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A record of *Machimus cowini* (Hobby, 1946)
from Germany
(Diptera, Asilidae)

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Abstract

Machimus cowini (HOBBY, 1946) is recorded from Germany for the first time. European *Machimus* species with which *cowini* has previously been confused are cited.

Zusammenfassung

Machimus cowini (HOBBY, 1946) wird zum ersten Mal für Deutschland nachgewiesen. Europäische *Machimus*-Arten, mit denen *cowini* bisher verwechselt wurde, werden zitiert.

ENGEL (1925-30) confused a number of European species under the name *Machimus cingulatus* (FABRICIUS, 1781). Two of these were subsequently described as *M. cowini* (HOBBY, 1946) and *M. strandi* DUDA, 1940. HOBBY's (1946) description of *M. cowini* has caused difficulties, because he neglected to define the differences between his new spe-

cies and certain other closely related European *Machimus*. Essentially, *M.cowini* has been ignored by continental authors and published records are restricted to those given by HOBBY (loc.cit.) for the Isle of Man and Hungary, plus those given by CHANDLER (1975) for Ireland.

I have recently had cause to investigate the status of *M. cowini* (SPEIGHT, in press) and during course of that study I examined specimens of "*Machimus cingulatus*" in the collections of the Amsterdam, Dublin, Leiden, London, Manx, Munich and Paris museums. *M.cowini* is indeed a distinct species, with a wider distribution in continental Europe than hitherto suspected. I have seen continental specimens from N. Germany, Netherlands, N. France and Hungary. The German record is as follows: 27 July 1909, male, Ürdingen, nr. Krefeld, Nordrhein-Westfalen, coll. RIETEL, in colln. Brit. Mus., London.

M. cowini is found in the vicinity of thick ground vegetation or scrub in dry, sandy localities. It seems to be collected much less frequently than *M. cingulatus*. There is a need for museum material of *M. cingulatus* to be re-appraised, since it is likely to include other species, and particularly *M.cowini*. The males of *M. cingulatus*, *M.cowini*, *M.pyragra* (ZELLER,1840), *M. setosulus* (ZELLER,1840) and *M.strandi* can be distinguished using the key in SPEIGHT (in press).

Acknowledgements

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References

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SPEIGHT, M.C.D. (in press). Re-affirmation of the status of *Machimus (Epitriptus) cowini* (Diptera: Asilidae) as a distinct species, with a key to distinguish the male from males of related species. - Ir.Nat.J.

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Literaturbesprechung

Taschner, Fritz: Mit dem Schmetterlingsnetz um die Welt, Band 3.

364 Seiten, 28 Farbtafeln, zahlreiche Strichzeichnungen. Erschienen 1984, im Selbstverlag. Zu beziehen: Fritz TASCHNER, Gnesener Straße 16, D-8000 München 81.

Wenn Fritz TASCHNER darangeht, den dritten Teil seines Reise- und Erlebnisberichtes "Mit dem Schmetterlingsnetz um die Welt" zu veröffentlichen, dann kommt bei all denen, die wenigstens einen der beiden vorangegangenen Bände, die ebenfalls in dieser Zeitschrift rezensiert wurden, schon gelesen haben, Vorfriede auf den Genuß dieser Lektüre auf.

Die Reise führt diesmal nach Sri Lanka, Sumatra, Sin-

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