

**SYMPETRUM DEPRESSIUSCULUM (SÉLYS, 1841) NEW SPECIES IN THE ODONATA FAUNA OF SERBIA.** S. Santovac<sup>1</sup>, M. Jović<sup>2</sup> and Ljiljana Andus<sup>2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>City Museum, 23000 Zrenjanin, Serbia and Montenegro; <sup>2</sup>Natural History Museum, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro.

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The Hungarian investigator Janos Frivaldszky published results of faunal studies on territories that included some parts of the present Republic of Serbia (Frivaldszky, 1877). This paper reported, among others things, the finding of the species *Sympetrum depressiusculum* (Sély, 1841) at the Uljma locality in South Banat. It represents the first data indicating the presence of this species in Serbia. For unknown reasons, this paper was not cited by the majority of workers that performed odonatological investigations in this region. Until the present time, there were no confirmations of the presence of this species either in Banat or in Serbia. The risk of oblivion of the finding published by Frivaldszky was suspended by recent findings of this species.

A single male of this species was collected in the village of Hajdukovo on the banks of the rivulet Kireš near Lake Ludaš (N Serbia) by the first author of the present communication (in July, 2002). During regular annual inspection of the Odonata collection in the Natural History Museum in Belgrade, a female of *S. depressiusculum* was identified. This specimen (NHM 600 Beo 595.7333) was collected by Aleksandra Mladenović on Lake Vlasina in 1990.

*Sympetrum depressiusculum* has a trans-Palaearctic distribution (Beshovski, 1994). It can be found throughout all of East Asia (The Pacific coast of Siberia, Manchuria, Japan, the Ryukyu Islands) to the eastern France and the Benelux states

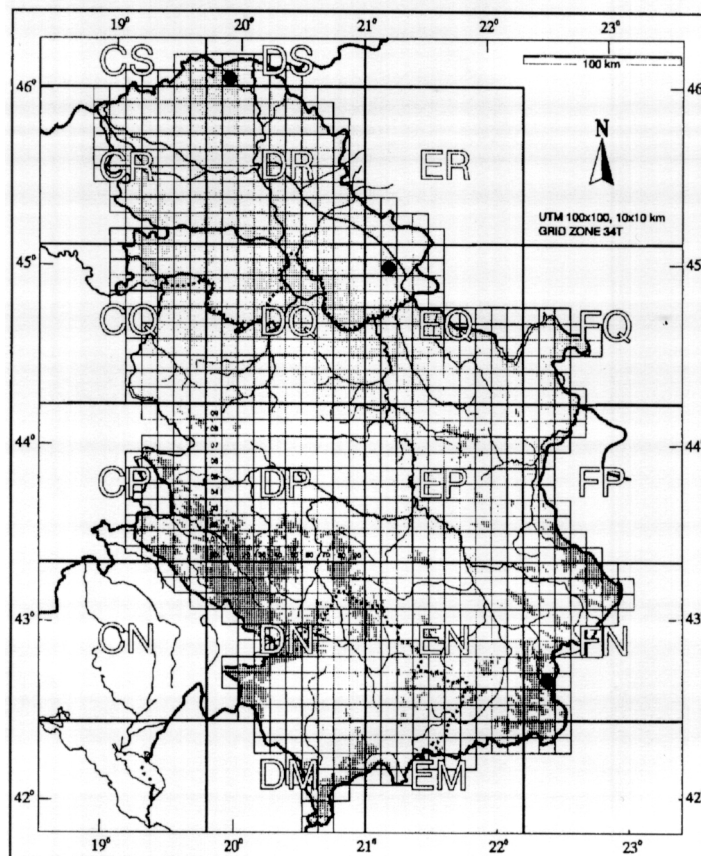


Fig. 1. Distribution of *Sympetrum depressiusculum* (Sély, 1841) in Serbia: (solid circles).

(Askew, 1988). The center of European part of its range is the central part of Eastern Europe. It can be presumed that *S. depressiusculum* has extended its range northwards in Eastern Europe during the 20th century. Recent findings of *S. depressiusculum* larvae in northern parts of Poland (the Mazurian Lake District, near the border with Belarus), where the climatic conditions are not very favorable for development of thermophilous species, support this presumption (Buczynski and Pakulnicka, 2000).

This species prefers habitats in lowlands: stagnant waters, marshes, sedgy ponds and dykes. In neighboring countries it is

recorded from: Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Greece, Croatia, and Slovenia (Beshovski, 1994). The presence of *S. depressiusculum* in Serbia was expected and the recent findings of this species are the result of intensified investigations of Odonata in Serbia during last few years.

*References:* - Askew, R.R., (1988). The Dragonflies of Europe. Harley Books. - Beshovski, V. L., (1994). Fauna Bulgarica, Vol. 23: Insecta, Odonata. Acad. Sci. bulg. Sofia. - Buczynski, P., J. Pakulnicka, (2000). *Notulae odonatologicae* **5(6)**: 69-72. Frivaldszky, J., (1877). Data ad faunam Hungariae meridionalis comitatum Temes et Krassó. *Mat. természettud. Közl.* **13**, 285-378.