

KURZMITTEILUNGEN

First record of *Alvamaja chlorometallica* ROGNES, 2010 (Diptera: Polleniidae) in Italy (South Tyrol). Erstnachweis von *Alvamaja chlorometallica* ROGNES, 2010 (Diptera: Polleniidae) für Italien (Südtirol).

In the course of the revision of unidentified specimens (Inserenda) of Diptera in the Natural History Museum of Vienna (NHMW), Austria, one specimen that could not be identified with the aid of existing literature was found. The specimen possesses a stalked wing cell r4+5, elongated lower calypter diverging from the thorax, and the thoracic spiracle covered by fringes instead of lappets, pointing in favor of the Rhinophoridae. However, the slight swelling of the subscutellum, which is typical for the Rhinophoridae, was missing. Other characteristics indicating a calliphorid were the green metallic body color and the antenna with long plumose arista. Photos of the specimen were sent to Pierfilippo Cerretti (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy), a specialist in Rhinophoridae and Tachinidae, who promptly identified it as *Alvamaja chlorometallica* ROGNES, 2010 (Figs 1–4).

This genus and species were described based on three males from Vranjska Banja (Serbia), collected in 1963. It was not clear to ROGNES (2010) in which family the new genus should be placed and based on a morphological phylogenetic analysis, it was included within the Rhinophoridae. However, four years later, a female was described from Romania (Moldova region, Comanesti – Bacau) and a total evidence analysis placed *Alvamaja chlorometallica* as a sister-species to the remaining species of *Morinia* ROBINEAU-DESVOIDY, 1830, nested within the Polleniidae (CERRETTI et al. 2019).

ROGNES (2010) honored his two granddaughters Alva and Maja with the name of the genus. The latinized word “chlorometallica” as the specific epithet denotes the green-metallic coloration of this fly species.

The specimen found among the miscellaneous material in the Diptera collection of the NHMW is a male and bears the label “Tirol Ratzes Kohl”. The collector Franz Friedrich Kohl (1851–1924) was an Austrian entomologist and folk song researcher (WIKIPEDIA 2023). Initially working as a teacher in South Tyrol and Innsbruck, he worked at the NHMW from 1880 to 1920, specializing in Hymenoptera. The locality “Tirol Ratzes” is located in Kastelruth (Italian: Castelrotto) [N 46°34', E 11°34'] in South Tyrol, Italy. Although, as on so many labels of that time, no date is noted, the specimen probably comes from Kohl's time in South Tyrol and is about 150 years old. This is the third and most western record of this rare species found until now, and its first report from northern Italy.

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Figs 1–4: *Alvamaja chlorometallica* ROGNES, 2010. Male specimen from South Tyrol (Italy) deposited in the NHMW: (1) habitus, lateral view, (2) dorsal view, (3) anterior view of head, (4) labels. Scale: 1 mm. / *Alvamaja chlorometallica* ROGNES, 2010. Männchen aus Südtirol (Italien), in der Sammlung des NHMW: (1) Habitus, lateral, (2) dorsal, (3) Kopf, Vorderseite, (4) Etiketten. Maßstab: 1 mm. © A. Camargo.

References

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