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First record of velvet ant *Smicromyrme tristis* LELEJ 1984 from Austria (Hymenoptera: Mutillidae: Smicromyrmini)

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Abstract

The velvet ant *Smicromyrme tristis* LELEJ 1984 is recorded from the Eastern Austria for the first time. This is the most western record for this species. Its description, figures and the distribution map of Austria are given.

Key words: Mutillidae, velvet ants, *Smicromyrme tristis*, first record, Austria, Central Europe.

Introduction

During the identification of the mutillid material from Austria, which is deposited in the Museum of Linz, we discovered the *Smicromyrme* species, which was unknown from Austria. Since this species is newly recorded in Central Europe, the diagnosis and the description are given below.

***Smicromyrme (Smicromyrme) tristis* LELEJ 1984**

Smicromyrme (Smicromyrme) tristis LELEJ 1984: 82, figs 1, 8-10, ♂ [holotype - ♂, Central Kazakhstan, 10-30 km NEE from Derzhavinsk, 4.VII.1977, leg. V. Kazenas, deposited in Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg, examined].

Smicromyrme (Smicromyrme) tristis: LELEJ 1985: 233, figs 61, 9, 62, 7, 8, ♂.

Smicromyrme (Smicromyrme) tristis: LELEJ 2002: 72.

Description. ♂. Body length 4.2-10.5 mm. Head as in Fig. A. Mandible bidentate with strong subbasal ventral tooth. Ocelli medial size, diameter of anterior one equal to distance between anterior and posterior ocellus. Ratio of postocellar distance: oculocellar distance 0.5-0.6 times. Clypeus with weakly elevated median part and two preapical teeth. Flagellomere 2 almost two times flagellomere 1 and equal or slightly longer than flagellomere 3. Hind coxa mesally convex. Fore wing hyaline. Second abscissa of radial vein usually shorter than third abscissa and slightly thicker than anterior side of radial cell. Length of metasomal tergum 1 less than its maximal width. Genitalia as in Figs C, D. Metasomal tergum 2 densely punctate with distance between punctures less than puncture diameter, equal or more than diameter on disc. Antennae and legs black, mesosoma black with ferruginous-red pronotum, mesoscutum, mesoscutellum, and tegula; rarely metanotum ferruginous-red also. Body and legs with sparse pale setae which form fringe on posterior border of metasomal terga and sterna; mesoscutellum and tegula with subappressed brown setae.

♀ unknown.

Distribution. Russia (Orenburg region), Kazakhstan (Western, Central and Eastern), Ukraine (Odessa region, Zaporozhje region, Crimea), Austria (new record).

Biology. The males of *Smicromyrme tristis* have been collected in Western Kazakhstan on the flowers of *Euphorbia* sp. (Euphorbiaceae) (LELEJ 1985). The species inhabits steppe zone and occurs in Eastern Austria (Pannonian Territory and Southeastern Alpine Foreland) from June to August.

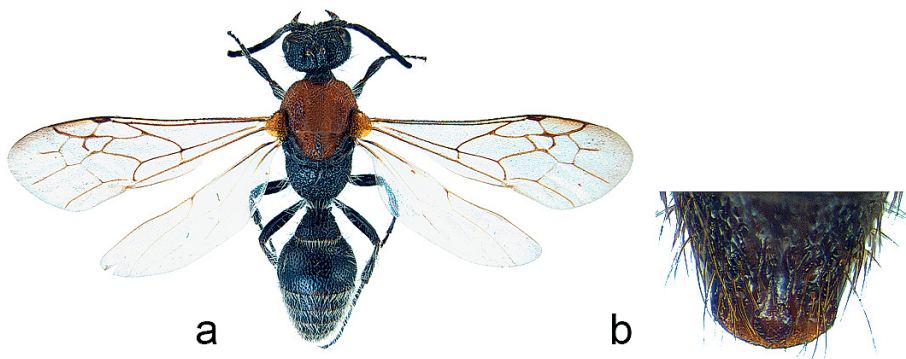


Fig. 1: *Smicromyrme tristis*: (a) Habitus; (b) Tergit 7, dorsal view.

Material examined: Lower-Austria, Stammersdorf, 28.7.1949, 1♂, leg. Kocourek / det. Lelej 2010; Oberweiden, 16° 50' E, 48° 18' N, 16.7.1986, 1♂, leg. Dollfuss / det. Lelej 2010; Falkenstein, Höhlenstein, 48° 43' N, 16° 35' E, 4.7.1999, 1♂, leg. Bregant E. / det. Ockermüller 2010; 7 km NE Krems, Gedersdorf, 11.7.2008, 1♂, leg. Halada & Kadlecová / det. Lelej 2010; 1 km E Poysdorf, 22.7.2009, 1♂, leg. Halada J. / det. Lelej 2010; Burgenland (South-), Oberhenndorf N Jennersdorf, 46° 59' N, 16° 08' E, 24.7.1996, 1♂, leg. Bregant E. / det. Ockermüller 2010; Burgenland (North-), Heidl N Nickelsdorf, 47°56' N, 17° 04' E, 6.6.1998, 2♂♂, leg. Bregant E. / det. Lelej 2010; the same place, 9.8.1998, 1♂, leg. Bregant E. / det. Ockermüller 2010; the same place, 31.7.1999, 1♂, leg. Bregant E., det. Lelej 2010; Zurndorfer Eichenwald, 47° 57' N, 17° 00' E, 2.8.1999, 1♂, leg. Bregant E. / det. Lelej 2010.

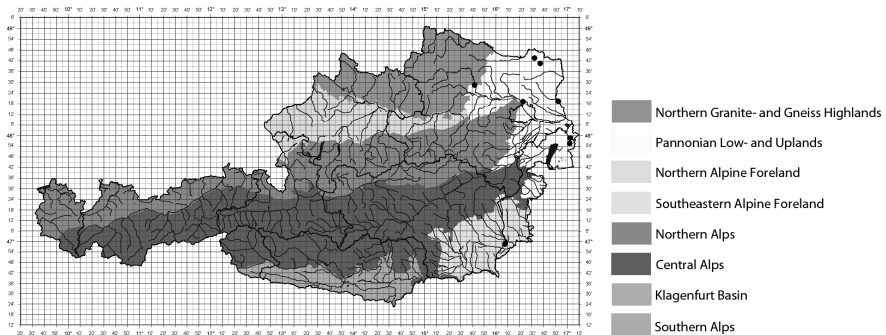


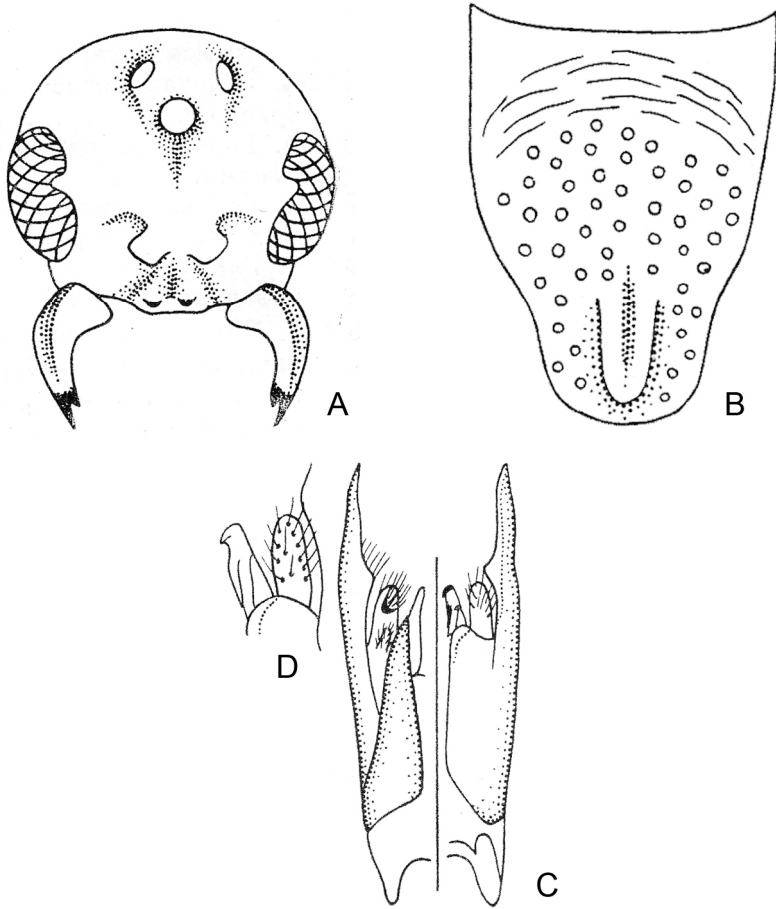
Fig. 2: Distribution map of Austria. Source: RABITSCH & ESSL 2009.

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Figures A–D: *Smicromyrme tristis*, ♂, paratype: (A) head, frontal view; (B) metasomal tergum 7, dorsal view; (C) genitalia, left side – ventral view, right side – dorsal view; (D) volsella and penial valve, dorsal view.

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