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Admissions / Toelatingen :

Dhr. Eddy LAETHEM, Wingenesteenweg 74, 8800 Tielt, wordt voorgesteld als gewoon lid door dhr. J. VAN STALLE en P. GROOTAERT.

Dhr. Peter VERDYCK, Villerslei 180, 2120 Schoten, wordt voorgesteld als assistent lid door dhr. J. VAN STALLE en P. GROOTAERT.

Communications / Mededelingen :

1. In naam van de Heren L. MERCKEN en M. POLLET presenteert de Heer J. VAN STALLE de volgende mededeling.

Micronecta griseola Horvath, 1899
a species new to the Belgian fauna
(Heteroptera, Corixidae)

by Luc MERCKEN and Marc POLLET

R.U.Gent, Lab. Ecologie der Dieren, Zoögeografie en Natuurbehoud, K.L. Ledeganckstraat 35, B-9000 Gent.

During two brief surveys along the river 'Ourthe', in 1986 and 1987, our attention was attracted to specimens of the genus *Micronecta* found in the river. The genus *Micronecta* is a taxonomically difficult species group. They may only be identified to species level with certainty by examining the paramers. *Micronecta griseola* HORVATH, 1899 is very closely related to *M. minutissima* and *M. poweri*; the latter also frequently occurs in running water. Because there is great variability in the shape of the paramers, it is necessary to examine and measure as many adults as possible. After careful examination of the specimens and

comparison of the genital apparatus of the males (fig. 1) it was ascertained that they belonged to the species *Micronecta griseola*. This is the first record of the species being found in Belgium.

04.VI.1986 Grandhan (Vivier Madame) FR 77 2♂♂/-

01.VII.1987 Grandhan (Côreu) FR 77 26♂♂/54♀♀

It is known as a species which occurs in large rivers and is sensitive to pollution. The sites where we captured the specimens were along the edge of a river, at shallow places with a rocky bottom. The water was clear. Vegetation was scarce (*Urtica dioica*, *Carex* sp., *Typha* sp.) but formed a sort of barrier where the species could shelter from floodwaters. We did not measure pH or conductivity.

According to WROBLEWSKI (1958) and NIESER (1982), one would expect this species to be present in Belgium. However DETHIER & BOSMANS (1979) wrote that its occurrence was uncertain because of the lack of unpolluted streams in this country.

The species is very common in Finland (JANSSON, 1976), Poland and in Central Europe (WROBLEWSKI, 1958). There are no reports from France (POISSON, 1957). Occurrence in Italy and southern Europe is doubtful (WROBLEWSKI, 1958). There are no reports from the Netherlands (NIESER, 1982) or from Sweden, Norway or Denmark.

JANSSON (1977) found the species especially in strongly eutrophic waters, this is in contradiction with our findings.

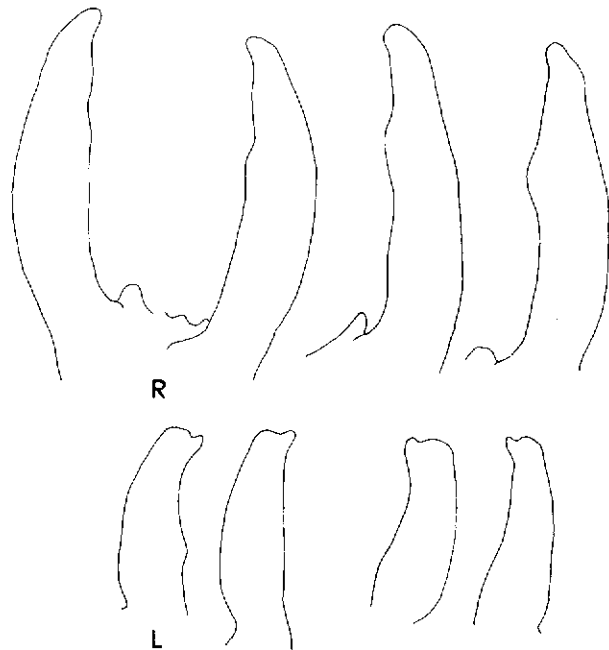


Fig. 1: Right (R) and left (L) paramer of *Micronecta griseola*.

Although the macropterous form is more common in this species of *Micronecta* (WROBLEWSKI, 1958), all the individuals in our samples were brachypterous; a possible explanation is that rather small numbers were collected.

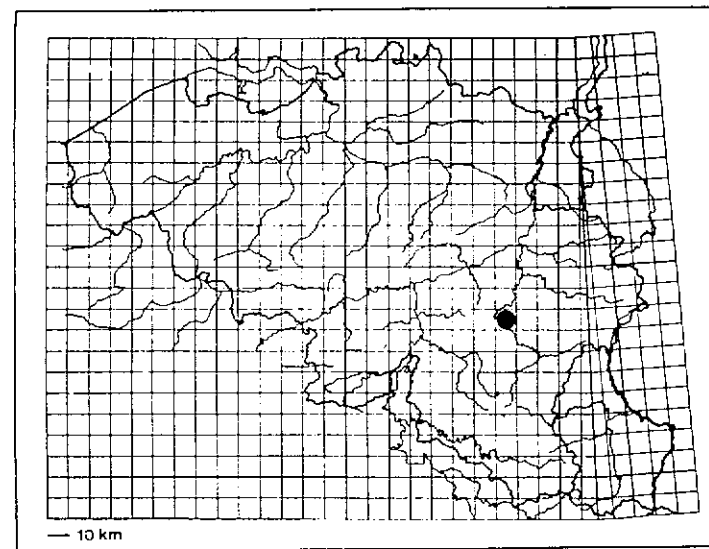


Fig. 2: Distribution of *Micronecta griseola* in Belgium.

Acknowledgments

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