

# OCCURRENCE OF SOLENOPOTES CAPREOLI (ANOPLURA) IN CZECH LANDS

The roe deer louse, *Solenopotes capreoli* was described by Freund (Parasites, transmetteurs, animaux venimeux. Rec. Trav. dédié au 25 me Anniv. Sci. Prof. E. Pavlovsky, 1909—1934: 275—280, 1935) in a hardly available publication on the basis of two specimens from Bohemia. The locality was not given. The species was differentiated from *S. burmeisteri* (Fahrenholz, 1919) from red deer. In spite of this, *S. capreoli* was not included in the list of lice from Czechoslovakia either by Smetana (Ac. Rer. Natur. Mus. Nat. Slov., Bratislava 11: 30—38, 1965) or by Černý (Acta faun. Ent. Mus. Nat. Pragae 15, Suppl. 4: 53—54, 1977). This species, generally considered to be very rare, was not mentioned in faunistic surveys of parasites of deers from Czechoslovakia (Kotrly A., Práce VÚLHM 44: 229—243, 1973), Switzerland (Bouvier G., Parasitol. Schr. Reihe 4: 1—18, 1956), Austria (Kutzer E., Hinaidy H. K., Z. Parasitenk. 32: 354—368, 1969), Poland (Kadulski S., Acta paras. Pol. 23: 493—535, 1975), and G. D. R. (Gräfner G., Angew. Parasitol. 21: 177—182, 1980), though several hundreds of hosts were examined in these studies.

The more surprising were the results obtained by the senior author during the examinations of 231 cadavers and 224 heads of roe deers sent to the laboratory for the examination for rabies. *S. capreoli* was found on 57 specimens (prevalence 12.5 %) and a total of 1509 females, 529 males and 366 larvae were collected (mean intensity of infestation 42.2, abundance 5.3). The highest number of lice (388) were collected from a roe caught on March 2, 1985 at Nová Ves nad Nisou (district Jablonec nad Nisou).

The species was found in Czech lands in 17 districts of 7 regions. The numbers in the following list indicate the number of specimens examined and the numbers in parentheses the number of positive specimens.

North Bohemia 290 (38): Česká Lípa 45 (3), Chomutov 21 (4), Děčín 20, Jablonec n. N. 35 (15), Liberec 44 (5), Litoměřice 63 (6), Louny 9 (1), Most 12, Teplice 16 (2), Ústí n. L. 25 (2). East Bohemia 70 (11): Chrudim 2, Havlíčkův Brod 1, Hradec Králové 1, Jičín 4, Náchod 10 (3), Pardubice 2, Rychnov n. K. 6, Semily 7 (1), Svitavy 20 (2), Trutnov 11 (3), Ústí n. O. 6 (2). South Bohemia 57 (5): České Budějovice 13, Český Krumlov 10, Jindřichův Hradec 10 (3),



Fig.1. Posterior part of male abdomen in *S. capreoli*.



Fig.2. Posterior part of male abdomen in *S. burmeisteri*.

Pelhřimov 7, Písek 5, Prachatice 4 (2), Strakonice 4, Tábor 4.

West Bohemia 25 (2): Cheb 6 (2), Karlovy Vary 8, Klatovy 1, Plzeň 2, Rokycany 1, Sokolov 3, Tachov 4.

Central Bohemia 4: Mladá Boleslav 1, Rakovník 3.

North Moravia 1: Přerov 1.

South Moravia 8 (1): Blansko 1 (1), Brno 6, Jihlava 1.

The lice were localized on the host heads, mainly around the eyes. In case of stronger infestation (about 6 lice per 1 cm<sup>2</sup>) single parasites were found also on the neck and shoulder blades.

Although some of the authors expressed doubts about the validity of *S. capreoli* and

regarded it as a synonym of *S. burmeisteri*, the two species can be well differentiated from one another, especially on the basis of male characters. The males of *S. capreoli* (measurements based on specimens embedded in Canada balsam) have shorter parameters (128—141 μm, mean 132 μm) and the last abdominal segment is bluntly ended (Fig. 1), whereas the males of *S. burmeisteri* have larger parameters (170 to 180 μm, mean 173 μm) and the last abdominal segment is pointed (Fig. 2).

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