

Description of two new Asian species of *Histeridae* (Insecta: Coleoptera)

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LACKNER, T. 2004. Description of two new Asian species of Histeridae (Insecta: Coleoptera). *Entomol. Probl.* 34(1): 107–111. – *Asiaster hlavaci* sp.nov. from Southern China is described and figured. The new species is compared with the existing representatives of the genus *Asiaster* COOMAN. *Platysoma inexpectatum* sp.nov. from Syria is described and figured. It is as well compared with the related species *P.deplanatum* GYLLENHAL.

Key words: taxonomy, new species, Coleoptera, Histeridae, Southern China, Syria.

Introduction

The genus *Asiaster* was erected by COOMAN (1948) based on morphological characters, clearly distinguishing it from related genera (mainly from *Atholus* C. THOMSON) within the tribe Histerini. COOMAN pointed out setae on the ventral side of the body and characteristic brush of short spines mainly on the ventral side of protibiae. ÔHARA (1999) redescribed the Taiwanese species *A. calacator* COOMAN. Recently KAPLER (1999) described three new oriental species of the genus raising thus the number of existing representatives to six. In this paper a new species of this genus is described and compared with the other known representatives of the genus *Asiaster*: *A. vestitus* (Lewis) from Burma, *A. calacator* COOMAN from Taiwan, *A. pilisternus* COOMAN from Vietnam, *A. cooteri* KAPLER from Southern China, *A. olexai* KAPLER from Indonesia and *A. duostriatus* KAPLER from Philippines.

The genera complex *Platysoma* s. l. is currently undergoing major revision. Subcortically living Histerid beetles of subgenus *Platysoma* s.str. are in the western palearctic represented by five species (MAZUR, 1997). A new west-palearctic representative is hereby described and figured.

Abbreviations

ZICAS – Zoological Institute of Chinese Academy of Science
ZMAN – Zoologisch Museum Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Asiaster hlavaci sp.nov.

(Figs 1–3)

Material studied: **Holotype** (male, glued on its side; with extracted genitalia), with printed label: //CHINA: Fujian prov./, / Wuyi Shan Nat. Res./, / 4 VI 01, Tongmu vill./, /Hlavac & Cooter//; another label printed-written //Asiaster sp. nov./, / det. S.Mazur, 02//, and another red printed label is present: //Asiaster/, /hlavaci, sp.nov./, / HOLOTYPUS/, / Det. T. Lackner 2002//. **Paratypes:** 5 ex; the same data as Holotype and 3 ex with printed label: //

CHINA: Fujian prov./, /Wuyi Shan Nat. Res./ 2 km NW Tongmu vill./, / 30 V 01 in rotting bamboo/, / Hlavac & Cooter//.

Holotype and three paratypes are preserved in the collection of ZICAS Beijing; one paratype is deposited in the collection of Mr. Piet Kanaar, Oegstgeest, The Netherlands, another paratype is deposited in the collection of ZMAN Amsterdam, and finally three paratypes are deposited in author's own collection.

Description

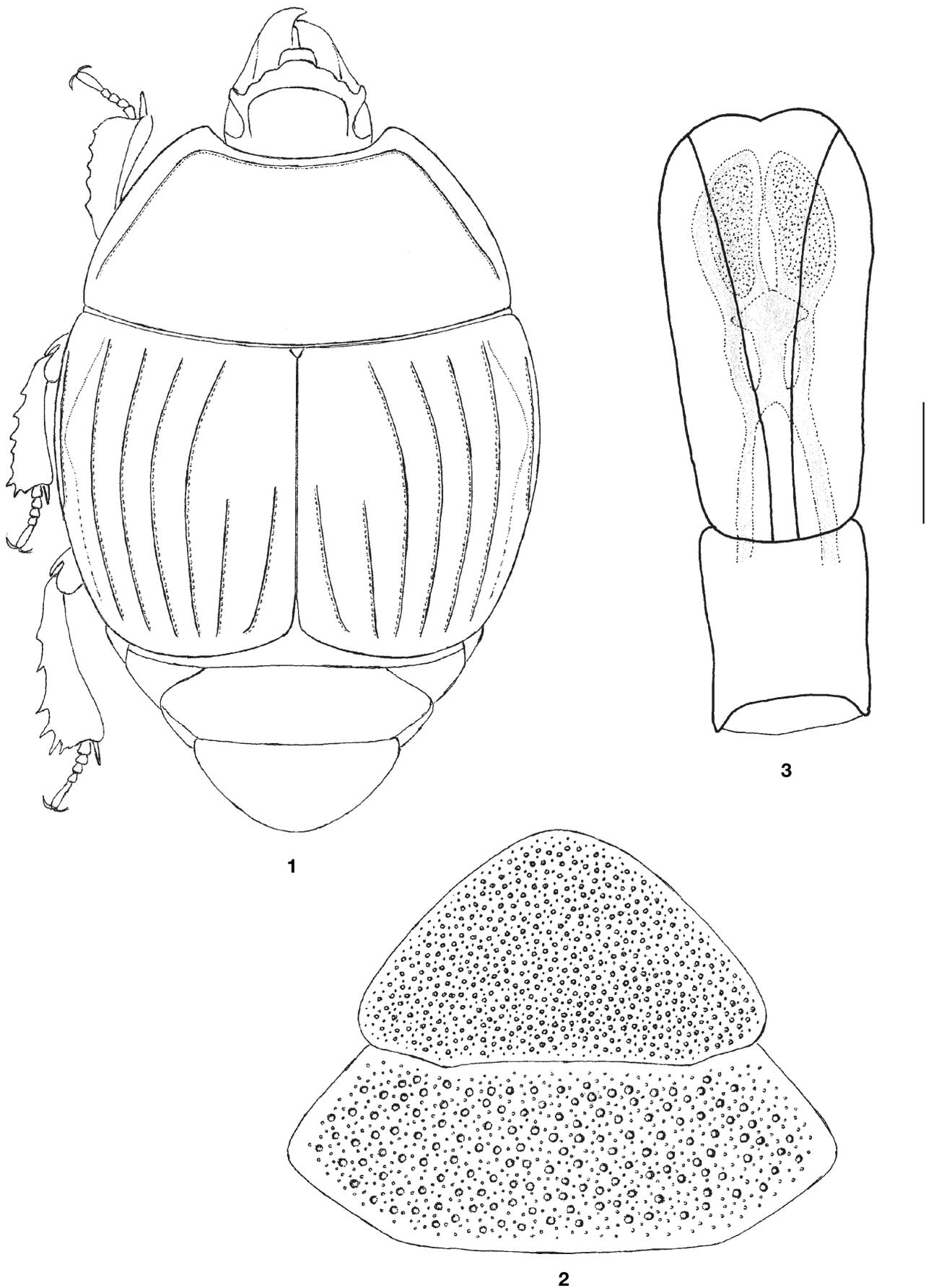
Length (without head and propygidium and pygidium): 3,3 mm; Width: 3,0 mm; Height: 1,8 mm

Broadly oval, slightly convex, feebly depressed near the elytral suture, black and lustrous. Entire surface sparsely and finely punctate. Antennae, tibiae, mouth parts, tarsi and elytral apical margin reddish-brown.

Head. Frons flat, evenly covered with sparse fine punctation. Frontal stria deeply impressed, complete, connected with supraorbital striae. Antennal club densely covered with yellowish setae.

Pronotum. Slightly convex, strongly narrowed anteriorly. Marginal pronotal stria interrupted behind head, complete laterally, not visible in dorsal view, hidden under pronotal margin. Inner lateral pronotal stria almost complete, posteriorly slightly abbreviated and approaching pronotal margin. Pronotal disc evenly and sparsely covered with fine punctation. Along pronotal base a row of coarser punctation present. Pronotal epipleuron smooth, only with fine punctures along its margin, asetose.

Elytra. Broad, humeral region prominent. External subhumeral stria distinct, shortened posteriorly. Internal subhumeral stria represented by some points and fragments. Oblique humeral stria very fine, anteriorly connected with the first dorsal stria and posteriorly reaching fragmented internal subhumeral stria. Dorsal striae 1–4 deeply impressed, complete and crenate. Fifth and sutural striae present on apical half; sutural a bit longer than fifth, ending just short before elytral half. Whole surface of elytra



Figs.1-3 *Asiaster hlavaci*, sp.nov.: 1) Body, in part, dorsal view (scale: 1 mm); 2) Propygidium and Pygidium; 3. Aedeagus, dorsal view (scale: 0.2 mm).

evenly covered with fine sparse punctuation. Elytral epipleuron with two fine marginal striae.

Propygidium. Covered with irregular ocelloid punctures, becoming somewhat denser and smaller along its apex; interstices with strigose ground microsculpture, mixed with very small secondary punctures.

Pygidium. Strigose ground microsculpture of disc more prominent; punctures finer than those on propygidium, interspaces between punctures sparsely intermingled with smaller punctures.

Prosternum. Prosternal lobe anteriorly rounded, laterally covered with coarse punctures which become sparser and finer medially, asetose. Marginal stria of prosternal lobe present only as short rudiment at suture; inner stria deeply impressed, complete. Prosternal keel covered with fine punctures, flat, only slightly concave in lateral view, asetose. Lateral prosternal stria complete, strongly carinate, carinal striae absent.

Mesosternum. Disc covered with very fine sparse punctures, shining, asetose. Marginal mesosternal stria complete. Anterior marginal mesosternal stria present laterally, anteriorly interrupted. Anterior margin of mesosternum outwardly arcuate. Meso-metasternal suture complete.

First visible abdominal sternite. Smooth, completely striate, laterally, with a band of fine punctures along its base and along lateral striae.

Tibiae. All tibiae moderately expanded apically, ventrally with apical brush of shorter and robust spines. Protibia moderately expanded, with 5–6 small spines on outer margin. Apical row of spines perceptible in dorsal view, extending beyond the margin of protibia, with 4–5 moderately robust spines in anterolateral corner. Meso and meta tibia with about 10 robust spines on outer margin, more spines present in apical corners.

Aedeagus. Very robust and broad, rather short.

Variation. Sutural elytral stria reaching or sometimes even passing elytral half.

Remarks. Collected together with *A. cooteri* KAPLER.

Differential diagnosis. *Asiaster hlavaci*, sp.nov. differs from *A. calcator* COOMAN, 1948, *A. vestitus* (LEWIS, 1891), and *A. pilisternus* COOMAN, 1948 chiefly by the underside of the body being asetose, structure of prosternum, and other minor characteristics.

From *A. cooteri* KAPLER, 1999 it differs by having four complete dorsal striae developed instead of three, by having strigose ground microsculpture of propygidium and pygidium, by the punctuation of propygidium and pygidium, and by the aedeagus being more short and robust. From *A. olexai* KAPLER, 1999 and *A. duostriatus* KAPLER, 1999 it differs especially by having four dorsal striae completely developed instead of three or two respectively and other characteristics.

Etymology. Named after one of its collectors, my colleague and friend Peter Hlaváč (Košice, Slovakia).

Platysoma (s.str.) inexpectatum sp.nov.
(Figs 4–6)

Material studied: Holotype (male, glued on its side, with

extracted aedeagus) with printed label: // SYRIA occ., 30 IV 00/ , / 15 km SE of / , /Ayn as Sharquiah/ , /Latakia distr., 1000m/ , / PETR KRESL leg. //, with consecutive labels: [printed-written] / Platysoma n.sp!., S.Mazur det 01/; [printed-written] / Platysoma inexpectatum n.sp. T.Lackner det. 2002/, [red label written] / HOLOTYPE, det. T.Lackner, 02/.

Holotype is deposited in ZMAN, The Netherlands.

Description

Length (without head and propygidium and pygidium): 3.5 mm; width: 2.4 mm; height: 1.5 mm.

Rectangularly-oval, feebly convex, almost flat, black and shining; tibiae, tarsi, mandibles and antennae dark brown.

Head. Surface microscopically and sparsely punctated, frons and clypeus with common deep excavation; frontal stria bisinuate, well impressed and carinate, weakened in middle. Mandible stout, well developed and with denticle on inner margin.

Pronotum. Pronotal sides slightly convergent forward, apical with deep excavation, acute. Marginal pronotal stria complete laterally, lateral pronotal stria complete, carinate at the sides. Disc of pronotum covered with very fine sparse punctuation. Along pronotal sides a broad band of coarse and deep punctures present, punctures separated by 2–4 times their diameter. Antescutellar area with longitudinal puncture which is slightly impressed.

Elytra. Epipleura of elytra shining and scattered with microscopic punctures. Marginal epipleural stria well impressed and complete. Marginal elytral stria slightly impressed, complete. Subhumeral stria absent. Oblique humeral stria faintly impressed on basal two-thirds. Elytral stria 1–4 complete, deeply impressed. Fifth dorsal stria well impressed, in front not quite reaching elytral half; a little shortened apically. Sutural stria absent. Elytral apex with undulate apical stria, indistinctly continuous with elytral marginal stria; with some additional points before it.

Propygidium and pygidium. Propygidium densely covered with irregular large and shallow ocellate punctures, which are absent along apical margin. Pygidium (Fig. 2) covered with scattered deep punctures. Punctuation is somewhat finer than that of propygidium; pygidial apex almost smooth, only microscopically punctate.

Prosternum. Anterior margin of prosternal lobe broadly truncate. Marginal stria of prosternal lobe well impressed, weakened in middle; its posterior end slightly bent inwardly, not attaining the lobal base; another oblique stria runs from the lobal base, ending in front in the anterolateral curvature near the anterior marginal stria. Disc of prosternal lobe irregularly and finely punctated, its posterior angles with deep ocelloid punctures that disappear medially. Prosternal keel broad, without carinal stria; covered with sparse microscopic punctures. Lateral and lateral marginal striae deeply impressed and carinate.

Mesosternum and metasternum. Anterior margin of mesosternum deeply emarginate; marginal stria complete and carinate at the sides, broadly interrupted anteriorly; disc almost smooth with only scattered microscopic

punctures. Meso-metasternal suture very fine, almost obsolete. Punctuation of intercoxal disc of metasternum similar to that of mesosternum. Lateral metasternal stria deeply impressed, complete and carinate, extended posteriorly and obliquely; its apical end reaching near metacoxal cavity. Post-mesocoxal stria present outside lateral metasternal, parallel to it. Lateral disc densely covered with large and shallow punctures, that become finer apically. First visible abdominal sternite almost smooth, with only microscopic punctuation. Two lateral striae present, the outer stria abbreviated on basal half.

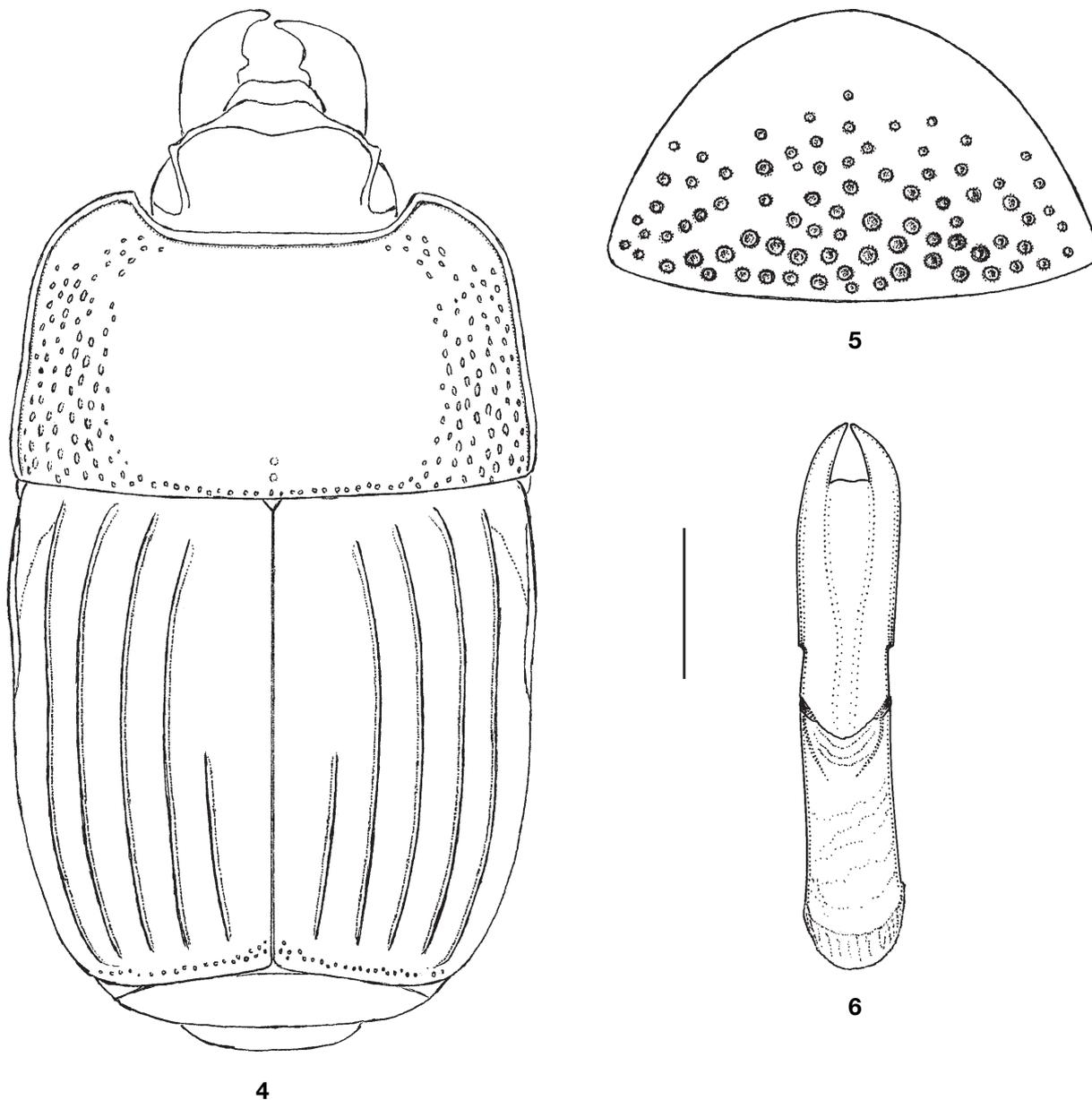
Legs. Protibia with 4 denticles on outer margin, meso- and-metantibiae besides of bifid apical tooth with 2 denticles on outer margin.

Aedeagus. Short, but slender, typical for the representative of the genus.

Etymology. Name of this new species is derived from Latin: *inexpectatum* meaning unexpected, since it is very surprising to discover a new species of *Platysoma* in the western palearctic.

Discussion

With four dorsal elytral striae complete, this new species can be linked to *Platysoma* (*s.str.*) *deplanatum* (GYLLENHAL, 1808), the only other west-palearctic species with this feature (KRYZHANOVSKIJ & REICHARDT, 1976). It can be, however, easily distinguished from the latter by the following characteristics: body size being much greater, fifth elytral stria being shorter (with *P. deplanatum* extending more anteriorly), first abdominal sternite being impunctate. Also the shape of the pronotum is more rec-



Figs. 4-6 *Platysoma inexpectatum*, sp.nov.: 4) Body, in part, dorsal view (scale: 1 mm); 5) Pygidium; 6) Aedeagus, dorsal view (scale: 0.2 mm).

tangular, in *P. deplanatum* the pronotum is more convergent apically, etc. Furthermore, *P. deplanatum* is a boreal species, occurring in the west palearctic, mainly in eastern and northern Europe, and in central Europe only in higher elevations. The area of distribution of *P. deplanatum* stretches through the whole of northern Asia as far as Japan (MAZUR, 1997). New species is known from north Syria.

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Faunistic records from Slovakia

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Diptera: Agromyzidae

Chromatomyia gentii (HENDEL, 1920)

Slovakia, Nízke Tatry Mts. [7083], alpine zone between Dereše mt. – Ďumbier mt., 1700–2000 m a.s.l., 5.viii. 2002, 2 ♂♂, trapped in yellow dish, lgt. Jan Farkač, Klára Farkačová & Vlastimil Zedek, det. and coll. M. Černý; Research of Faculty of Forestry, Czech Agricultural University, Prague, Jan Farkač, Květoš Resl, Vlastimil Zedek, Martin Linhart & Ivan Mareček, 2002.

Species is originally described by HENDEL (1920) as *Napomyza gentii*, from La Lautaret situated in the central part of French Alps. This boreo-alpine species is also known from Italy, Austria (HENDEL 1931–6) and Poland (NOWAKOWSKI 1991). First record from Slovakia.

Chromatomyia tschirnhausi GRIFFITHS, 1980

Slovakia, Nízke Tatry Mts. [7083], alpine zone between Dereše mt. – Ďumbier mt., 1700–2000 m a.s.l., 5.viii. 2002, 1 ♂, trapped in yellow dish, lgt. Jan Farkač, Klára Farkačová & Vlastimil Zedek, det. and coll. M. Černý; Research of Faculty of Forestry, Czech Agricultural University, Prague, Jan Farkač, Květoš Resl, Vlastimil Zedek, Martin Linhart & Ivan Mareček, 2002.

Species described after the type series placed in the collection of M. von Tschirnhaus. These individuals were collected in the regions of Central Hardangervidda (1260–2050 m a.s.l.) in Norway and Lechtaler Alpen (1700–2200 m a.s.l.) in Austria (GRIFFITHS 1980). The species is also known from Poland (NOWAKOWSKI 1991). Next record of this boreo-alpine species from alpine zone of Central Europe. First record from Slovakia.

Phytomyza varipes MACQUART, 1835

Slovakia, Nízke Tatry Mts. [7083], alpine zone between Dereše mt. – Ďumbier mt., 1700–2000 m a.s.l., 5.viii. 2002, 1 ♂, trapped in yellow dish, lgt. Jan Farkač, Klára Farkačová & Vlastimil Zedek, det. and coll. M. Černý; Research of Faculty of Forestry, Czech Agricultural University, Prague, Jan Farkač, Květoš Resl, Vlastimil Zedek, Martin Linhart & Ivan Mareček, 2002.

Species described from northern France is widespread throughout Europe, locally abundant in Alps (HENDEL 1931–6, SPENCER 1976) and recorded also in Nova Scotia, Canada (SPENCER 1969). First record from Slovakia.

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