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A new species of *Pseudacteon* Coquillett (Diptera, Phoridae) and a new key to the European species

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Abstract: The distinction between *Pseudacteon fennicus* Schmitz 1927 and *P. lundbecki* Schmitz 1924 is clarified, and a neotype designated for the latter species. Following this *P. lusitanus* Schmitz 1938 is synonymised with *P. fennicus. P. charnayensis* n. sp. is described from France. A revised key to the European species of *Pseudacteon* is provided.

Key words: , Phoridae, Europe, *Pseudacteon*, new species, new key

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Temnothorax affinis (Mayr) (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) – not extinct in Poland

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Abstract: A new locality of *Temnothorax affinis* (Mayr), a Euro-Caucasian xerothermophilous dendrobiotic ant species rare in Central Europe, is reported from Poland; until recently it was regarded as probably extinct in Poland. Single workers were collected from an oak trunk of an old oak in the Cedynia Landscape Park (Pomeranian Lake District, north-western Poland). This locality is one of northernmost known sites of *T. affinis*.

Key words: ants, dendrobionts, fauna of Poland, *Temnothorax affinis*, threatened species

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The first records of *Lordithon bimaculatus* (Schrank, 1798) (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) from Poland

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Abstract: The first records of *Lordithon bimaculatus* (Schrank, 1798) from Poland are presented. Until 2000 this species was not distinguished from *Lordithon trinotatus* (Er., 1839). It was collected in the Karkonosze Mountains, in the Bialskie Mountains, as well as in the foothills of the Sudety Mountains, in subalpine spruce forests and in colline and montane mixed forests.

Key words: *Lordithon bimaculatus*, Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, faunistic, Poland, Sudety Mountains

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Scheloribates distinctus Mihelčič, 1964 – a species of mite (Acari: Oribatida) new to fauna of Poland and new records of three rare species

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Abstract: A new to fauna of Poland oribatid mite species (*Scheloribates distinctus*) and new localities of three rare species (*Protoribates pannonicus*, *Punctoribates ghilarovi*, *Oppia nitens*) are recorded from old compost heap in Łomianki near Warsaw, Mazovia Region, Poland.

Key words: *Scheloribates distinctus*, *Oppia nitens*, *Protoribates pannonicus*, *Punctoribates ghilarovi*, new record, oribatid mites

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On the expansion and occurrence of an invasive species - *Pseudorasbora parva* (Temminck et Schlegel, 1846) (Teleostei: Cyprinidae: Gobioninae) in Poland

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Abstract: The topmouth gudgeon, *Pseudorasbora parva*, originating from eastern Asia, was accidentally introduced in European waters (1961) with stocking material of imported herbivorous fishes. In Poland it was first recorded in 1990 in the Barycz R. system – Fish Farm Stawno (SW, Poland); it probably came from Hungary with imported fry of *Aristichthys nobilis*. It was presumably from that region of Poland that it spread to other fish farms and then rapidly penetrated into rivers and other water bodies. At present 51 localities are known, mainly in the lowlands of Poland. The species still shows an expansion tendency which is favoured by stocking open waters with material containing an admixture of the topmouth gudgeon, using it as a bait-fish and by some aspects of its biology and ecology.

Key words: Cyprinidae, *Pseudorasbora parva*, accidental introduction, expansion, Poland

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Amphibians in the Wawer district of the Warsaw agglomeration

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Abstract: Studies on amphibians of permanent water bodies and marshes in the Wawer district of Warsaw were carried out in the spring of 2007. This terrain is situated on the right bank of the Vistula River, and is one of the least urbanized areas of the city. In this study, species composition, frequency of occurrence and number of individuals on breeding sites were determined. Surprisingly, only six amphibian species were found, which was two times lower than found during previous research in the left bank area of Warsaw. The most common species occurring in Wawer were: moor frog (*Rana arvalis*) and common toad (*Bufo bufo*). Only 69.2 % of permanent water bodies were inhabited by any amphibian species. To enable future comparative studies to be made on the impact of urban development and increased human activity on local amphibian populations, the precise locality of breeding sites were provided.

Key words: amphibians, urbanization, Warsaw, common toad, moor frog, common frog, declining of amphibians, habitat preferences

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Shrews Soricidae of the Silesian Beskid Mountains

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Abstract: During a study conducted in 2002–2008 the following 6 species of shrews were recorded in the Silesian Beskid Mts. (Western Carpathians, S Poland): *Sorex araneus*, *S. minutus*, *S. alpinus*, *Neomys fodiens*, *N. anomalus* and *Crocidura suaveolens*. The most widespread was *S. araneus* (63.4% of locations), followed by *S. alpinus* (13.4%), *S. minutus* (12.2%), *N. fodiens* (7.3%), *N. anomalus* (2.4%) and *C. suaveolens* (1.2%). Among dead shrews (n=47) *S. araneus* comprised 56.6%, *S. minutus* 21.7%, *S. alpinus* 10.9%, *C. suaveolens* 4.3%, *N. anomalus* 4.3% and *N. fodiens* 2.2%. During capture with live traps only *S. araneus* was recorded, constituting 2.5% of all small mammals captured. It was most frequently caught in deforested areas.

Key words: shrew fauna, Carpathians, mountains

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Vertebrates in the diet of the tawny owl *Strix aluco* in northern Podlasie (NE Poland) – comparison of forest and rural habitats

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Abstract: Tawny owls' pellets were collected in north-eastern Poland at eight sites situated in forests or at forest edges and four sites in agricultural landscapes. In total, 2046 vertebrate prey items were found, including 1459 at the forest sites and 587 at the rural sites. The types of prey most commonly captured by forest owls were amphibians (25.7%) and *Myodes glareolus* (14.6%), while rural owls preferred amphibians (17.7%), birds (17.4%) and *Mus musculus* (16.2%). Comparisons of proportions of selected prey taken by tawny owls made between forest and rural habitats revealed that the capture frequencies of insectivores, *M. musculus*, *Apodemus agrarius* and birds are the best indicators of anthropogenic changes in tawny owls' habitats.

Key words: tawny owls, diet plasticity, forest, agricultural landscape, central Europe