



**CONTRIBUTION TO THE KNOWLEDGE ON DISTRIBUTION
OF OWL-FLY *LIBELLOIDES MACARONIUS* (SCOPOLI, 1763)
IN SLOVENIA, NEW RECORDS FROM THE ŠENTVID PLATEAU,
NW SLOVENIA**

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Abstract – Two new records of the owl-fly *Libelloides macaronius* are presented. The specimens were found on the Šentvid plateau, NW Slovenia.

KEY WORDS: *Libelloides macaronius*, owl-fly, distribution, Slovenia

Izveček - PRISPEVEK K POZNAVANJU RAZŠIRJENOSTI METULJČNICE *LIBELLOIDES MACARONIUS* (SCOPOLI, 1763) V SLOVENIJI, NOVA PODATKA S ŠENTVIŠKE PLANOTE, SZ SLOVENIJA

Predstavljena sta dva nova podatka o metuljčnici *Libelloides macaronius*. Osebk sta bila najdena na Šentviški planoti, SZ Slovenija.

KLJUČNE BESEDE: *Libelloides macaronius*, metuljčnica, razširjenost, Slovenija

The known distribution of owl-fly *Libelloides macaronius* (Scopoli, 1763) in Slovenia is in the submediterranean region and the continental part of Slovenia (Devetak, 2007; Devetak et al., 2002; Klokočovnik et al., 2010; Popov, 2004). The species is endangered in the Republic of Slovenia due to natural succession of meadows, pastures and other grassland ecosystems. In the IUCN classification is estimated as vulnerable (V). Two morphs are recognized in Europe and were found in Slovenia. In the morph *macaronius* veins in dark spots in forewings are yellow and, in the morph *kolyvanensis* veins in dark spots in forewings are dark. The continental part of Slovenia and particularly areas at higher altitudes are inhabited by the morph *macaronius*, and the submediterranean region by *kolyvanensis* (Devetak, 2007).



Fig. 1. Photograph of the specimen found on 11. 6. 2011 (photo: G. Torkar)
Sl. 1. Fotografija osebka najdenega dne 11. 6. 2011 (foto: G. Torkar).

Two new records of the owl-fly *L. macaronius*, morph *macaronius*, from the Šentvid plateau, NW Slovenia, are reported here.

On 11. 6. 2011 at 13.10 one *L. macaronius* female was discovered on the meadow with sparsely distributed small bushes, WGS84 coordinates: 46,109100° N, 13,880181° E (Šentviška Gora, Municipality of Tolmin), at approximately 680 m a.s.l. (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2). According to the locals, the meadow is mowed at least twice a year.

On 26. 7. 2020 at 15.30 one owl-fly was discovered on pavement of the road near dry meadow, WGS84 coordinates: 46,132241° N, 13,886701° N (Police, Municipality of Idrija), at approximately 790 m a.s.l. Natural succession is seen on the edges of the meadow and nearby is a water spring which is very rare on this karst plateau. Because the specimen flew away quickly, photo documentation was not possible.

Two records nine years apart testify to the species' continual presence in the Šentvid plateau. The sites are closest to Idrija - Scopoli (1763) described the species from the Idrija area. As these are the first data on the species in NW Slovenia, there is a need for further systematic research.



Fig. 2. Meadow near village Šentviška Gora where the specimen was found (photo: G. Torkar).

Sl. 2. Travniki blizu vasi Šentviška Gora, kjer je bil osebek najden (foto: G. Torkar).

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