

Leoš KLIMEŠ & Pavel BEZDĚČKA: *Egaenus convexus* - a new harvestman from the Czech Republic

Egaenus convexus - eine neue Weberknechtart aus der Tschechischen Republik

The harvestmen fauna of the Czech Republic is relatively species-poor; so far 29 species have been found, of them 23 in Bohemia, the western part of the country, and 26 species in Moravia, the eastern part of the Czech Republic (ŠILHAVÝ 1956, 1981, MARTENS 1978).

The last new species for the area of the Czech Republic (*Leiobunum glabrum*) was reported 14 years ago by ŠILHAVÝ (1981). After his death in 1984 little attention has been paid to the faunistics of harvestmen in the country.

Here we are reporting the first finding of *Egaenus convexus* (C.L.KOCH 1835) in the Czech Republic. It was recorded in the SE part of the country, in the Bílé Karpaty Mountains.

E. convexus is a SE-European species (MARTENS 1978). The nearest localities are in Slovakia from where the species has been reported rarely. The first record was by Kratochvíl who found it near Bratislava (KRATOCHVÍL 1934). Later, findings from the neighbourhood of Nitra (ŠILHAVÝ 1956) and the Kováčovské kopce Hills (ŠILHAVÝ 1969) were reported.

In the very beginning of the 20th century the name *Egaenus tibialis* C.L.KOCH (= *E. convexus* (C.L.KOCH)) was used (with a question mark) in a report from the Czech Republic (Krkonoše Mts., NOSEK 1900). This report has never been confirmed and is doubtful.

In 1994 we caught 30 adults of *E. convexus* in the National Nature Reserve Čertoryje, Bílé Karpaty Mts., at an elevation of about 400 m. The species was caught in a mesic oak woodland with a rich herb layer and in a subxerothermic wooded meadow dominated by *Bromus erectus*. The specimens were caught in pitfall traps and by hand. The pitfall traps were placed on the site between 15th May and 26th October, 1994, and emptied monthly. All adults (10 males and 15 females) were caught between the beginning of May and the beginning of September, immatures were caught

from the end of august to the middle of october. The immatures overwinter and mature in the next spring. The same phenology of this species has been reported by WEISS (1975, 1980, 1984) and GRUBER in MARTENS (1978, p. 308).

The occurrence of the Pannonian species *E. convexus* in the Bílé Karpaty Mountains supports the view of a close connection between the biotas of SE Moravia and the Pannonian lowland (PODPĚRA 1951).

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Artikel/Article: [Egaenus convexus - a new harvestman from the Czech Republic 32-33](#)