

FAVNISTIČNI ZAPISKI / FAUNISTICAL NOTES

***CRIORHINA RANUNCULI* (PANZER) (DIPTERA: SYRPHIDAE), A NEW HOVERFLY SPECIES FOR SLOVENIA**

Dejan JANEVIĆ¹ & Maarten DE GROOT²

¹ Levec 22, 3301 Petrovče, Slovenia

²Department of Forest Protection, Slovenian Forestry Institute,
Večna pot 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Abstract - A new hoverfly species is recorded for Slovenia, *Criorhina ranunculi* (Panzer, 1805). This species was found on the Mrzlica Mt. on the 26th of May 2018. We propose its Slovenian name »čmrljelika trepetavka«.

KEY WORDS: Diptera, Syrphidae, fauna, Slovenia

Izvleček - *CRIORHINA RANUNCULI* (PANZER) (DIPTERA: SYRPHIDAE), ZA SLOVENIJO NOVA VRSTA TREPETAJKE

Nova vrsta muhe trepetavke je zabeležena v Sloveniji: *Criorhina ranunculi* (Panzer, 1805). Vrsta je bila najdena pod samim vrhom hriba Mrzlica, dne 26. 5. 2018. Predlagano slovensko ime za to vrsto je čmrljelika trepetavka.

KLJUČNE BESEDE: Diptera, Syrphidae, fauna, Slovenia

Hoverflies are very diverse in species and larvae have different niches (Rotheray & Gilbert, 2011). Larvae of many species are predating on aphids, feeding on plants or micro-organisms. Several species are known as saproxylic species which are good indicators of the status of the forest (Speight, 1989; Reemer, 2005; Rotheray & Gilbert, 2011). 309 hoverfly species are known for Slovenia so far (De Groot & Govedič, 2008; De Groot et al., 2010; Van Steenis et al., 2013). One of the genera of which the species have saproxylic larvae is the genus *Criorhina* (Reemer et al., 2009). *Criorhina* species are middle sized to large hoverflies and resemble bumblebees or

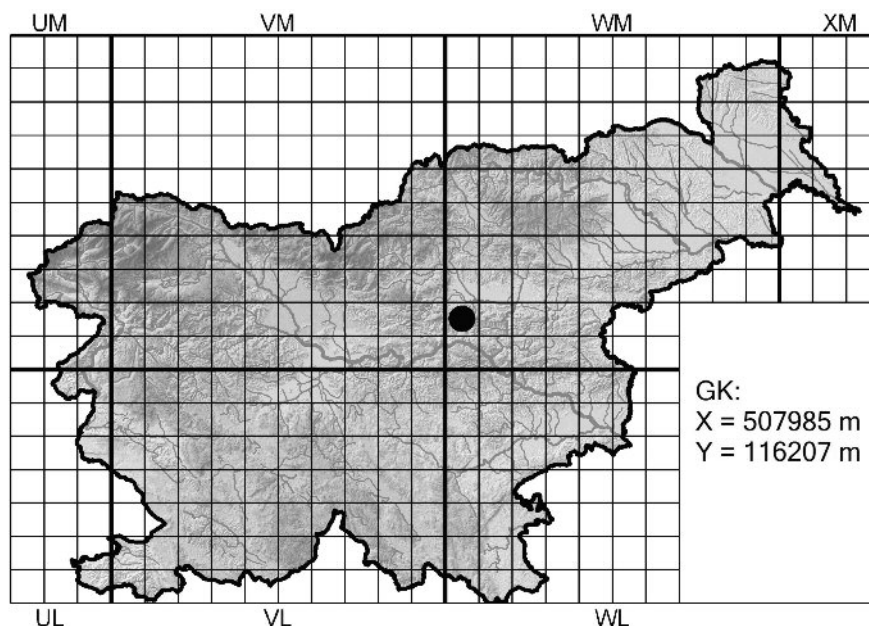


Fig. 1: Distribution of *Criorhina ranunculi* in Slovenia.

bees (Reemer et al., 2009; Speight, 2017). They are often found near old trees where their larvae live in rotting heartwood of various tree species, particularly in *Fagus* (Rotheray, 1993; Reemer et al., 2009). They also occur deep in the root system and in rot holes (Rotheray, 1993). In total there are six species found in Europe: *Criorhina asilica* (Fallen, 1816), *C. berberina* (Fabricius, 1805), *C. brevipila* Loew, 1871, *C. floccosa* (Meigen, 1822), *C. pachymera* (Egger, 1858) and *C. ranunculi* (Panzer, 1804) (Speight, 2017). Except for *C. brevipila*, the other species are observed in the Balkan peninsula (Vujic & Milankov, 1999). Till now four species of the genus *Criorhina* were found in Slovenia: *Criorhina asilica*, *C. berberina*, *C. floccosa* and *C. pachymera* (De Groot & Govedič, 2008). In this paper the fifth species of *Criorhina* in Slovenia, *C. ranunculi*, is presented.

Fieldwork for this study took place in the Mrzlica Mountain, central Slovenia. The species was identified with the key of van Veen (Van Veen, 2004).

***Criorhina ranunculi* (Panzer, 1805)**

Material examined (Figs 2a, b). Slovenia, Mrzlica Mt. (GKX: 507985, GKY: 116207, Fig 1), 26.05.2018, 1020 m a.s.l., 1♀, leg. D. Janević.

Criorhina ranunculi is a bumblebee lookalike (Van Veen, 2004). It is the only species in the genus with black hairs on the mesonotum and tergite 2 (Vujic & Milankov, 1999). The species is known to visit flowers of different tree and shrub species like *Cornus sanguinea* and *Prunus cerasus*, but also feed on herbs like *Car-*

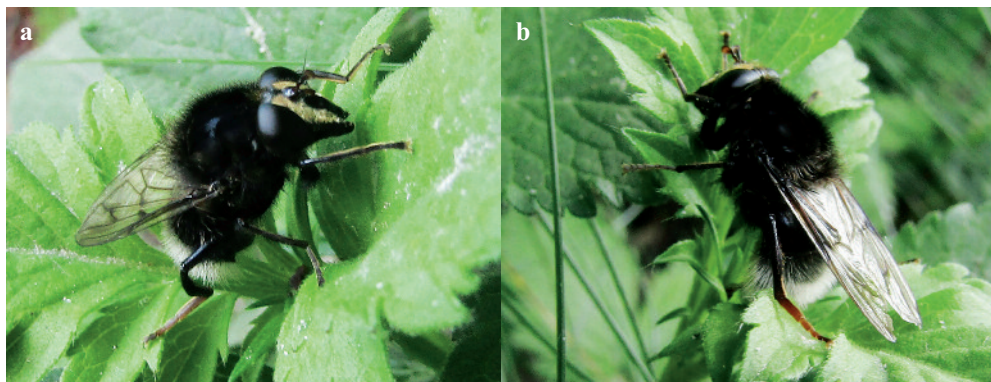


Fig. 2: *Criorhina ranunculi* (Panzer, 1805), ♀. Photo: D. Janević: a) habitus in antero-lateral view, b) habitus in lateral view.

damine pratensis (Speight, 2017). The flight period is from the beginning of March to mid May and on higher altitudes to the end of June. The larvae live in the base of tree trunks, in fungus-infested, wet-rot cavities of several deciduous tree species. The species occurs across Europe from north to south and west to east (Speight, 2017). Therefore, it was to be expected in Slovenia. Although some hoverfly species in Slovenia have Slovenian names, most of the species, including *C. ranunculi*, haven't got one yet. Therefore, we propose that this species is called “čmrljelika trepetavka” (in English: bumblebee-like hoverfly), which indicates that the species is a bumblebee lookalike. *Volucella bombylans* (Linnaeus, 1758) has the Slovenian name “čmrljasta gozdna trepetavka” and therefore the name “čmrljelika trepetavka” is still available.

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