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Quantitative survey of *Gomphus flavipes* (Charpentier, 1825) exuviae along River Tisza

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Zählung von *Gomphus flavipes* (Charpentier, 1825) Exuvien entlang des Flusses Tisza. – Exuvien von *Gomphus flavipes* wurden entlang eines 17 km langen Uferabschnittes des Flusses Tisza gezählt. Insgesamt wurden 1020 Männchen und 1127 Weibchen erfasst.

Gomphus flavipes (Charpentier, 1825) is a native species of the River Tisza, protected in Hungary, and ranked among the highly endangered species on the Bern Convention and on the IUCN Red List. It is one of the dragonfly species selected for monitoring in the Hungarian 'National Biodiversity Monitoring Programme'.

Quantitative surveys of *G. flavipes* exuviae on 6 sampling localities, each covering a 20-footsteps-long section, were carried out along a 17 km stretch of the River Tisza between Tiszafüred and Tiszacsege. From 27 May until 9 August 2000, sampling localities were surveyed and all exuviae were picked up every third, fourth or fifth day. Altogether 1020 males and 1127 females were collected. Apart from *G. flavipes*, exuviae of the following species were found: *Gomphus vulgatissimus* (Linné, 1758), *Platynemis pennipes* (Pallas, 1771), *Agrion splendens* (Harris, 1782), *Ischnura elegans* (Schmidt, 1938), *Sympetrum vulgatum* (Linné, 1758), *Cordulia aeneaturfosa* Förster, 1902, *Crocothemis servilia* (Drury, 1770), *Ophiogomphus cecilia* (Fourcroy, 1785). The sex of 32 specimens could not be identified. The share of males was considerably higher (by 9.1 %) than that of females on the first 3 days of emergence. An average of 436 specimens was found with reference to a 20-metre-long section of the lefthand riverside. At least three peaks of emergence could be detected for both sexes in each sampling locality.

The collection of exuviae should be repeated yearly (for 2 or 3 years), at least during the larval development of the species. Our results, based on the one-year survey, suggest that the cyanide pollution in February 2000 may not cause a drastic decrease in the *Gomphus flavipes* population in the River Tisza.

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