

NEW DATA ON *ALLACMA FUSCA* (LINNAEUS, 1758) (COLLEMBOLA, SMINTHURIDAE) IN LITHUANIA

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Introduction

Collembola is currently considered to be a monophyletic Class of the Phylum Arthropoda although their exact taxonomic position is still the subject of some debate. Many authors treat Collembola as insects (Hopkin, 2002)., Approximately 7000 species of Collembola are described worldwide, while about 2400 are known from Europe (Sterzynka, 2007).

There are three main Orders of Collembola. Members of the Arthropleona (about 5500 species) have more or less elongated body shape and range from highly active surface-dwelling species to those that live out all their lives in the depths of the soil. The Symphypleona (about 1000 species) have much more rounded body shape and are mostly attractively patterned, surface-living species. The Neelipleona are very small soil inhabiting springtails (typically 0.5 mm in length) with only about 25 species known in the world (Hopkin, 2002).

The Curonian Spit is one of the most interesting nature nooks of the whole Baltic Sea region where diversity of natural conditions form sophisticated aquatic and terrestrial biotopes.

This article deals with the collembolan species *Allacma fusca* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Symphypleona: Sminthuridae) found in the Curonian spit in 2008. At present, the list of Lithuanian invertebrates include 146 species of Collembola belonging to 12 families.

Material and Methods

The material was collected in July of 2008, in Alksnynė forest (old *Pinus sylvestris* woodland located in Lithuania, Klaipėda administrative district, the Curonian Spit (55°38'34"N, 21°04'24"E)). The collembolans were found by J. Rimšaitė and P. Ivinskis while examining mushrooms (*Agaricales s. l.*). The material was identified using the keys of G. J. Bei-Bienko (1964) and A. Fjellberg (2007).

Results and Discussion

In 2008, in the Alksnynė forest a new for Lithuania collembolan species *Allacma fusca* belonging to the family Sminthuridae was discovered (Fig. 1). 11 specimens were registered. L. Deharveng (2007) indicates that *Allacma fusca* was reported in Lithuania, but data on this species was not published in scientific articles or other available sources in Lithuania.

The species is recognised from other species of the same family by the inner spine on the last trochanter, presence of nine or more ventral setae on dens, and presence of a

short thick postantennal setae on the head. This large species, reaching size not matching by any other Symphypleona in our area, is commonly found in moist forests where it is easily spotted while creeping on damp logs and stumps of wood. General distribution is Holarctic (Fjellberg, 2007). The species was reported from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Danish mainland, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greek mainland, Ireland, Latvia, Norwegian mainland, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, and Ukraine. The data from Byelorussia is doubtful. The data from Russia and Kaliningrad Region are absent (Deharveng, 2007).



Fig 1. *Allacma fusca* (Linnaeus, 1758)

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Nauji duomenys apie *Allacma fusca* (Collembola, Sminthuridae) Lietuvoje

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Santrauka

2008 metais Kuršių nerijoje, Alksnynėje, pušyne rasta kolembolų rūšis *Allacma fusca* (Sminthuridae). Internetinėje duomenų bazėje Fauna Europaea nurodoma, kad *Allacma fusca* Lietuvoje yra rasta, tačiau Lietuvoje skelbtuose straipsniuose ir prieinamuose šaltiniuose duomenys apie šią rūšį nėra skelbti. Šiuo metu į Lietuvos bestuburių sąrašą įrašytos 146 kolembolų rūšys, priklausančios 12 šeimų.

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