

## New records of featherwing beetles (Coleoptera: Ptiliidae) from the Czech Republic and Slovakia

### Nové údaje o rozšíření pírníků (Coleoptera: Ptiliidae) v České republice a na Slovensku

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**Abstract.** New records for nine species of featherwing beetles (Coleoptera: Ptiliidae) are reported from the Czech Republic and Slovakia. *Ptiliola flammifera* (Mlynarski, 1985) and *Ptilium scrutandum* Besuchet, 1971 are reported for the first time from the Czech Republic. *Acrotrichis pumila* (Erichson, 1845) and *Ptiliolum (Euptilium) schwarzi* (Flach, 1887) are reported for the first time from Bohemia. *Acrotrichis brevipennis* (Erichson, 1845) is reported for the first time from Moravia. *Baeocraea variolosa* (Mulsant et Rey, 1861) and *Acrotrichis parva* Rosskothen, 1935 are confirmed from Moravia. *Acrotrichis arnoldi* Rosskothen, 1935 and *Ptiliola brevicollis* (Matthews, 1860) are reported for the first time from Slovakia. Differences in external morphology in *Ptiliola flammifera* and *P. kunzei* (Heer, 1841) are described and documented using scanning electron microscope photographs, based on material from the Czech Republic.

### INTRODUCTION

The featherwing beetles (Ptiliidae) is a group of staphylinoid beetles, represented in Europe by 139 species (Sörensson 2016). Most recent information about distribution of ptiliids in the Palaearctic Region can be found in Sörensson (2015, 2016). Sixty-one species are currently known from the Czech Republic (Sörensson 2016, Nakládal et al. 2017), and 56 species from Slovakia (Sörensson 2016).

The current paper provides new information on the distribution of several species of Ptiliidae, previously not reported from the Czech Republic (or from Bohemia/Moravia) and Slovakia.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS

Optical microscope imaging. Habitus photographs were taken using a Canon EOS 1300D digital camera mounted on an Olympus SZ60 stereoscopic microscope.

Electron microscope imaging. Specimens were examined at the Faculty of Science of Charles University in Prague. Dry samples were attached to an aluminium disk target and coated with gold in a Bal-Tec Sputter Coater SCD 050, to ensure conductivity. Electron imaging was performed using a JSM-6380LV (JEOL) scanning electron microscope (SEM) with a high resolution of 10.0 µm (10 kW). Plates were arranged in CorelDRAW 2018.

The nomenclature follows Sörensson (2015). Faunistic square codes follow Pruner & Mika (1996). Specimens are deposited in the following collections:

- JR – collection of Jan Růžička, Praha, Czech Republic;  
 MS – collection of Mikael Sörensson, Lund, Sweden;  
 MM – collection of Marion Mantič, Hlučín-Bobrovníky, Czech Republic;  
 PČ – collection of Petr Čížek, Žamberk, Czech Republic.

## RESULTS

### *Ptiliola brevicollis* (Matthews, 1860)

**Material examined.** Slovakia mer.: Virt (8275), 13.ix.2015, horse dung, P. Čížek lgt., M. Sörensson det., 1 spec. (PČ); same locality, 18.viii.2017, horse dung, P. Čížek lgt. and det., 4 spec. (PČ).

**Distribution.** Species distributed through Western Palaearctic Region and also in Nearctic Region (Sörensson 2015). Recently reported from the Czech Republic by Sörensson (2016). First record from Slovakia.

### *Ptiliola flammifera* (Mlynarski, 1985)

(Figs 3, 5)

**Material examined.** Czech Republic, Bohemia or.: Orlické hory Mts., Sedloňov, Bukačka National Nature Reserve (5664), 11.vi.2017, old piles of rotten plants in mixed forest, P. Čížek lgt. and det., 4 spec. (PČ, 1 spec. JR); same data, 10.vii.2017, 4 spec. (PČ).

**Comments.** *Ptiliola flammifera* was described from Poland by Mlynarski (1985). Later, Johnson (2003) treated it as a junior synonym of *Ptiliola kunzei* (Heer, 1841). Vorst (2007) reinstated *P. flammifera* as a distinct species and reported it also from the Netherlands. Both species are very similar. Based on Vorst (2007), male of *P. flammifera* possesses a slightly smaller aedeagus, the aedeagal sclerites are stouter in ventral view (Vorst 2007: 66, fig. 7) and the metaventrite is smoothly excavated, apically bordered by a distinct tuft of erect hairs (Vorst 2007: 65, fig. 4). Apical fringe of elytra in both sexes is regular and somewhat wider, ornamented with a regular 2.5–3.0 µm long fringe (Fig. 5). The similar-looking *P. kunzei* has a larger aedeagus, the aedeagal sclerites are more slender in ventral view, medially constricted (Vorst 2007: 66, fig. 8) and the metaventrite is simple, without erect hairs. The apical fringe of the elytra is shorter, narrower, measuring only 1.5–2.0 µm, fused towards the suture to form a few brush-shaped extensions (Fig. 6). Differences in apical fringe length and structure is best observed by scanning electron microscope (SEM).

**Distribution.** Only known from the Netherlands and Poland (Sörensson 2015), but probably more widely distributed. First record from the Czech Republic.

### *Ptiliolum (Euptilium) schwarzi* (Flach, 1887)

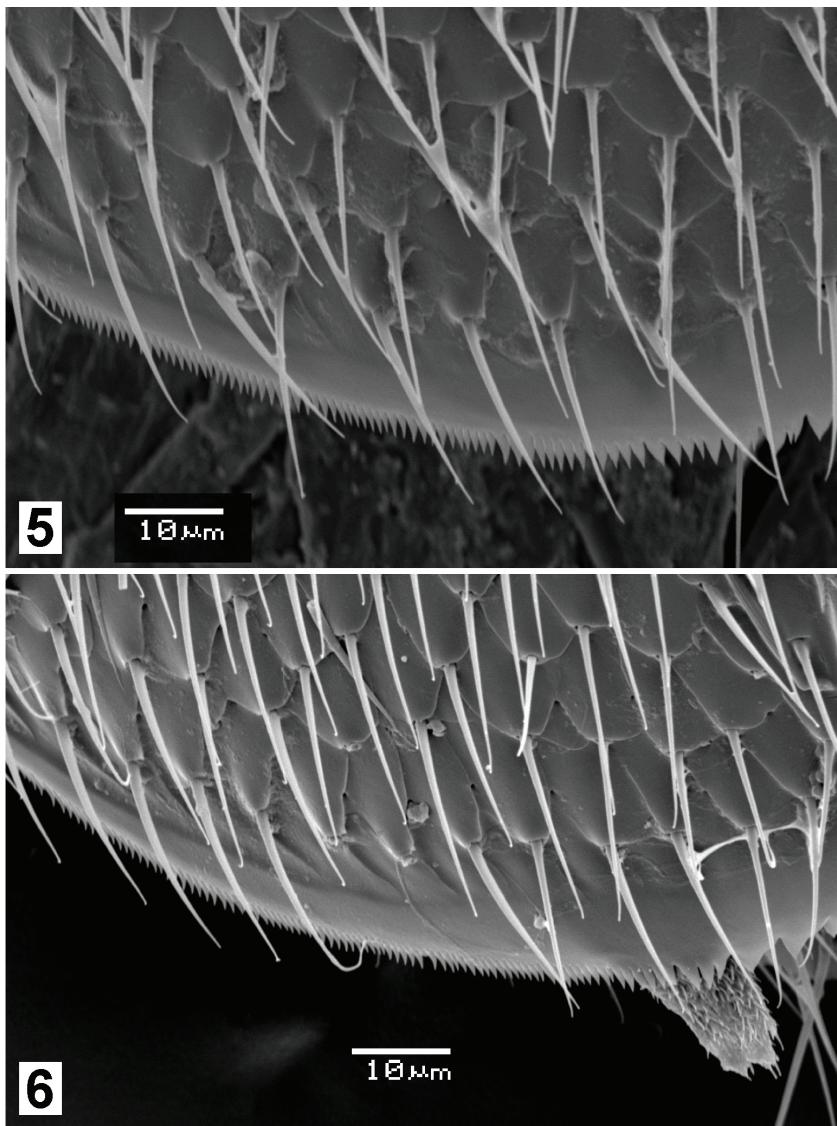
(Fig. 4)

**Material examined.** Czech Republic, Bohemia or.: Orlické hory Mts., Sedloňov, Bukačka National Nature Reserve (5664), 11.vi.2017, 1 spec., old piles of rotten plants in mixed forest, P. Čížek lgt. and det. (PČ); Moravia bor.: Králický Sněžník Mts., Uhliško Hill (5867), 10.ix.2004, deer excrement, M. Boukal lgt., M. Sörensson det., 3 spec. (MM, PČ).



Figs 1–4. Habitus in dorsal view: 1 – *Acrotrichis arnoldi* Rosskothen, 1935 (body length 0.82 mm); 2 – *Ptilium scrutandum* Besuchet, 1971 (body length 0.65 mm); 3 – *Ptiliola flammifera* (Mlynarski, 1985) (body length 0.62 mm); 4 – *Ptiliolum (Euptilium) schwarzi* (Flach, 1887) (body length 0.83 mm). Photography Petr Čížek.  
 Obr. 1–4. Habitus v dorzálním pohledu: 1 – *Acrotrichis arnoldi* Rosskothen, 1935 (délka těla 0,82 mm); 2 – *Ptilium scrutandum* Besuchet, 1971 (délka těla 0,65 mm); 3 – *Ptiliola flammifera* (Mlynarski, 1985) (délka těla 0,62 mm); 4 – *Ptiliolum (Euptilium) schwarzi* (Flach, 1887) (délka těla 0,83 mm). Fotografie Petr Čížek.

**Distribution.** Species distributed through Western Palaearctic Region (Sörensson 2015). Erroneously reported from Bohemia by Sörensson (2016), the reported locality (Uhlisko Hill, see full material above) is in fact located in Moravia. First record from Bohemia.



Figs 5–6. Apex of elytra in dorsal view: 5 – *Ptiliola flammifera* (Mlynarski, 1985); 6 – *P. kunzei* (Heer, 1841). Photography Martin Novák.

Figs 5–6. Špička krovek v dorzálním pohledu: 5 – *Ptiliola flammifera* (Mlynarski, 1985); 6 – *P. kunzei* (Heer, 1841). Fotografie Martin Novák.

***Ptilium scrutandum*** Besuchet, 1971  
(Figs 2, 7)

**Material examined.** Czech Republic, Bohemia or.: Žamberk (5964), 13.v.2017, 4 spec.; 3.vi.2017, 3 spec.; 23.vii.2017, 1 spec., all from a gravel bank of the Rokytenka River, P. Čížek lgt. and det., partly confirmed by M. Sörensson (MS, PČ).

**Collecting circumstances.** Records from Žamberk were collected by washing clumps of vegetation close to the water (Fig. 7).

**Distribution.** The type locality of this species is near Geneva, Switzerland. The description was based on a single male, collected in 1953 (Besuchet 1976). Later reported by Johnson (2003) from Luxembourg (Septfontaines, 4.vi.2001, 4 spec., O. Vorst lgt.). One of the most rarely collected European ptiliid species. First record from the Czech Republic.

***Acrotrichis arnoldi*** Rosskothen, 1935  
(Fig. 1)

**Material examined.** Slovakia occ.: Nové Mesto nad Váhom env., Lúka (7373), 1.v.2017, pile of old rotten grass near hay stack in mixed forest, P. Čížek lgt. and det., 2 spec. (PČ).

**Distribution.** Species known only from a handful of European countries (Austria, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Sweden) (Sörensson 2015). First record from Slovakia.

***Acrotrichis brevipennis*** (Erichson, 1845)

**Material examined.** Czech Republic, Moravia bor.: Valašské Meziříčí env., Kladeruby (6473), 17.v.2017, detritus on a bank of Bečva River, P. Čížek lgt. and det., 2 spec. (PČ).

**Distribution.** Species widely distributed through Western Palaearctic Region (Sörensson 2015). From the Czech Republic, reported only from Bohemia (Jelínek 1993). First record from Moravia.

***Acrotrichis parva*** Rosskothen, 1935

**Material examined.** Czech Republic, Moravia bor.: Králický Sněžník Mts., Uhliško Hill (5867), 10.ix.2004, in deer excrement, M. Boukal lgt., M. Sörensson det., 11 spec. (MM, PČ).

**Distribution.** Species distributed through Western Palaearctic Region, but also known from Eastern Siberia, Mongolia and the Nearctic Region (Sörensson 2015). Erroneously reported from Bohemia by Sörensson (2016), the reported locality (Uhliško Hill, see full material above) is in fact located in Moravia. Confirmed occurrence in Moravia.

***Acrotrichis pumila*** (Erichson, 1845)

**Material examined.** Czech Republic, Bohemia or.: Darebnice (5963), 8.iv.2004, M. Boukal lgt., M. Sörensson det., 1 spec. (MM).

**Distribution.** Species widely distributed throughout the Palaearctic Region (Sörensson 2015). In the Czech Republic, reported only from Moravia (Jelínek 1993). First record from Bohemia.

## *Baeocrara variolosa* (Mulsant et Rey, 1861)

**Material examined.** Czech Republic, Moravia bor.: Hranice (6472), 17.v.2017, horse dung in mixed forest, P. Čížek lgt. and det., 13 spec. (PČ).

**Distribution.** Species widely distributed throughout Palaearctic Region (Sörensson 2015, 2016). Reported recently from Slovakia by Nakládal et al. (2009) and Sörensson (2016). Known from the Czech Republic from Bohemia (Sörensson & Růžička 2001), reported as doubtful from Moravia by Jelínek (1993). Confirmed occurrence in Moravia.

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## SOUHRN

Čeled' pírníkovití (Ptiliidae) je skupina staphylinoidních brouků, z území Evropy je v současné době známo 139 druhů (Sörensson 2016). Nejnovější informace o rozšíření pírníků v palearktické oblasti shrnují práce Sörenssona (2015, 2016). Z České republiky je v současnosti známo 61 druhů (Sörensson 2016, Nakládal et al. 2017), ze Slovenska je



Fig. 7. Part of the gravel bank of the Rokytenka River near Žamberk, the habitat of *Ptilium scrutandum* Besuchet, 1971. Photograph Petr Čížek.

Obr. 7. Detail štěrkovopísčitého břehu řeky Rokytenky u Žamberku, biotop druhu *Ptilium scrutandum* Besuchet, 1971. Fotografie Petr Čížek.

hlášeno 56 druhů (Sörensson 2016). Předkládaná práce přináší nové údaje o rozšíření devíti druhů pírníků v České republice a na Slovensku. Stručné komentáře k rozšíření těchto druhů shrnuje následující text.

***Ptiliola brevicollis*** (Matthews, 1860). Druh rozšířený v západním Palearktu a také v Nearktické oblasti (Sörensson 2015). Recentně hlášen z České republiky (Sörensson 2016). První údaj ze Slovenska.

***Ptiliola flammifera*** (Mlynarski, 1985). Druh byl popsán z Polska Mlynarskim (1985), později jej Johnson (2003) synonymizoval s druhem *Ptiliola kunzei* (Heer, 1841). Vorst (2007) jej poté znova povýšil jako samostatný druh. Druh *P. flammifera* je velice podobný druhu *P. kunzei*. Samci *P. flammifera* mají poněkud menší aedeagus s kratšími vnitřními sklerity (Vorst 2007: 66, fig. 7) a zadní okraj zadohrudi vyčnívající dozadu a opatřený rozvířenými štětinkami (Vorst 2007: 65, fig. 4). Samci *P. kunzei* mají aedeagus poněkud větší, se štíhlejšími a delšími vnitřními sklerity, které jsou zúžené ve střední části (Vorst 2007: 66, fig. 8), zadní okraj zadohrudi je jednoduchý a bez štětinek. Oba druhy se liší také stavbou třásňového lemu zadního okraje krovek. U *P. flammifera* je tento třásňový lem delší (2,5–3,0 µm) a řidší (obr. 5), u *P. kunzei* je kratší (1,5–2,0 µm) a hustší, směrem ke švu krovek vybíhají

nepravidelné delší výběžky (obr. 6). Tento znak je bezpečně průkazný pouze na snímcích z rastrovacího elektronového mikroskopu.

Druh je zatím známý pouze z Nizozemska a Polska, ale lze předpokládat, že má daleko širší rozšíření. První údaj z České republiky.

**Ptiliolum (Euptilium) schwarzi** (Flach, 1887). Druh rozšířený v západním Palearktu (Sörensson 2015). Omylem byl hlášen z Čech (Sörensson 2016), místo nálezu (vrch Uhlisko) leží na Moravě. První údaj z Čech.

**Ptilium scrutandum** Besuchet, 1971. Druh byl popsán podle jediného samce sbíraného v roce 1953 nedaleko Ženevy ve Švýcarsku (Besuchet 1976). Poté byl hlášen z Lucemburska (Septfontaines, 4.vi.2001, O. Vorst lgt., 4 ex.) (Johnson 2003). Patří mezi nejvzácnější evropské pírníky. Brouci v Žamberku byli sbíráni proplachováním drnů vegetace na štěrkopískovém břehu řeky Rokytenky v bezprostřední blízkosti vody (obr. 7). První údaj z České republiky.