

***Plectrocnemia votonokak* sp.nov., a new fossil species of Polycentropodidae (Insecta, Trichoptera) from Eocene Baltic amber**

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More than two centuries ago, GERMAR (1813) described the first caddisfly species from the fossil resins of Europe. A century later, ULMER (1912) in his monograph on caddisflies of the Baltic amber described 152 species. During the following years, the studies on caddisflies from the Baltic amber have been continued (IVANOV & MELNITSKY 2005, 2013; WICHARD 2013; MELNITSKY & IVANOV 2016). The family Polycentropodidae includes more than 900 species in the modern world fauna, and about 100 of them are fossils. The genus *Plectrocnemia* includes over 160 species and is widespread in the Holarctic and Oriental realms, and is represented by 29 fossil species in the Paleogene resins in Europe (IVANOV & al. 2016; MELNITSKY & IVANOV 2023). This is some 11% fraction of 262 species of caddisflies which are known from the Late Eocene ambers: Baltic, Rovno and Saxonian.

*Plectrocnemia votonokak* sp.nov.

Description: Body length 5,2 mm, forewing length 7 mm. Abdomen, legs, thorax and head brown, wings light brown, head and thorax with long light hairs. Male genitalia: Inferior appendages long, curved with soft widened apex in lateral view. Segment 10 membranous in its terminal part with three strong, long black spines: one small apical and two larger lateral. Aedeagus well sclerotised, massive and wide with dorsal and ventral plates in the apex. Ventral plate in ventral view trident-shaped with symmetrical long lateral processes and a shorter median process. – The new species is similar to *Plectrocnemia spinigera* ULMER, 1912 from Baltic amber and differs in the shape of the inferior appendages, which in the new species have widened apices with unsclerotised zones, and in the location and structure of the spines on segment 10. The aedeagus of the new species has dorsal and ventral narrow plates, while *P. spinigera* have none of them.

Holotype: Male, ZISP BA-0003, Baltic amber, late Eocene. The amber specimens studied by us are deposited in the Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St.Petersburg.

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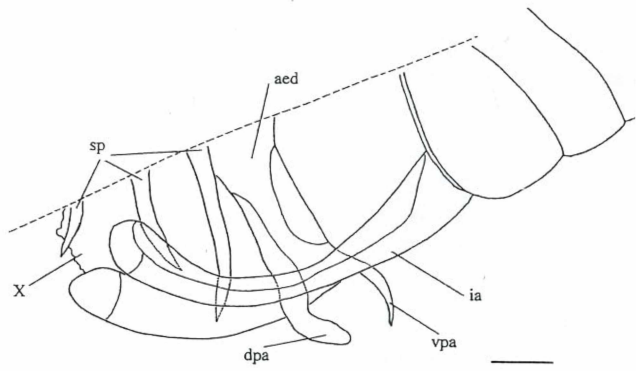
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*Plectrocnemia votonokak* sp.n.: male genitalia, lateral view. Scal bar = 0,1 mm. Abbreviations: X 10<sup>th</sup> segment; aed aedeagus; ia inferior appendages; sp spines of the 10<sup>th</sup> segment; dpa dorsal plate of the aedeagus; vpa ventral plate of the aedeagus.

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