



FIRST RECORD OF *Hydrochus ignicollis* (COLEOPTERA, HYDROCHIDAE) FROM SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

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SYNOPSIS

In this paper the first records of water beetle species *Hydrochus ignicollis* Motschulsky, 1860 (Coleoptera, Hydrochidae) from Serbia and Montenegro are reported.

INTRODUCTION

The family Hydrochidae is a monophyletic and monogeneric taxon, well differentiated from all the other lines within the Hydrophiloidea, and includes only the genus *Hydrochus* Leach, 1817. The genus *Hydrochus* Leach, 1817 includes 21 species in Europe, but only seven species are widely distributed in the continent (Hansen, 2004). At present, the family Hydrochidae in Serbia and Montenegro is represented respectively by only one species: *Hydrochus flavipennis* Küster, 1852 (Hansen, 2010; Przewozny et al., 2009).

In this paper, *Hydrochus ignicollis* Motschulsky, 1860 is reported for the first time for Serbia and Montenegro.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Specimens were collected from water area, with a sieve and net. The beetles were preserved in 70 % alcohol. Aedeagophore was dissected under the stereomicroscope and left in 10 % KOH solution for about 1–2 hours. The illustrations of genitalia and some taxonomic characters were prepared using a microscope. The morphological terminology largely follows HEBAUER & KLAUSNITZER (1998). Materials have been deposited in the University of Montenegro, Department of Biology, Podgorica.

SYSTEMATICS

***Hydrochus ignicollis* Motschulsky, 1860**

(Fig. 1)

MATERIAL EXAMINED: MONTENEGRO: Podgorica area, village Bandići, spring "Crno Oko", 42° 29'03" N 19°09'14"E, 35 m asl., 24.07. 2010, 1 male, 2 female, leg. Pavićević; SERBIA: E Serbia, Sokobanja Bovansko jezero-lake, 43° 39'11" N 21°45'45"E, 254 m asl., 25.09.2009, 1 male, 1 female, leg. Pavićević.

REMARKS: This is the first record of this species in Montenegro. *Hydrochus ignicollis* is similar to *H. elongatus* (Schaller, 1783) but can be easily distinguished by the shape of aedeagus. Figure 1 show aedeagus of the specimen from Montenegro. *Hydrochus ignicollis* is acidophilic species: it occurs in various stagnant or slowly running water open to the sun, eutrophic and well vegetated.



Figure 1. *Hydrochus ignicollis* Motschulsky, 1860, male, spring Crno Oko, Podgorica: aedeagus. Scale bar = 100 μ m.

DISTRIBUTION: Palaearctic. In Europe from Ireland to N Russia (Hebauer & Klausnitzer, 1998).



Figure 2:
Map of Serbia and Montenegro,
showing position of the sampling
localities of *Hydrochus ignicollis*.

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