gemer area have largely been neglected by dipterists up to 2007. There are only a few records of Conopidae formerly published from the latter protected territories, which were mentioned by Čepelák (1959), Chvála (1961b, 1965), Straka & Smetana (2006) and Straka (2016). An additional finding from the Slovenský kras NP was published also by Stuke & Barták (2004).

The Conopidae are small to medium-sized dipterans of inconspicuous (a combination of brownish, greyish to black) or distinctive (black and yellow), often aposematic colouration. The larvae of the Conopidae are endoparasites of wasps and bees (Hymenoptera: Aculeata) whereas host records from grasshoppers (Caelifera) and true hoppers (Auchenorrhyncha) are very doubtful (Stuke, personal communication, 2025). The adults, which have an unusually large head and often a long proboscis, can be found on flowers near the nests of their hosts. This group is most abundant in xerothermic habitats of warm regions.

The world fauna of Conopidae comprises more than 800 species (Stuke 2017 catalogued a total of 808 species). Altogether 83 species of Conopidae occur in Europe (Stuke, personal communication, 2025). Of these, 48 species were listed from Slovakia and 53 from the Czech Republic (Chvála 2009). However, the above numbers (for the Czech Republic and Slovakia) are not precise because recently several taxa treated as valid species were synonymized as only colour forms (see Stuke 2017, 2023). Most recently, four species, viz. *Conops insignis* Loew, 1848, *Conops silaceus* Wiedemann, 1824, *Leopoldius valvatus* Kröber, 1914 and *Zodion nigratarsis* (Strobl, 1902) were reported as new additions to the fauna of Slovakia (Semelbauer & Grechová 2019, Semelbauer et al. 2023, 2025). Monographic but rather old treatments of the family are available for the territory of former Czechoslovakia (Chvála 1961b, 1965), and more recent faunistic studies covering some areas of the Czech Republic and Slovakia exist (Roháček 1995, 2009, Chvála 1999, Barták 2001, Stuke et al. 2005, Chvála & Vonička 2009, Heřman & Chvála 2014) but additional records are scattered in several more papers (e.g. Straka 1981, Stuke & Barták 2004). Altogether 87 publications with data on Conopidae recently known from Slovakia and the Czech Republic report 57 valid species from the two countries together (Stuke 2017 and personal communication, 2025). The current level of threat of 17 species was determined by Chvála & Barták (2005) in the Red List of Czech Republic by placing them in the category „vulnerable“ (VU).

The present study has not only critically summarized all previously published data from the Gemer area (Fig. 1) but mainly presents records obtained by examination of new material of Conopidae collected recently during field work in the Muránska planina NP (2009–2024) and Cerová vrchovina PLA (2017–2024) performed by J. Roháček, J. Ševčík, M. Tkoč and collaborators in the framework of a project on the biodiversity of Diptera in these two protected areas.

This contribution extends a number of already published papers devoted to Diptera of the Gemer area and published in this journal, see Roháček 2011, 2012a,b,c, 2013a,b, 2023, 2024, Roháček & Ševčík (2011), Ševčík (2011, 2012), Ševčík & Kurina (2011a,b), Černý (2012), Rudzinski & Ševčík (2012), Ševčík et al. (2013), Mantič et al. (2015), Černý & Roháček (2020, 2024) and Preisler et al. (2022). However, a number of additional records of various species (including descriptions of several new species) of Diptera resulting from the above project were included in more general taxonomic and faunal studies by Roháček (2012d, 2016), Máca et al. (2015), Roháček et al. (2016, 2017), Ševčík et al. (2016), Mantič & Ševčík (2017), Sikora et al. (2017a,b), Rudzinski & Ševčík (2019), Barták et al. (2021), Kanavalová et al. (2021) and Ševčík et al. (2021).





**Figs 2–4:** Collecting methods. 2 – Team of dipterists working in the areas under study (from left to right): J. Roháček, T. Zatwarnicki (as a guest), M. Tkoč, K. Sopuch and (sitting in front) J. Ševčík (26.x.2022). 3 – J. Roháček sweeping over vegetation at the Tisovec-Teplica locality (18.vi.2016). 4 – Malaise trap just installed in the Čertova dolina res. (15.v.2024). Photo by T. Zatwarnicki (2) and J. Roháček (others).

## Study area

The Gemer area (see map on Fig. 1) is here understood as including the territory of three national parks (= NP) and one protected landscape area (= PLA) in central Slovakia – Muránska planina NP, Slovenský raj NP, Slovenský kras NP and Cerová vrchovina PLA. The biodiversity research of Diptera in the Gemer area has been realized thanks to official collaboration with authorities of the Administrations of the Muránska planina NP and the Cerová vrchovina PLA and performed in areas under their care. These large-scale protected territories represent well-preserved karst and volcanic areas respectively, distinguished by very high biodiversity of flora and fauna, with both montane and thermophilous species, including several endemic taxa.

The localities for faunal research of Diptera have been selected based on recommendation and agreement of zoologists and botanists of both above Administrations. In the most important localities, a more complex field work has been performed, including operation of Malaise traps and (sometimes) other collecting devices. The sampling plots with Malaise traps were in localities and habitats as follows:

### Muránska planina NP

Červená Skala 2.4 km SW, Trsteník valley, 48°48'07"N, 20°07'22"E, 815 m, submontane *Carex* peat-bog meadow, MT – 2016

Fabova hoľa Mt. res., 48°46'23"N, 19°52'39"E, 1300 m, spring place in a clearing of montane spruce forest, MT – 2009

Muránska Lehota 3.7 km E, above Javorníčková dolina, 48°43'15"N, 19°59'56"E, 780 m, warm oak-linden forest on southern slope, MT – 2015

Muráň-Hrdzavá dolina res., 48°44'52"N, 20°00'36"E, 580 m, near brook in deciduous (mostly beech) forest in valley bottom, MT – 2010

Muráň-Hrdzavá dolina res., 48°44'52"N, 20°01'04"E, 540 m, mainly beech forest at natural clearing on slope of valley, not far from brook, MT – 2013

Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45"N, 19°59'19"E, 580 m, wet deciduous (mainly alder) forest on bottom of ravine, MT – 2017, 2018, 2019 (Fig. 10)

Pohronská Polhora 4.9 km E, Čertova dolina res., upper part, 48°44'20"N, 19°51'27"E, 715 m, mixed (beech, spruce, fir) forest on valley slope, MT – 2013

Pohronská Polhora 5.1 km SE, Čertova dolina res., lower part, 48°43'55"N, 19°51'32"E, 620 m, mouth of ravine, mixed forest near brook, MT – 2024 (Fig. 4)

Pohronská Polhora 5.3 km SE, Rosiarka res., 48°42'45"N, 19°49'29"E, 920 m, peat-bog with *Carex rostrata*, MT – 2022

Poľudnica res., top plateau, 48°45'50"N, 20°01'54"E, 960 m, ecotone between rocky steppe and beech forest on limestone ridge, MT – 2013

Tisovec 3.4 km W, Teplica, 48°41'22"N, 19°53'57"E, 490 m, deciduous (mainly beech) forest at brook in valley, MT – 2019 (Fig. 8)

Tisovec 3.9 km NW, Trstie res. 48°39'39"N, 19°59'21"E, 1100 m, peat-bog, near margin of spruce forest, MT – 2023

Zlatno 2.9 km SW, Havrania dolina res., 48°48'21"N, 20°03'52"E, 850 m, at brook in bottom of a valley surrounded by spruce forest, MT – 2016

### Cerová vrchovina PLA

Chrámeč 3 km SW (Vlčia dolina), 48°15'58"N, 20°09'01"E, 220 m, margin of hornbeam-oak forest, MT – 2023

Gemerské Dechtáre-Salonkáš 1.3 km NE (Velká dolina), 48°14'24"N, 19°59'53"E, 230 m, ecotone between alder forest and hornbeam-beech forest on valley bottom, MT – 2018

Gemerský Jablonec-Vodokáš 1 km N, 48°13'00"N, 19°59'42"E, 280 m, ecotone between oak (*Quercus cerris*)-beech forest and forest-steppe, MT – 2017

Hajnáčka-Buková 0.4 km NNE, 48°13'39"N, 19°58'25"E, 375 m, oak (*Quercus cerris*) forest on Zaboda Mt., not far from forest margin (neighbouring with steppe), MT – 2018

Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'52"N, 19°58'16"E, 240 m, ecotone between forest-steppe and oak (*Quercus cerris*) forest, MT – 2017 (Fig. 27)

Hajnáčka-Gortva 1.1 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'48"N, 19°58'22"E, 265 m, margin of oak forest (*Quercus cerris*), MT – 2024  
Jestice 1.3 km SSE, Hradisko Mt., 48°12'31"N, 20°03'39"E, 255 m, S slope, forest steppe with old oak trees (*Quercus cerris*), MT – 2022  
Petrovce 1.6 km E, Fenek res., 48°11'05"N, 20°02'30"E, 230 m, waterlogged alder forest with *Carex acutiformis* undergrowth, MT – 2022  
Šiatorská Bukovinka 1.1 km SW, Lazy, 48°10'41"N, 19°48'59"E, 394 m, oak forest (*Quercus cerris*, *Q. pubescens*), MT – 2024  
Tachty 1.1 km WSW, Gortva valley, 48°09'05"N, 19°55'32"E, 280 m (boggy meadow), *Carex*-dominated wetland meadow in alluvium of the Gortva brook, MT – 2019, 2021  
Tachty 2.1 km WSW, Gortva valley, 48°08'45"N, 19°54'53"E, 315 m (forest), ecotone between alder and beech forest at Gortva brook, MT – 2019, 2020, 2021

## Synopsis of species

### CONOPIDAE

#### CONOPINAE

#### *Abrachyglossum capitatum* (Loew, 1847) – Fig. 5

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň-Hrdzavá dolina res., 48°44'52"N, 20°01'04"E, 540 m, MT, 26.vii.-7.x.2010, 1♀, J. Ševčík leg. (SMOC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45.7"N, 19°59'18"E, 540 m, MT, 6.vi.-6.vii.2018, 1♂, 7.viii.-11.ix.2018, 2♂4♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (CULS, NMPC); Pohronská Polhora 5.3 km SE, Rosiarka res., 48°42'45"N, 19°49'29"E, 920 m, MT, 18.vii.-16.viii.2022, 1♂, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).  
Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hostice 1 km NE, 48°14'45"N, 20°04'28"E, 190 m, sweeping over boggy meadow, 19.vii.2022, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A Palaearctic species, known from central and southern Europe, missing in Scandinavia and British Isles. In Slovakia an uncommon species, known only from few records (see Čepelák & Chvála 1986, Stuke 2017). Activity of adults in VII–IX, host unknown. First records from both the Muránska planina NP and Cerová vrchovina PLA and the whole of the Gemer territory, where *A. capitatum* was found in a variety of open (Fig. 35) and woodland (Fig. 10) habitats.

#### *Conops flavipes* Linnaeus, 1758 – Fig. 6

=*Conops melanocephalus* Meigen, 1804

=*Conops nigritus* Čepelák, 1940

**Literature:** Muránska planina NP: Muránska Huta (Čepelák & Chvála 1986), Šiance, 1041 m (Straka & Smetana 2006). Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hajnáčka (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský kras NP: Krásna Hôrka, Zádiel, Plešivec (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský raj NP: Čingov (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Outside protected areas: Čepelák & Chvála (1986): Potok (village near Hnúšťa).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45.7"N, 19°59'18"E, 540 m, MT, 7.viii.-11.ix.2018, 1♂, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).  
Slovenský kras NP: Jasov, 16.vii.1963, 1♂, Čepelák leg. et det.; Hačavská dolina (valley) [nr. Háj], singled, 1.ix.1980, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (all SMOC).

**Remarks:** A Palaearctic species, distributed throughout Europe but potentially missing in large parts of its southern areas (Stuke, personal communication. 2025). Together with *C. quadrifasciatus* it is one of the most common species of the genus *Conops* in Slovakia. Activity of adults in VI–IX. Hosts: *Vespula rufa*; records from some species of *Bombus* and *Osmia* are doubtful and probably incorrect (for list of records see Stuke 2017). Surprisingly, only one specimen of this frequent species has been recorded during our recent biodiversity survey but there are also older records from both the Muránska planina NP and Cerová vrchovina PLA (see above).



**Figs 5–6:** Species of Conopidae occurring in the Gemer area. 5 – *Abrachyglossum capitatum* (Loew), male, left laterally (voucher specimen from Hostice 1 km NE, boggy meadow, 19.vii.2022); 6 – *Conops flavipes* Linnaeus, male, left laterally (documentary photo from the Czech Republic: Závada sand-pit, 17.vii.2013). Photos by J. Roháček.

## *Conops quadrifasciatus* De Geer, 1776

**Literature:** Muránska planina NP: Mašianske skalky (Čepelák & Chvála 1986), Havrania [dolina], Murán-hrad (Straka & Smetana 2006). Slovenský kras NP: Krásna Hôrka (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský raj NP: Kocúrová (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muránska Lehota 3.7 km S, Javorníčková dolina, 48°43'15"N, 19°59'56"E, 780 m, MT, 11.vi.-13.vii.2015, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Pohronská Polhora 5.3 km SE, Rosiarka res., 48°42'45"N, 19°49'29"E, 920 m, MT, 16.viii.-12.ix.2022, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (NMPC).

**Remarks:** Another Palaearctic species, distributed in the whole of Europe. Together with *C. flavipes* one of the most common *Conops* species in Slovakia. Activity of adults in VI–X. Hosts: *Bombus lapidarius* and *B. terrestris* but Stuke (2017), who listed all published host records, considered them somewhat doubtful. Interestingly, also this common species has only twice been found during our recent field work.

## *Conops scutellatus* Meigen, 1804

**Literature:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Radzovce-Obručná (Straka 2016).

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Chrámec 3 km SW (Vlčia dolina), 48°15'58"N, 20°09'01"E, 220 m, MT, 17.viii.-14.ix.2023, 2♂3♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (NMPC, SMOC); Gemerský Jablonec, Vodokáš 1 km N, 48°13'00"N, 19°59'42"E, 280 m, MT, 10.viii.-6.ix.2017, 3♀, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); same locality, sweeping over steppe meadow, 6.ix.2017, 1♂, sweeping undergrowth of deciduous forest in a valley, 8.viii.2018, 1♀, both J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala hill), 48°14'52"N, 19°58'16"E, 12.vii.-10.viii.2017, 2♀, 10.viii.-6.ix.2017, 1♂4♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC, SMOC); Šiatorská Bukovinka 1.1 km SW, Lazy, 48°10'41"N, 19°48'59"E, 394 m, MT, 18.vii.-21.viii.2024, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A West Palaearctic species, widespread in central and southern Europe. An uncommon species in Slovakia, formerly found only at few localities (cf. Chvála 1961b, Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Activity of adults in VI–IX. Hosts: *Vespa vulgaris* and (doubtfully) *V. germanica*, for original records see Stuke (2017). In the Gemer area it is only known from the Cerová vrchovina PLA (Straka 2016, material examined).

## \**Conops silaceus* Wiedemann, 1824

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Gemerský Jablonec, Vodokáš, 48°13'00"N, 19°59'42"E, 280 m, MT, 12.vii.-10.viii.2017, 1♂, 10.viii.-6.ix.2017, 1♂, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC, SMOC); Šiatorská Bukovinka 1.1 km SW, Lazy, 48°10'41"N, 19°48'59"E, 394 m, MT, 18.vii.-21.viii.2024, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A West Palaearctic thermophilous species, mainly occurring in southern areas, in Europe northerly reaching to Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary (Stuke 2017) and Slovakia. It was first reported from Slovakia recently by Semelbauer & Grechová (2019) from Šenkvice near Pezinok. Thus, the above records represent an additional evidence of its occurrence in Slovakia and first data from the Gemer area. Host remains unknown. Due to its rarity, this species is to be treated as a vulnerable (VU) species in Slovakia.

## *Conops strigatus* Wiedemann, 1824

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Krásna Hôrka (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Murán, NPR Šarkanica, 48°42'45.7"N, 19°59'18"E, 540 m, MT 3, 6.vi.-6.vii.2018, 1♀, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).

**Remarks:** A Palaearctic species, widespread in Europe but uncommon in Slovakia, with several localities (including one from the Slovenský kras NP) listed by Čepelák & Chvála (1986). Activity of adults in VII–IX. Host unknown. The above first record from the Muránska planina NP is based on a single captured female.

## *Conops vesicularis* Linnaeus, 1761 – Fig. 7

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Plešivecká planina, Zádiel (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský raj NP: Čuntava, Mária Magdaléna (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Outside protected areas: Teplý vrch – Rimavská Sobota district (Chvála 1961b, Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Červená Skala 2.4 km SW, Trsteník valley, 48°48'07"N, 20°07'22"E, 815 m, MT, 12.v.-16.vi.2016, 1♀, J. Roháček & J. Ševčík leg. (NMPC); Fabova hoľa Mt. res., 48°46'23"N, 19°52'39"E, 1300 m, MT, 16.vi.-25.viii.2009, 1♂, J. Ševčík leg. (SMOC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45"N, 19°59'19"E, 580 m, MT, 25.iv.-15.vi.2017, 2♂, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Pohronská Polhora 5.3 km SE, Rosiarka res., 48°42'45"N, 19°49'29"E, 920 m, MT, 26.v.-21.vi.2022, 2♂, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC); Poľudnica res., top plateau, 48°45'50"N, 20°01'54"E, 960 m, MT, 20.vi.-8.viii.2013, 1♂, J. Ševčík et al. (SMOC); Tisovec 3.4 km W, Teplica, 48°41'22"N, 19°53'57"E, 490 m, MT, 4.iv.-20.v.2019, 1♂3♀, 20.v.-18.vi.2019, 2♂2♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Zlatno 2.9 km SW, Havrania dolina, 48°48'21"N, 20°03'52"E, 850 m, MT, 12.v.-16.vi.2016, 4♂, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC, SMOC). Cerová vrchovina PLA: Jestice 1.3 km SSE, Hradisko Mt., 48°12'31"N, 20°03'39"E, 255 m, MT, 4.-25.v.2022, 3♂, J. Roháček et al. leg. (NMPC, SMOC); Petrovce 1.6 km E, Fenek res., 48°11'05"N, 20°02'30"E, 230 m, MT, 3.-25.v.2022, 3♂, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC). Slovenský kras NP: Zádiel, 23.vi.1960, 1♀, Čepelák leg.; Dlholíucky prameň (Silica), 24.5.1987, 1♂, J. Čepelák leg. (both SMOC).

**Remarks:** A rather common species, known from the Palaearctic and Oriental Regions (Stuke 2017). It is widespread in Europe except for northernmost areas. In Slovakia it is known from a number of localities (see Chvála 1961b, Čepelák & Chvála 1986) including those from the Gemer area. A conspicuous species by its large size and generally reddish-brown coloration (Fig. 7) with vernal activity of adults (IV–VI). Only *Vespa velutina* var. *nigrothorax* has been recorded as its host (Darrouzet et al. 2014) but the European hornet (*Vespa crabro*) is almost certainly its main host in most of Europe. Almost all specimens recorded above were captured in Malaise traps together with (often numerous) adults of *Vespa crabro*. First records from the Muránska planina NP and the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

## \*\**Leopoldius brevisrostris* (Germar, 1827)

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Hrdzavá dolina res., 48°44'48.5"N, 20°01'35.4"E, 450 m, PT, 13.viii.2015, 1♀, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC). Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45"N, 19°59'19"E, 580 m, MT, 9.viii.-5.ix.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček & J. Ševčík leg. (SMOC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45.7"N, 19°59'18"E, 540 m, MT, 6.vi.-6.vii.2018, 1♂, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC), 7.viii.-11.ix.2018, 3♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (CULS).

**Remarks:** A European species, restricted to temperate belt (Stuke 2017), generally rare in central Europe. Its biology (including hosts) is generally unknown. It was treated as vulnerable species in the Czech Republic (Chvála & Barták 2005) and should be considered threatened also in Slovakia. There is only previous record of *L. brevisrostris* from Slovakia: Vinné in E Slovakia (see Čepelák & Chvála 1986: 93). However, it has been deleted from Slovakia in all subsequent checklists (Chvála 1987, 1997, 2006, 2009). This fact indicates that the above record from Vinné was obviously based on a misidentification. First documented records from Slovakia.

## *Leopoldius coronatus* (Rondani, 1857)

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Krásna Hôrka (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Outside protected areas: Rožňava (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň-Hrdzavá dolina res., 48°44'49"N, 20°01'12"E, 500 m, MT, 21.vi.-8.viii.2013, 2♂♂ 1♀, 8.viii.-17.ix.2013, 2♀, J. Roháček & J. Ševčík leg. (NMPC, SMOC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45"N, 19°59'19"E, 580 m, sweeping undergrowth of deciduous forest in ravine, 11.vii.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); same locality, MT, 11.vii.-9.viii.2017, 6♀, 9.viii.-5.ix.2017, 4♀, J. Roháček & J. Ševčík leg. (NMPC, SMOC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45.7"N, 19°59'18"E, 540 m, MT, 6.vi.-6.vii.2018, 3♂4♀, 6.vii.-7.viii.2018, 2♂3♀, M. Tkoč leg. (CULS, NMPC), 7.viii.-11.ix.2018, 7♂24♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (CULS); same locality, sweeping, 7.viii.2018, 1♀, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Tisovec 3.4 km W, Teplica, 48°41'22"N, 19°53'57"E, 490 m, MT, 25.vii.-28.viii.2019, 1♂3♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC). Slovenský kras NP: Krásna Hôrka, 5.vii.1963, 1♂, Ptáček leg. (SMOC).



**Figs 7–8:** *Conops vesicularis* Linnaeus and its habitat. 7 – *C. vesicularis*, female, left laterally (documentary photo from the Czech Republic: Jestřebské slatiny res., 8.vi.2021); 8 – habitat of the species, a valley with beech forest, with Malaise trap in Tisovec-Teplica (18.vi.2016). Photos by J. Roháček.



**Figs 9–10:** *Leopoldius signatus* (Wiedemann) and its habitat. 9 – *L. signatus*, female, left laterally (Šarkanica res., 7.viii.2018); 10 – habitat of the species, a clearing in a deciduous forest with Malaise trap at bottom of ravine in the Šarkanica res. (7.viii.2018). Photos by J. Roháček.

**Remarks:** A West Palaearctic species, widespread in North Africa, southern and temperate Europe and reaching to Turkey in the east. It is the most frequent species of *Leopoldius* in Slovakia and was also twice recorded from the Gemer area (see Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Adults occur in VI–X. Hosts: *Vespula germanica*, possibly also *V. vulgaris* and *Polistes gallicus* (for original records see Stuke 2017). First records from the Muránska planina NP but hitherto not found in the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

### \**Leopoldius diadematus* Rondani, 1845

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň-Hrdzavá dolina res., 48°44'52"N, 20°01'04"E, 540 m, MT, 8.viii.-17.ix.2013, 1♀, J. Ševčík et al. leg. (SMOC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45"N, 19°59'19"E, 580 m, MT, 11.vii.-9.viii.2017, 1♀, 9.viii.-5.ix.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (NMPC, SMOC). Cerová vrchovina PLA: Šiatorská Bukovinka 1.1 km SW, Lazy, 48°10'41"N, 19°48'59"E, 394 m, MT, 18.vii.-21.viii.2024, 1♂, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A rare European species, hitherto only known from Austria, Czech Republic, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia and Spain (Stuke 2017). In Slovakia, it has only been recorded from a single locality, viz. Chľaba in southernmost Slovakia (Chvála 1961a,b, Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Adults occur in VII–VIII. Hosts: *Vespula germanica*, *V. vulgaris*, both considered doubtful by Stuke (2017). In the Czech Republic it is considered a vulnerable species (Chvála & Barták 2005) and it should be so in Slovakia, too. Second report from Slovakia and first records from the Gemer territory.

### \*\**Leopoldius signatus* (Wiedemann, 1824) – Fig. 9

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň-Hrdzavá dolina res., 48°44'52"N, 20°01'04"E, 540 m, MT, 17.ix.-4.x.2013, 1♀, J. Ševčík et al. leg. (SMOC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45"N, 19°59'19"E, 580 m, sweeping undergrowth of deciduous forest in ravine, 7.viii.2018, 1♀ (PHOTO), J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45"N, 19°59'18"E, 540 m, MT, 11.vii.-9.viii.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček & J. Ševčík leg. (SMOC), 6.vi.-6.vii.2018, 1♀, 7.viii.-11.ix.2018, 1♂1♀, 11.ix.-10.x.2018, 1♀, all M. Tkoč leg. (CULS, NMPC); Poľudnica res., top plateau, 48°45'50"N, 20°01'54"E, 960 m, MT, 9.viii.-18.ix.2013, 1♀, J. Ševčík et al. leg. (SMOC); Pohronská Polhora 5.1 km SE, Čertova dolina res., lower part, 48°43'55"N, 19°51'32"E, 620 m, MT, 17.vii.-20.viii.2024, 1♀, 20.viii.-10.ix.2024, 2♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC); Pohronská Polhora 5.3 km SE, Rosiarka res., 48°42'45"N, 19°49'29"E, 920 m, MT, 18.vii.-16.viii.2022, 1♀, 16.viii.-12.ix.2022, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (NMPC, SMOC). Cerová vrchovina PLA: Gemerské Dechtáre-Salonkáš 1.3 km NE (Velká dolina), 48°14'24"N, 19°59'53"E, 230 m, sweeping over meadow, 8.viii.2018, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Petrovce 1.6 km E, Fenek res., 48°11'05"N, 20°02'30"E, 230 m, MT, 19.vii.-17.viii.2022, 3♂, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A widespread European species (Stuke 2017) but rare in central Europe (Chvála 1961b) and hitherto unknown from the territory of Slovakia. Surprisingly, *L. signatus* was recorded from several localities in the Muránska planina NP and Cerová vrchovina PLA during our biodiversity survey. The majority of specimens was captured in Malaise traps in woodland habitats. Based on material examined it is a serotinal species, with adults occurring in VII–X. Its probable host are wasps *Vespula germanica* and *V. vulgaris* (for records see Stuke 2017). In the Czech Republic it was classified as a vulnerable species (Chvála & Barták 2005). A new addition to the fauna of Slovakia.

### \**Phyocephala pusilla* (Meigen, 1804) – Figs 11, 12

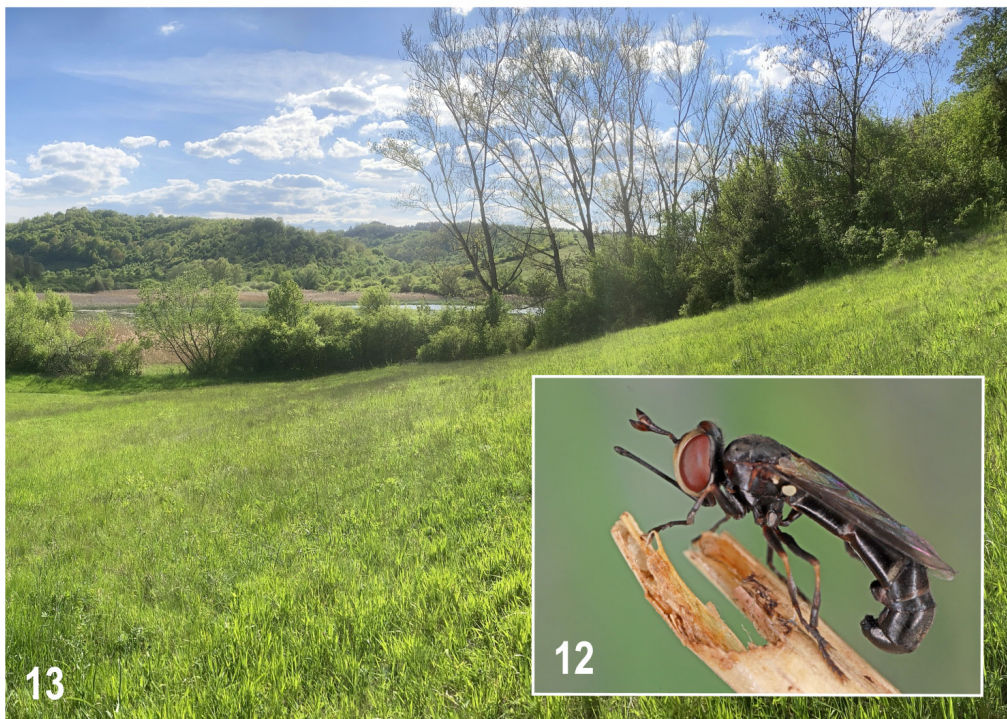
=*Phyocephala lacera* (Meigen, 1824)

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Chrámec 1.9 km SE reservoir, 48°15'51"N, 20°11'55"E, 255 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 15.vi.2023, 1♂1♀ (1♀ PHOTO), J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A widely distributed Palaearctic species but mainly occurring in southern areas of the region (see Stuke 2017). It is rare in central Europe including Slovakia where formerly recorded from only three localities (under both names, *P. pusilla* and *P. lacera*), see Chvála (1961a,b), Čepelák & Chvála (1986). The species is classified as a vulnerable (VU) in the Czech Republic (Chvála & Barták 2005, listing both *P. lacera* and *P. pusilla*). Adults occur in VI–VIII in Slovakia (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Hosts: *Bombus lapidarius*, *Ceratina callosa*, *C. cyanea*, *Megachile*



11



13

12

**Figs 11–13:** *Physocephala pusilla* (Meigen) and its habitat. 11 – *P. pusilla*, female, right laterally (Chrámec 1.9 km SE, reservoir, 15.vi.2023); 12 – same specimen, left laterally; 13 – habitat of the species, steppe meadow near Chrámec reservoir (15.vi.2023). Photos by J. Roháček.

*rotundata* and, possibly, *Anthidium* sp. (for original information see Stuke 2017). The above record from the Cerová vrchovina PLA is the first from the Gemer area.

Note: *Physocephala lacera* was treated as a vulnerable (VU) species in the Czech Republic (Chvála & Barták 2005) but this surely is a mistake inasmuch as no taxon of this name is known from the Czech Republic (see Chvála 2009). Moreover, *P. lacera* has recently been synonymized (as a larger colour morph) under *P. pusilla* by Stuke (2016).

### ***Physocephala rufipes* (Fabricius, 1781)**

=*Physocephala laticincta* (Brullé, 1832)

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Zádiel (Stuke & Barták 2004, as *P. laticincta*). Outside protected areas: Rožňava (Chvála 1961b, Čepelák & Chvála 1986), Potok (a village near Hnúšťa) (Chvála 1961b, Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP, Tisovec 2 km NW, Furmanec valley, 48°41'20"N, 19°54'59"E, 460 m, singled on flowers, 12.vii.2011, 1♀, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

Cerová vrchovina PLA: Tachty 1.1 km WSW, Gortva valley, 48°09'05"N, 19°55'32"E, 280 m, boggy meadow, MT, 14.vii.-20.viii.2021, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A Palaearctic species reaching to western parts of Oriental Region (Stuke 2017). Together with *P. vittata* (see below) it is the most frequent species of *Physocephala* in Slovakia (see Chvála 1961b, Čepelák & Chvála 1986, Roháček 2009), being also known from the Gemer area (see published records above). Adults activity: V–X. Hosts: various *Bombus* species and possibly also *Andrena marginata*, *Apis mellifera*, *Vespa rufa* and *V. vulgaris* (for details see Stuke 2017). Surprisingly, only one specimen each was collected in the Muránska planina NP and Cerová vrchovina PLA during our survey, representing first records from these protected areas.

### ***Physocephala vittata* (Fabricius, 1794)**

=*Physocephala fraterna* (Loew, 1847)

=*Physocephala truncata* auctt. not *Physocephala truncata* (Loew, 1847)

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Plešivec, Krásna Hôrka (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'49.2"N, 19°58'21.9"E, 270 m, MT, 12.vii.-10.viii.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (SMOC).

Slovenský kras NP: Plešivec, Hôrka, 25.vii.1977, 1♂, Barabás leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A species widely distributed in the Palaearctic and Afrotropical Regions (see Stuke 2017). In Slovakia it is similarly common and frequent as *P. rufipes* and was recorded from a number of localities (see Chvála 1961b, Čepelák & Chvála 1986, Stuke & Kehlmaier 2008, as *P. fraterna*). Adults activity: V–VIII. Hosts: *Apis mellifera*, *Bombus* spp., *Megachile* spp., *Tetralonia malvae*, *Philanthus triangulum* and possibly also many other Apidae, some Vespidae, and even (but most probably erroneously) Caelifera: Acrididae: *Oedipoda caerulescens* (for review of hosts see Stuke 2017). However, the records from the Gemer area remain scarce (see above), including that first from the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

Note: Čepelák & Chvála (1986) erroneously published a record of *P. vittata* from “Krásna Hôrka” but it in fact refers to Hôrka hill near Plešivec based on specimen revised here (see above in the Material paragraph).



**Figs 14–15:** *Dalmannia punctata* (Fabricius) and its habitat. 14 – *D. punctata*, female, left laterally (voucher specimen from Slovenský kras NP: Lukášova bučina nr. Silica, 25.v.1987); 15 – habitat of the species, steppe and forest-steppe at *Quercus cerris* forest near Hajnáčka-Gortva (7.iv.2017). Photos by J. Roháček.

## DALMANNIINAE

### *Dalmania punctata* (Fabricius, 1794) – Fig. 14

**Literature:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský kras NP: Silica (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Gemerské Dechtáre, Dechtárske vinice, 48°14'37.4"N, 20°0'50.7"E, 232 m, MT, 11.iv.-26.iv.2024, 1♂, A. Balázs leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'52"N, 19°58'16"E, 240 m, MT, 27.iv.-15.vi.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Jesenské, Bartova pustatina [Barta-puszta], 48°17'30.8"N, 20°3'51.8"E, 212 m, burned meadow, MT, 13.iv.-28.iv.2023, 1♂, A. Balázs leg. (NMPC).

Slovenský kras NP: Lukášova buč. (Silica), 25.v.1987, 1♀, J. Čepelák leg et det. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A Palaearctic species, widespread in Europe (Stuke 2017) but locally rare and even endangered (Stuke, personal communication, 2025). It is most frequent species of *Dalmania* in Slovakia, known from more localities, including two from the Gemer area (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). It seems to be a vernal species (IV–VI) associated with xerotherm meadows (for habitat in the Cerová vrchovina PLA see Fig. 15). Host unknown. First records from the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

## MYOPINAE

### \*\**Merziella longirostris* (Lyneborg, 1962) – Figs 16, 17

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Chrámec 3 km SW (Vlčia dolina), 48°15'58"N, 20°09'01"E, 220 m, 13.vii.2023, sweeping over steppe & pasture meadow, 1♂ (PHOTO), J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A rare West Palaearctic species, with scattered distribution in Europe (Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, European Russia, Ukraine) and W. Asia: Armenia, Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkey) (Stuke 2017). Adults activity: VI–VII. Considering its infrequent occurrence, it is rather surprising that its host might be the honey bee (*Apis mellifera*), see Zimina (2000). First record of the genus and species from Slovakia. Because of its general rarity it is suggested to treat this species as an endangered (EN) species in Slovakia.

### *Myopa buccata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Literature:** Muránska planina NP: Muránská Huta (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský kras NP: Zádiel, Plešivec-Koniar (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský raj NP: Mária Magdaléna (Straka 1981, Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Pohronská Polhora 5.3 km SE, Rosiarka res., 48°42'45"N, 19°49'29"E, 920 m, MT, 26.v.-21.vi.2022, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC); Tisovec 3.9 km NW, Trstie res., 48°39'39"N, 19°59'21"E, 1100 m, MT, 14.vi.-12.vii.2023, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

Cerová vrchovina PLA: Drňa, Bálint-puszta, 48°15'23.8"N, 20°6'44.7"E, 213 m, MT, 13.iv.-28.iv.2023, 1♂, A. Balázs leg. (NMPC); Gemerské Dechtáre, Dechtárske vinice, 48°14'37.4"N, 20°0'50.7"E, 232 m, MT, 13.iv.-28.iv.2023, 1♂, A. Balázs leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Buková 0.4 km NNE, 48°13'38.9"N, 19°58'24.9"E, 390 m, MT, 22.iii.-26.iv.2018, 1♀, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'52"N, 19°58'16"E, 240 m, MT, 15.vi.-12.vii.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 1.1 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'48"N, 19°58'22"E, 265 m, 4.iv.-16.v.2024, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC); Hodejovec, Bizofalapuszta, 48°17'5"N, 19°58'49"E, 216 m, MT, 26.iv.-9.v.2024, 1♂, A. Balázs leg. (NMPC); Jestice 1.3 km SSE, Hradisko Mt., 48°12'31"N, 20°03'39"E, 255 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 11.v.2022, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Petrovce 1.6 km E, Fenek res., 48°11'05"N, 20°02'30"E, 230 m, MT, 3.-25.v.2022, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC); Tachty 1.1 km WSW, Gortva valley, 48°09'05"N, 19°55'32"E, 280 m, boggy meadow, MT, 3.iv.-21.v.2019, 2♀, J. Roháček & J. Ševčík leg. (NMPC).



**Figs 16–18:** *Merziella longirostris* (Lyneborg) and its habitat. 16 – *M. longirostris*, male, right laterally (Chrámec 3 km SW, Vlčia dolina, 13.vii.2023); 17 – same specimen, left laterally; 18 – habitat of the species, steppe and pasture meadow in the Vlčia dolina valley nr. Chrámec (13.vii.2023). Photos by J. Roháček.

**Remarks:** A common and widespread Transpalearctic species, except for boreal belt (see Stuke 2017); frequently recorded also from Slovakia, including the Gemer area, where it is the most common species of the genus *Myopa* (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Adult activity: IV–VII. Probable hosts: several *Andrena* species, *Bombus* spec., Vespidae s. str. (for detail see Stuke 2017). First records from the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

### ***Myopa dorsalis* Fabricius, 1794**

**Literature:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Filakovo (Čepelák 1959, Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Remarks:** A widespread species known from many countries of the Palearctic Region and also from India (Stuke 2017). However, it has recently become very rare in Central Europe (Stuke, personal communication, 2025). In Slovakia *M. dorsalis* is also an uncommon species, recorded from a few localities including one from the Gemer area (see above) but these records are old (see Chvála 1965). Adults occur in V–VII; probable host is *Andrena labialis* (for details see Stuke 2017). However, *Myopa dorsalis* has not been recently found during our field work performed in the Gemer area.

### ***Myopa hirsuta* Stuke & Clements, 2008**

=*Myopa strandi* auctt.

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Jesenské, Bartova pustatina [Barta-pusztá], 48°17'30.8"N, 20°3'51.8"E, 212 m, MT, burned meadow, 13.iv.-28.iv.2023, 2♀, 28.iv.-12.v.2023, 1♀, all A. Balázs leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Buková 0.4 km NNE, 48°13'38.9"N, 19°58'24.9"E, 390 m, MT, 26.iv.-7.vi.2018, 1♀, J. Roháček, M. Tkoč & J. Ševčík leg. (NMPC).

**Remarks:** A Palearctic species known from Europe, N. Africa and W. Asia (Stuke 2017). It seems to be uncommon in central Europe and in Slovakia it was recorded from only a few localities (see Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986, both as *M. strandi*) although it could be partly overlooked due to an early vernal flight period and possible confusion with other species of the *M. testacea*-group. Adults activity: IV–VII (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Host: *Andrena vaga* (for details see Stuke 2017). First records from the Cerová vrchovina PLA and the whole of the Gemer territory.

### **\**Myopa morio* Meigen, 1804 – Fig. 19**

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Gemerské Dechtáre-Salonkás 1.3 km NE (Velká dolina), 48°14'24"N, 19°59'53"E, 230 m, sweeping forest steppe vegetation, 26.iv.2018, 1♂ (PHOTO), J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'49.2"N, 19°58'21.9"E, 270 m, MT, sparse forest, 27.iv.-15.vi.2017, 1♀, M. Tkoč et al. leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 1.1 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'48"N, 19°58'22"E, 265 m, MT, 4.iv.-16.v.2024, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A small dark species widely distributed in West Palearctic area, except for northern parts (Stuke 2017). Chvála (1965) considered it rare in central Europe. In the Czech Republic it was treated as a vulnerable species (Chvála & Barták 2005). In Slovakia there are records from several localities in warm areas (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Adults activity: IV–VII (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Host unknown. First records from the Cerová vrchovina PLA and the whole Gemer area.

### ***Myopa occulta* Wiedemann, 1824**

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Plešivec (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský raj NP: Lipovec (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Remarks:** A widespread Palearctic species, occurring in North Africa, Europe and Asia, except for northern parts (Stuke 2017), known also from several localities in Slovakia (Čepelák & Chvála 1986) including two from the Gemer area (see above). Adults activity: IV–VIII (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Host unknown. Unfortunately, *M. occulta* has hitherto not been found in the protected areas under study during our biodiversity survey.



**Figs 19–20:** *Myopa morio* Meigen and its habitat. 19 – *M. morio*, male, right laterally (Gemerské Dechtáre-Salonkás 1.3 km NE, 26.iv.2018); 20 – habitat of the species, steppe meadow (in foreground) in the Velká dolina nr. Gemerské Dechtáre-Salonkás (26.iv.2018). Photos by J. Roháček.

## ***Myopa pellucida* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830**

=*Myopa extricata* Collin, 1960

**Literature:** Slovenský raj NP: Mária Magdaléna (Straka 1981).

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Gemerské Dechtáre, Dechtárske vinice, 48°14'32"N, 20°0'57.6"E, 237 m, MT, 12.v.-26.v.2023, 1♂, A. Balázs leg. (NMPC); Gemerské Dechtáre-Salonkáš 1.3 km NE (Veľká dolina), 48°14'24"N, 19°59'53"E, 230 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 7.vi.2018, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Hajnáčka-Buková 0.4 km NNE, 48°13'38.9"N, 19°58'24.9"E, 390 m, MT, 22.iii.-26.iv.2018, 1♀, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Buková 0.4 km NNE, 48°13'39"N, 19°58'25"E, 375 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 26.iv.2018, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'52"N, 19°58'16"E, 240 m, MT, 27.iv.-15.vi.2017, 2♀, 15.vi.-12.vii.2017, 7♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (CULS, NMPC, SMOC); Jestice 1.3 km SSE, Hradisko Mt., 48°12'31"N, 20°03'39"E, 255 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 11.v.2022, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Tachty 1.1 km WSW, Gortva valley, 48°09'05"N, 19°55'32"E, 280 m, boggy meadow, MT, 21.v.-9.vi.2019, 1♀, J. Roháček & J. Ševčík leg. (NMPC); Tachty 2.1 km WSW, Gortva valley, 48°08'45"N, 19°54'53"E, 315 m, forest, MT, 3.iv.-21.v.2019, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).

**Remarks:** A widespread Palaearctic species, ranging from Portugal to Afghanistan, also known from Slovakia (Chvála 1965, Straka 1981, Čepelák & Chvála 1986, all as *M. extricata*; Stuke & Kehlmaier 2008). It is associated with warm open habitats. Adults activity: IV–VII. Probable host: *Andrena cineraria* (for detail see Stuke 2017). An uncommon species in Slovakia, the above records are the first from the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

## ***Myopa polystigma* Rondani, 1857**

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Pohronská Polhora 5.3 km SE, Rosiarka res., 48°42'45"N, 19°49'29"E, 920 m, MT, 26.v.-21.vi.2022, 1♂, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).  
Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hajnáčka-Buková 0.4 km NNE, 48°13'38.9"N, 19°58'24.9"E, 390 m, MT, 22.iii.-26.iv.2018, 1♂, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).

**Remarks:** A Palaearctic species, widespread in Europe (Stuke 2017) but uncommon in Slovakia (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986, Straka & Majzlan 2008). A vernal species, adults occur in IV–VI (Čepelák & Chvála 1986, material examined). Host unknown. First records from both protected territories under study and the whole of the Gemer area.

## ***Myopa stigma* Meigen, 1824**

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Silica (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Remarks:** A widespread species, known from southern and temperate belts of the Palaearctic but also from Afrotropical Region (Stuke 2017). It is known from several localities in Slovakia (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986, Čepelák & Čepelák 1991), including one in the Gemer area (see above). A vernal (IV–V) praticalous species (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Host unknown. It has hitherto not been ascertained during the biodiversity studies of Diptera in the Muránska planina NP or Cerová vrchovina PLA.

## ***Myopa tessellatipennis* Motschulsky, 1859 – Figs 21, 22**

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Chrámec 3 km SW (Vlčia dolina), 48°15'58"N, 20°09'01"E, 220 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 15.vi.2023, 1♀ (PHOTO), J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Hostice, pond, 48°14'49"N, 20°4'36"E, 230 m, sweeping wet meadow, 15.vi.2023, 2♂, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).

**Remarks:** A Palaearctic species but obviously restricted to its temperate belt, widespread in Europe but absent in southern parts (Stuke 2017). In Slovakia it is a rare species, recorded from only three localities (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Adults activity: IV–VI. Probable hosts: *Andrena barbilabris*, *A. flavipes* (for original records see Stuke 2017). First records from the Cerová vrchovina PLA and the whole Gemer area.



**Figs 21–23:** *Myopa tessellatipennis* Motschulsky and its habitat. 21 – *M. tessellatipennis*, female, right laterally (Chrámec 3 km SW, Vlčia dolina, 15.vi.2023); 22 – same specimen, dorsally; 23 – habitat of the species, steppe meadow on slope of the Vlčia dolina nr. Chrámec (15.vi.2023). Photos by J. Roháček.

## *Myopa testacea* (Linnaeus, 1767)

**Literature:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Radzovce-Obručná (Straka 2016). Slovenský kras NP: Domica, Silica (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Outside protected areas: Vyšná Pokoradz (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986), Dlhá Ves (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Tisovec 3.9 km NW, Trstie res., 48°39'39"N, 19°59'21"E, 1100 m, MT, 10.v.-14.vi.2023, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

Cerová vrchovina PLA: Jesenské, Bartova pustatina [Barta-puszta], 48°17'21.1"N, 20°3'41.3"E, 260 m, MT, 26.iv.-9.v.2024, 1♀, A. Balázs leg. (NMPC); Šiatorská Bukovinka 1.1 km SW, Lazy, 48°10'41"N, 19°48'59"E, 394 m, MT, 4.iv.-16.v.2024, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC); Tachty 2.1 km WSW, Gortva valley, 48°08'45"N, 19°54'53"E, 315 m, forest, MT, 3.iv.-21.v.2019, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).

Outside protected areas: Dlhá Ves (nr. Plešivec), 20.iv.1960, 1♂, Čepelák leg. et det. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A widespread species distributed throughout the Palaearctic Region and also recorded from India (Stuke 2017). In Slovakia, there are several records including those from the Gemer area (see Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986, Straka 2016). A frequent species in central Europe, adults occur in IV–VII. Hosts: *Andrena vaga* and probably also *A. japonica*, *A. scotica* and *Vespula vulgaris* (for detail see Stuke 2017). First record from the Muránska planina NP.

## *Myopa vicaria* Walker, 1849

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Tisovec 3.4 km W, Teplica, 48°41'22"N, 19°53'57"E, 490 m, MT, 4.iv.-20.v.2019, 1♂1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC, SMOC).

Cerová vrchovina PLA: Tachty 1.1 km WSW, Gortva valley, 48°09'05"N, 19°55'32"E, 280 m, boggy meadow, MT, 3.iv.-21.v.2019, 1♀, J. Roháček & J. Ševčík leg. (NMPC).

**Remarks:** A Holarctic species, known from North America and Europe, where mainly found in temperate and northern parts. It is rare in Slovakia, hitherto only found in three localities (see Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Adults acitivity: IV–V (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Host: *Andrena regularis* in N. America (for details see Stuke 2017), probably some other species of *Andrena* in Europe. First records from the Muránska planina NP, Cerová vrchovina PLA and the whole of the Gemer territory.

## *Sicus ferrugineus* (Linnaeus, 1761) – Fig. 24

**Literature:** Muránska planina NP: Havrania [dolina] (Straka & Smetana 2006, erroneously as *Sicus abdominalis*). Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hajnáčka (Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský kras NP: Silica, Rožňavske kúpele, Krásna Hôrka, Zádiel (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň-Hrdzavá dolina res., 48°44'48.5"N, 20°01'35.4"E, 450 m, PT (red+yellow), 13.viii.2015, 1♀, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Muráň-Hrdzavá dolina, 48°44'54.1"N, 20°00'35.7"E, 580 m, sweeping vegetation, 12.viii.2015, 1♂, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45"N, 19°59'19"E, 580 m, MT, 14.vi.-11.vii.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (NMPC); Muránska Lehota 3.7 km S, above Javorníčková dolina, 48°43'15"N, 19°59'56"E, 780 m, MT, 11.vi.-13.viii.2015, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); same locality, singled on flowers, 1♀, 11.vi.2015, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Pohronská Polhora, salaš Zbojská, under Kučalach Mt., 48°44.8'N, 19°52.3'E, 1045 m, sweeping, 15.vii.2014, 1♂1♀, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Tisovec 1 km S, Vachtové jazierko res., 48°39'58"N, 19°56'34"E, 386 m, sweeping over boggy meadow, 23.vi.2012, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Tisovec 3.9 km NW, Trstie res., 48°39'39"N, 19°59'21"E, 1100 m, MT, 10.vii.-16.viii.2023, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

Cerová vrchovina PLA: Chrámec 1.9 km SE reservoir, 48°15'51"N, 20°11'55"E, 255 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 15.vi.2023, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Drňa, Bálint-puszta, Póka, 48°15'36.6"N, 20°07'21.7"E, 218 m, burned meadow, MT, 21.vi.-9.vii.2024, 1♀, A. Balázs leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala hill), 48°14'52"N, 19°58'16"E, 240 m, MT, 15.vi.-12.vii.2017, 1♂2♀, 12.vii.-10.viii.2017, 2♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (CULS, NMPC, SMOC); Tachty 1.1 km WSW, Gortva valley, 48°09'05"N, 19°55'32"E, 280 m, MT, boggy meadow, 19.vi.-24.vii.2019, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).



**Figs 24–25:** *Sicus ferrugineus* (Linnaeus) and its habitat. 24 – *S. ferrugineus*, mating pair (male above), right laterally (documentary photo from the Czech Republic, Jizerka, 1.vi.2017); 25 – habitat of the species, steppe meadow near Hajnáčka-Gortva (below Steblová hill), with M. Tkoč in foreground (12.vii.2017). Photos by J. Roháček.

Slovenský kras NP: Háj env., Hačavská dolina, sweeping undergrowth of wood, 15.viii.1981, 1♂1♀, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A Palearctic species also reaching to Afrotropical and Oriental Regions (Stuke 2017). In Slovakia, it is the most common species of Conopidae and was recorded in a number of papers (for review of them see Stuke 2017) including those dealing with findings in the Gemer area (see above). Adults activity: V–IX. Hosts: various *Bombus* species and, possibly, also some *Andrena* spp., *Anthidium* spec., *Dasypoda altercator* and *Vespa vulgaris* (for more detail see Stuke 2017). *S. ferrugineus* proved to be also the most frequent conopid species in our biodiversity survey in the Muránska planina NP and Cerová vrchovina PLA.

Note: Straka & Smetana (2006) published a series of records of *Sicus abdominalis* Kröber, 1915 from Slovakia. These records originate from a number of localities (including that from Gemer: Muránska planina: Havrania [dolina]). Because simultaneously Straka & Smetana (2006) have not listed any specimen of *S. ferrugineus* we consider their identification erroneous and in fact dealing with the latter common species.

### **\*\**Sicus nigratarsis* Zimina, 1975 – Fig. 26**

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'52"N, 19°58'16"E, 240 m, MT, 12.vii.-10.viii.2017, 1♂, 10.viii.-6.ix.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček et al. leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A very rare species hitherto only known from central Europe (Germany, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Switzerland), European and Asian Russia and Turkey (Stuke 2017), in Russia reaching to Altai Mts (Bessonova & Galinskaya 2016). Because of its rarity, its biology is poorly known. Adults were recorded in VII–X. Probable host: *Bombus terrestris* (for detail see Stuke 2017). First record from Slovakia. Due to its extreme scarcity in central Europe *S. nigratarsis* should be considered an endangered (EN) species in Slovakia.

### ***Thecophora atra* (Fabricius, 1775) – Figs 28, 30**

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Silica (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986). Slovenský raj NP: Stratená (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň 1.7 km W, Hrdzavá dolina, 48°44'52"N, 20°01'37"E, 450 m, sweeping over meadow, 15.vii.2014, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

Cerová vrchovina PLA: Drňa, Bálint-pusztá, Póka, 48°15'36.6"N, 20°07'21.7"E, 218 m, burned meadow, MT, 26.iv.-9.v.2024, 1♂, A. Balázs leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E, 48°14'51"N, 19°58'12"E, 240 m, sweeping forest-steppe vegetation, 12.vii.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'49"N, 19°58'22"E, 270 m, MT, 27.iv.-15.vi.2017, 1♀, 12.vii.-10.viii.2017, 1♂2♀, 10.viii.-6.ix.2017, 2♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg.; Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'40"N, 19°58'38.1"E, 350 m, sweeping vegetation, 12.vii.2017, 1♂, M. Tkoč leg. (all NMPC); Tachty 1 km W, nr. dam, 48°09'06"N, 19°55'46"E, 290 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 13.vii.2017, 1♀ (PHOTO), J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A species with Palearctic and partly also Oriental distribution (Stuke 2017). In Slovakia known from both lowlands and mountains, including older records from the Gemer area (see above). Adults activity: IV–X. Hosts: *Halictus maculatus*, *Lasioglossum lineare*; doubtfully also *Halictus nitidiusculus*, *H. scabiosae*, *Lasioglossum glabriusculum*, *L. malachurum*, *L. morio*, *L. nigripes*, *L. pauxillum* (Stuke 2017). New records for both the Muránska planina NP and the Cerová vrchovina PLA.



**Figs 26–27:** *Sicus nigratarsis* Zimina and its habitat. 26 – *S. nigratarsis*, female, left laterally (voucher specimen from Malaise trap in Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E, under Steblová skala, 10.viii.-6.ix.2017, dried from ethanol); 27 – habitat of the species, forest-steppe with Malaise trap in the above locality (27.ix.2017). Photos by J. Roháček.



**Figs 28–30:** *Thecophora atra* (Fabricius) and its habitat. 28 – *T. atra*, female, left laterally (Tachty 1 km W, nr. dam, 13.vii.2017); 29 – habitat of the species, steppe meadow on slope above dam near Tachty (19.vi.2019); 30 – same species, female subdorsally. Photos by J. Roháček.

## **\*\**Thecophora bimaculata* (Preysler, 1791)**

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E, under Steblová skala hill, 48°14'51"N, 19°58'12"E, 240 m, MT, 10.viii.-6.ix.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).

**Remarks:** A Palearctic species known from central (Austria, Czech Republic, Germany), eastern, southern and western Europe, Georgia and Turkey, recorded from lowlands to mountains (Stuke 2006, 2017). Adults activity: V–IX. Hosts unknown. First record from Slovakia. However, it cannot be excluded that some older Slovak records of this species were already published as *Thecophora pusilla* auct.

## ***Thecophora cinerascens* (Meigen, 1804)**

=*Thecophora pusilla* (Meigen, 1824)

**Literature:** Muránska planina NP: Tisovec-Hradová (Čepelák & Chvála 1986, as *T. pusilla*). Slovenský kras NP: Plešivec, Silica (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986, as *T. pusilla*).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Poľudnica res., top plateau, 48°45'50"N, 20°01'54"E, 960 m, MT, 9.viii.-18.ix.2013, 1♀, J. Ševčík et al. leg. (SMOC).

Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hajnáčka-Buková, 48°13'41"N, 19°58'23.8"E, 390 m, sweeping, 8.viii.2018, 1♀, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'52"N, 19°58'16"E, 240 m, MT, 27.iv.-15.vi.2017, 2♂1♀, 15.vi.-12.vii.2017, 2♀, 12.vii.-10.viii.2017, 1♂, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (CULS, NMPC); Hostice 1 km NE, 48°14'45"N, 20°04'28"E, 190 m, sweeping over boggy meadow, 19.vii.2022, 1♀, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A Palearctic species, in central Europe presented from Austria, Czech Republic, Germany and Hungary (Stuke 2017). In Slovakia previously published (as *Thecophora pusilla*, now considered a synonym) from a series of localities including those from the Gemer area (see above). Adults activity: V–X. Hosts: *Halictus nitidusculus*, *Lasioglossum morio*, *L. pauxillum*, all host records considered doubtful by Stuke (2017). First records from the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

## ***Thecophora distincta* (Wiedemann, 1824) – Figs 31, 33**

=*Thecophora melanopa* Rondani, 1857

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Ardovo (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Cerová vrchovina PLA: Gemerské Dechtáre, 48°14'34"N, 20°01'30"E, 4.vii.2019, 1♂, J. Bezděk leg. (NMPC); Hajnáčka-Buková 0.4 km NNE, 48°13'39"N, 19°58'25"E, 375 m, MT, 8.viii.-12.ix.2018, 2♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Hostice 1 km NE, 48°14'45"N, 20°04'28"E, 190 m, sweeping over boggy meadow, 19.vii.2022, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Tachty 2.3 km SW, 48°08'34"N, 19°54'53"E, 390 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 28.viii.2019, 1♂ (PHOTO), J. Roháček leg. (SMOC). Slovenský kras NP: Ardovo, 22.vi.1960, 1♂, Čepelák leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A Palearctic species reaching also to Afrotropical Region (Stuke 2017). Previously known from several regions of Slovakia (incl. also the records under *T. melanopa*) but for the Gemer area hitherto published only once from the Slovenský kras NP. Adults activity: VI–IX. Hosts unknown. First records from the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

## ***Thecophora fulvipes* (Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830) – Fig. 34**

=*Thecophora sundewalli* (Zetterstedt, 1844)

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Ardovo (Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň 1.7 km W, Hrdzavá dolina, 48°44'52"N, 20°01'37"E, 450 m, sweeping over meadow, 15.vii.2014, 1♀, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Muráň 5.2 km SW, Šarkanica res., 48°42'45"N, 19°59'19"E, 580 m, sweeping margin of beech forest, 20.vi.2013, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Poľudnica res., top plateau,



**Figs 31–33:** *Thecophora distincta* (Wiedemann) and its habitat. 31 – *T. distincta*, male, right laterally (Tachty 2.3 km SW, 28.viii.2019); 32 – habitat of the species, steppe meadow on hill, Tachty 2.3 km SW (28.viii.2019); 33 – same species, male laterodorsally. Photos by J. Roháček.

48°45'50"N, 20°01'54"E, 960 m, MT, 9.viii.-18.ix.2013, 1♀, J. Ševčík et al. leg. (SMOC); Tisovec 3.8 km NE, Dielik pass, 48°42'03"N, 19°59'03"E, 580 m, on flowering Umbelliferae on forest margin, 14.vii.2016, 1♂ (PHOTO), J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hajnáčka-Gortva 0.9 km E (under Steblová skala), 48°14'51"N, 19°58'12"E, 240 m, MT, 15.vi.-12.vii.2017, 1♀, 10.viii.-6.ix.2017, 1♀, J. Roháček, J. Ševčík & M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Hostice 1 km NE, 48°14'45"N, 20°04'28"E, 190 m, sweeping over boggy meadow, 17.viii.2022, 1♂ (PHOTO), J. Roháček leg. (SMOC). Chrámec 3 km SW (Vlčia dolina), 48°15'58"N, 20°09'01"E, 220 m, sweeping over steppe meadow, 15.vi.2023, 1♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC).

**Remarks:** A Palaearctic species (Stuke 2017). In Slovakia known from both lowlands and mountains, incl. a record from the Gemer area (Slovenský kras NP, see above). Adults activity: V–X. Hosts: *Lasioglossum pauxillum* and *Anoplius viaticus*, both records considered doubtful by Stuke (2017). First records for both the Muránska planina NP and the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

## ZODIONINAE

### *Zodion cinereum* (Fabricius, 1794) – Fig. 36

=*Zodion notatum* (Meigen, 1804)

**Literature:** Slovenský kras NP: Jablonov nad Turňou (Chvála 1965, as *Z. notatum*), Dmica, Plešivec (Chvála 1965, Čepelák & Chvála 1986).

**Material:** Muránska planina NP: Muráň, path to Hrdzavá dolina NR, 48°44.66'N, 20°01.86'E, 430 m, sweeping on forest edge, 15.vii.2014, 1♂, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).

Cerová vrchovina PLA: Hostice, pond, 48°14'49"N, 20°04'36"E, 230 m, sweeping wet meadow, 15.vi.2023, 3♂, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC); Hostice 1 km NE, 48°14'45"N, 20°04'28"E, 190 m, sweeping over boggy meadow, 19.vii.2022, 2♂, J. Roháček leg. (SMOC); Tachty, water reservoir, 48°09'04.8"N, 19°55'42.7"E, 300 m, sweeping, 13.vii.2017, 1♂, M. Tkoč leg. (NMPC).

**Remarks:** A species known from Afrotropical, Oriental and Palaearctic Regions. Reported from numerous localities in Slovakia (cf. Stuke 2017) including those dealing with findings in the Gemer area: Slovenský kras NP (see above). Adults activity: V–IX. Hosts: *Apis mellifera*, *Halictus quadricinctus*, *H. rubicundus*, *Megachile rotundata*. Host records of *Andrena agilissima*, *Bombus* spec., *Lasioglossum nigripes* and *Odynerus* spec. are considered doubtful (Stuke 2017). First records for both the Muránska planina NP and the Cerová vrchovina PLA.

Note: *Zodion notatum* (Meigen, 1804) is now considered a synonym (colour morph) of *Z. cinereum* (Fabricius, 1794), see Mei & Stuke (2008).

## Discussion and conclusions

A total of 35 species (67.3 % of species actually recorded from Slovakia, see below) of Conopidae are currently known from the Gemer area. More than 90 % (32 species) of their local biodiversity is documented by a recently collected voucher material (altogether 295 specimens studied) and only three species (*Myopa dorsalis*, *M. occulta*, *M. stigma*) are mentioned just on the basis of older literature sources. Of these, 20 species are now confirmed to live in the Muránska planina NP, 29 in the Cerová vrchovina PLA, 18 in the Slovenský kras NP, 7 in the Slovenský raj NP and 5 were recorded from outside these protected areas. Thus, the fauna of Conopidae is thanks to our long-term biodiversity studies relatively well known in the Muránska planina NP and the Cerová vrchovina PLA, while it is underinvestigated in other protected areas of the Gemer area. The richest species spectrum found in the Cerová vrchovina PLA clearly reflects the warm climate and natural environment of the area, with well-preserved xerothermophilous forest and steppe habitats. Supposedly, a similar rich community of Conopidae occurs also in the Slovenský kras NP (as indicated by formerly published



**Figs 34–35:** *Thecophora fulvipes* (Robineau-Desvoidy) and its habitat. 34 – *T. fulvipes*, male, right laterally (Hostice 1 km NE, 17.viii.2022); 35 – habitat of the species, mowed boggy meadow near Hostice (17.viii.2022). Photos by J. Roháček.



**Figs 36–37:** *Zodion cinereum* (Fabricius) and its habitat. 36 – *Z. cinereum*, male, left laterally (voucher specimen from Hostice 1 km NE, 19.vii.2022); 37 – habitat of the species, boggy meadow near pond, Hostice 1 km NE (19.vii.2022). Photos by J. Roháček.

records, see Čepelák & Chvála 1986) having similar natural conditions but to demonstrate this specially aimed biodiversity research should be performed in this protected area. On the other hand, the montane and largely woodland habitats in the Slovenský raj NP probably host fauna of Conopidae similar to that found in the Muránska planina NP.

It is to remark that in other (similarly wooded) protected areas of Slovakia where the fauna of Diptera was systematically studied for a long time, significantly less species of Conopidae were found, viz., in the Poľana Biosphere Reserve only 10 species (Roháček 2009) and in the Bukovské vrchy Mts only 12 species (Roháček 1995). However, in these areas the Malaise traps were not (Bukovské vrchy Mts) or only partly (Poľana Mts) used.

Five species, viz., *Leopoldius breviostris*, *L. signatus*, *Merziella longirostris*, *Sicus nigritarsis* and *Thecophora bimaculata* are added here to the fauna of Slovakia. Altogether 14 species (those 5 listed above plus *Abrachyglossum capitatum*, *Conops silaceus*, *Leopoldius diadematus*, *Physocephala pusilla*, *Myopa hirsuta*, *M. morio*, *M. polystigma*, *M. tessellatipennis*, *M. vicaria*) are recorded from the Gemer area for the first time; 14 species are new additions to the Muránska planina NP and 24 species to the Cerová vrchovina PLA. These high numbers indicate that the fauna of Conopidae was insufficiently studied not only in the Gemer areas (in the Cerová vrchovina PLA in particular) but also in Slovakia as a whole despite the previous efforts of J. Čepelák and M. Chvála (Čepelák 1959, Čepelák & Chvála 1986, Chvála 1961a,b, 1965) and recent additions by Semelbauer & Grechová (2019) and Semelbauer et al. (2023, 2025).

From the methodological point of view, the occurrence of rarely collected species (sometimes even numerous, e.g. *Leopoldius* spp.) in the material from Malaise traps is remarkable. It is obvious that use of these traps significantly increases the number of recorded species, particularly in forested and forest-steppe habitats where the netting of Conopidae is little productive.

The Gemer area proved to host a mixture of species associated with open and woodland habitats. Most species of Conopidae inhabit warm and xeric habitats following their hymenopterous hosts but, surprisingly, there is also a group of species preferably occurring in forests, such as are practically all species of *Leopoldius* and some species of *Conops*, e.g. *C. silaceus*, *C. strigatus*, *C. vesicularis*. Several distinctly thermophilous species of southern origin have been recorded from the Gemer territory, mostly in its warmest parts and habitats. These include e.g. *Conops silaceus*, *Physocephala pusilla*, *Myopa hirsuta*.

**Faunistically significant species:** *Conops silaceus*, *Leopoldius breviostris*, *L. diadematus*, *L. signatus*, *Physocephala pusilla*, *Merziella longirostris*, *Myopa morio*, *Sicus nigritarsis*, *Thecophora bimaculata*. Except for the latter, all others belong to species rarely recorded from central Europe although some of them (e. g. *Conops silaceus* and other distinctly thermophilous species) are supposed to possibly benefit from climate change and may further expand into new, more northern, areas in the near future (Semelbauer, personal communication, 2025).

**Endangered Conopidae.** As mentioned above (in Material and methods) no species of Conopidae has hitherto been placed among endangered Diptera in Slovakia (see Jedlička & Stloukalová 2001). In the redlist of Diptera of the Czech Republic (Chvála & Barták 2005) as many as 17 species (currently only 14 inasmuch as 3 species are now synonyms of other species) are listed, all classified as vulnerable. However, there are several species which should

be considered threatened, at least because of their general rarity in central Europe and limited number of occurrence sites in Slovakia. Among species recorded from the Gemer area at least the following are suggested to belong to endangered (EN): *Merziella longirostris*, *Sicus nigratarsis*, and vulnerable (VU): *Conops silaceus*, *Leopoldius brevirostris*, *L. diadematus*, *L. signatus*, *Physocephala pusilla* and *Myopa morio*.

**Most significant localities** of Conopidae in the Gemer area. In the Muránska planina NP the Šarkanica reserve was found to host most diverse fauna of Conopidae, with 10 species recorded: *Abrachyglossum capitatum*, *Conops flavipes*, *C. strigatus*, *C. vesicularis*, *Leopoldius brevirostris*, *L. coronatus*, *L. diadematus*, *L. signatus*, *Sicus ferrugineus* and *Thecophora fulvipes*. The presence of four species of *Leopoldius* (three of them considered vulnerable) is particularly unusual, including two species (*Leopoldius brevirostris*, *L. signatus*) first recorded from Slovakia.

In the Cerová vrchovina PLA, the locality Hajnáčka-Gortva (under Steblová hill) yielded as many as 11 species: *Conops scutellatus*, *Dalmannia punctata*, *Myopa buccata*, *M. morio*, *M. pellucida*, *Sicus ferrugineus*, *S. nigratarsis*, *Thecophora atra*, *T. bimaculata*, *T. cinerascens* and *T. fulvipes*, including two new additions to the fauna of Slovakia (*S. nigratarsis*, *T. bimaculata*) and one endangered (*S. nigratarsis*) and one vulnerable (*M. morio*) species.

## Updated checklist of Conopidae of Slovakia

The present checklist is based on the *Checklist of Diptera of the Czech Republic and Slovakia, electronic version 2* for family Conopidae (Chvála 2009). It is updated by species recently discovered by Semelbauer & Grechová (2019), Semelbauer et al. (2023, 2025) and by species added from the current Gemer survey. The nomenclature was newly revised and modified after Stuke (2017), and the taxa on subfamily, genus and species level are listed alphabetically. Compared to the last version of the checklist, six species were deleted due to synonymization (see Stuke 2017): *Conops longiventris* (junior synonym of *C. flavifrons*), *Physocephala lacera* (j. s. of *P. pusilla*), *Physocephala laticincta* (j. s. of *P. rufipes*), *Physocephala truncata* (j. s. of *P. vittata*), *Thecophora melanopa* (j. s. of *T. distincta*), *Thecophora pusilla* (j. s. of *T. cinerascens*; however, the latter species was not included in the previous checklist version by Chvála 2009), *Zodion notatum* (j. s. of *Z. cinereum*). Altogether nine species are newly added here for Slovakia, plus one historically recorded but overlooked (in all previous checklists) species, *Physocephala nigra*. Compared to previous version (Chvála 2009) the number of species has been actually increased only by four and, therefore, the present list includes 52 species from Slovakia (“SK” in the explanations below).

## CONOPINAE

- Abrachyglossum* Kröber, 1919
  - capitatum* (Loew, 1847)
- Conops* Linnaeus, 1758
  - ceriaeformis* Meigen, 1824
  - flavifrons* Meigen, 1804
  - syn. *longiventris* Kröber, 1916

- flavipes* Linnaeus, 1758  
 syn. *melanocephalus* Meigen, 1804  
 syn. *nigritus* Čepelák, 1940  
*insignis* Loew, 1848 (1)  
*quadrifasciatus* De Geer, 1776  
*scutellatus* Meigen, 1804  
*silaceus* Wiedemann, 1824 (2)  
*strigatus* Wiedemann, 1824  
*vesicularis* Linnaeus, 1761  
*Leopoldius* Rondani, 1843  
*brevirostris* (Germar, 1827) (3)  
*coronatus* (Rondani, 1857)  
*diadematus* Rondani, 1845  
*signatus* (Wiedemann, 1824) (4)  
*valvatus* (Kröber, 1914) (5)  
*Physocephala* Schiner, 1861  
*chrysorrhoea* (Meigen, 1824)  
*nigra* (De Geer, 1776) (6)  
*pusilla* (Meigen, 1804)  
 syn. *lacera* (Meigen, 1824)  
*rufipes* (Fabricius, 1781)  
 syn. *laticincta* (Brullé, 1832)  
*vittata* (Fabricius, 1794)  
 syn. *fraterna* (Loew, 1847)

#### DALMANNIINAE

- Dalmannia* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830  
*aculeata* (Linnaeus, 1761)  
*marginata* (Meigen, 1824)  
*punctata* (Fabricius, 1794)

#### MYOPINAE

- Melanosoma* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1853  
*bicolor* (Meigen, 1824)  
*Merziella* Stuke, 2014  
*longirostris* (Lyneborg, 1962) (7)  
*Myopa* Fabricius, 1775  
*buccata* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
*dorsalis* Fabricius, 1794  
*fasciata* Meigen, 1804  
*hirsuta* Stuke & Clements, 2008 (8)  
*morio* Meigen, 1804  
*occulta* Wiedemann, 1824  
*pellucida* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830  
 syn. *extricata* Collin, 1960  
*picta* Panzer, 1798

- polystigma* Rondani, 1857  
*stigma* Meigen, 1824  
*tessellatipennis* Motschulsky, 1859  
*testacea* (Linnaeus, 1767)  
*variegata* Meigen, 1804  
*vicaria* Walker, 1849  
*Myopotta* Zimina, 1969  
*pallipes* (Wiedemann, 1824)  
*rubripes* (Villeneuve, 1909)  
*Sicus* Scopoli, 1763  
*alpinus* Stuke, 2002  
*ferrugineus* (Linnaeus, 1761)  
*fusenensis* Ôuchi, 1939  
*nigritarsis* Zimina, 1975 (9)  
*Thecophora* Rondani, 1845  
*atra* (Fabricius, 1775)  
*bimaculata* (Preyssler, 1791) (10)  
*cinerascens* (Meigen, 1804)  
syn. *pusilla* (Meigen, 1824)  
*distincta* (Wiedemann, 1824)  
syn. *melanopa* Rondani, 1857  
*fulvipes* (Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830)  
syn. *sundewalli* (Zetterstedt, 1844)

#### ZODIONINAE

- Zodion* Latreille, 1797  
*cinereum* (Fabricius, 1794)  
syn. *notatum* (Meigen, 1804)  
*nigritarsis* (Strobl, 1902) (11)

#### Explanations:

- (1) In Semelbauer et al. (2023).
- (2) In Semelbauer & Grechová (2019).
- (3) In the present paper, first documented records for SK.
- (4) In the present paper, first records for SK.
- (5) In Semelbauer & Grechová (2019).
- (6) In Szilády (1925). The occurrence in Slovakia was not reflected in previous checklist versions (cf. Chvála 1987, 1997, 2006, 2009).
- (7) In the present paper, first record for SK.
- (8) In the previous checklist version (Chvála 2009) as *Myopa strandi* Duda.
- (9) In the present paper, first records for SK.
- (10) In the present paper, first record for SK.
- (11) In Semelbauer et al. (2025).

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## Fauna čeledi Conopidae (Diptera) v Gemerské oblasti (střední Slovensko) se seznamem druhů Česka a Slovenska

Je podán přehled dvoukřídlých čeledi očnatkovití – Conopidae (Diptera) zjištěných v Gemerské oblasti (Slovensko), která zahrnuje národní parky Muránska planina, Slovenský raj, Slovenský kras a chráněnou krajinnou oblast Cerová vrchovina. V oblasti Gemeru bylo zjištěno celkem 35 druhů této čeledi, a to jak na základě dříve publikovaných údajů, tak nově studovaného materiálu (převážně z NP Muránska planina a CHKO Cerová vrchovina). Každý z těchto druhů je pojednán s informacemi o jeho celkovém rozšíření, faunistice na Slovensku, bionomii a případně významu pro ochranu přírody. Regionální fauna Gemeru této čeledi se vyznačuje středně vysokou druhovou pestrostí a přítomností některých vzácných nebo stenotopních taxonů. Celkem 5 druhů je nově hlášeno pro faunu Slovenska: *Leopoldius breviostris* (Germar, 1827), *L. signatus* (Wiedemann, 1824), *Merziella longirostris* (Lyneborg, 1962), *Sicus nigritarsis* Zimina, 1975 a *Thecophora bimaculata* (Preyslser, 1791). Další 4 druhy patří ke vzácným nebo málo známým taxonům, o jejichž výskytu na Slovensku existuje jen několik málo údajů. Znalosti o fauně očnatek Gemerské oblasti jsou obohaceny o 14 druhů; 14 druhů je poprvé hlášeno z NP Muránska planina a 24 druhů je nových pro CHKO Cerová vrchovina. Zvláštnosti a zajímavosti fauny čeledi Conopidae v Gemerské oblasti jsou podrobně diskutovány se zaměřením na druhy významné z faunistického, ekologického nebo ochrannářského hlediska. Na základě literárních údajů a zde nově prezentovaných nálezových dat je sestaven aktuální seznam (checklist) čeledi Conopidae Slovenska, který nyní čítá 52 druhů.

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