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**Preliminary description of *Colletes pannonicus* nov.sp., a member
of the *Colletes succinctus* group, from Eastern Austria
(Insecta: Hymenoptera: Colletidae)**

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Abstract

A new bee species from Austria, *Colletes pannonicus* nov.sp., is preliminary described.

Zusammenfassung

Eine neue Bienenart aus Österreich, *Colletes pannonicus* nov.sp., wird vorläufig beschrieben. Die neue Art unterscheidet sich durch eine etwas spätere Flugzeit, abweichendes Pollensammelverhalten (*Tripolium pannonicum* = *Aster tripolium*) und einige morphologische Abweichungen von der nahestehenden *Colletes brevigena* NOSK.

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***Colletes pannonicus* nov.sp.**

Holotype: ♀, Austria, Bgld., Seewinkel, N Illmitzer Zicklacke, 12.09.2006 leg. K. Mazzucco (coll. Mazzucco, Wien).

Diagnosis: The new species is a member of the *C. succinctus*-group (sensu NOSKIEWICZ 1936). It resembles very closely *C. brevigena* NOSK., but differs from this species in the micro-structure of the galea, the size and shape of head and punctuation of tergite 1 and supraclypeus. NOSKIEWICZ (1936) gave a detailed description of *C. brevigena* (as ssp. of *C. succinctus*!), we restrict therefore the description to the differences between the two species.

Description of female: length 11 mm. Uniform reddish brown hairs on dorsal thorax, missing some darker hairs on scutellum as in some *C. brevigena*. The thorax is smaller between tegulae than in *C. brevigena*.

Head. In relation to thorax width (between tegulae), the head of *C. pannonicus* is clearly broader than that of *brevigena*. The face is longer (measured from middle ocellus to distal edge of clypeus). The clypeus extends beyond the knobs of mandibular base in *C. pannonicus* and ends there in *C. brevigena* (Fig. 3, 4). The eyes are longer and narrow more gradually from the middle downwards compared to *C. brevigena*. The vertex is smaller in *C. pannonicus*, about 1 to 1½ the size of one ocellus large (2 ocelli in *C. brevigena*). The depression between the upper end of eyes and ocellartumulus is deeper.

The supraclypeus shows a bold spot in the middle, shagreened and little shiny. This area in the holotype specimen bares 3 conspicuous dots, groove like and bigger than punctures on middle of Clypeus (in other specimen more such punctures).

In *C. brevigena* this area is also shagreened but rather dull and bares sometimes several punctures with a diameter comparable to that on clypeus.

The most distinct difference between *Colletes pannonicus* and *C. brevigena* can be seen in the microstructure of the galeal blades (see fig. 7, 8). At least in the distal two thirds, they are very densely shagreened and therefore dull in appearance

The small and shallow punctures in this area seem to disappear in this matrix under some angles of view. With respect of galeal shagreen, *C. pannonicus* resembles much more *C. collaris* and *C. halophilus* than *C. brevigena*. In *C. brevigena* the shagreened area is not so dense, rather netlike, more shiny, and restricted to the distal half (fig. 7). The punctures are clearly seeable under each angle of view.

The punctuation of the first abdominal tergite is coarse but finer and more regular in size and density, in contrast to very coarse punctures mainly in lateral portion of T1 in *C. brevigena* (fig. 1, 2). The puncture in T2 of *C. pannonicus* is more evenly and the appearance more shiny than in *C. brevigena*.

The holotype-specimen is in good condition (almost fresh hedged female), just the wings show some traces of abrasion.

Description of the male sex of the new species and further type designations are intended to be published later.

Derivatio nominis: The name of the new species refers to its pollen host *Tripolium pannonicum*.

We intend to publish a more detailed account to the Middle and West European members of the *C. succinctus* group (sensu NOSKIEWICZ 1936) with identification keys and information on their ecology and distribution in the near future.

Acknowledgements

We are indepted to Dr. Harald Schillhammer (Naturhistorisches Museum Wien) for kindly preparing the pictures for this work.

Literature

NOSKIEWICZ J. (1936): Die paläarktischen *Colletes*-Arten. – Prace Naukowe Wydawnictwo Towarzystwa Naukowego we Lwowie 3: 1-531.



Fig. 1-4: *Colletes brevigena* NOSK. (left column, fig. 1, 3, Austria Inf., Bruck/L. Spitzerberg S-Hang, 26.08.2008 leg. K. Mazzucco (in coll. Mazzucco). *Colletes pannonicus* nov.sp., (right column, fig. 2, 4): (1-2) T1 & T2, (3-4) shape of head.

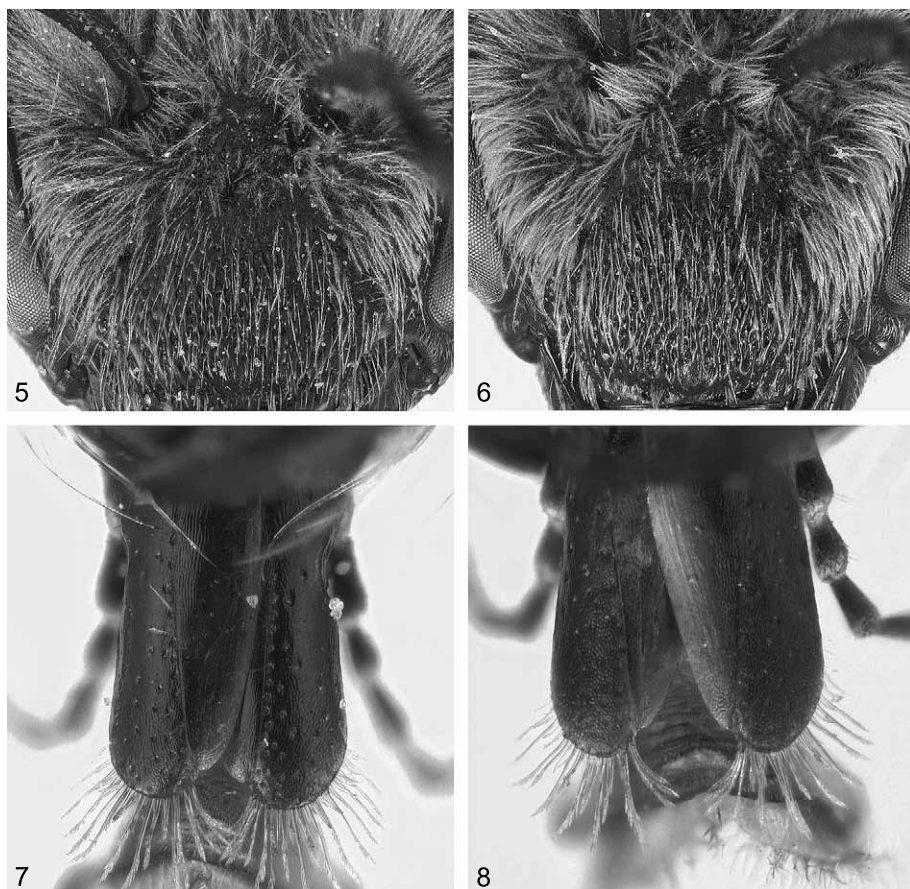


Fig. 1: *Colletes brevigena* NOSK. (left column, fig. 5, 7, Austria Inf., Bruck/L. Spitzerberg S-Hang, 26.08.2008 leg. K. Mazzucco (in coll. Mazzucco). *Colletes pannonicus* nov.sp., (right column, fig. 6, 8): (5-6) clypeus region; (7-8) microstructure of distal parts of galea from dorsal (top down).

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