

# A new *Platycheirus* species of the *manicatus* subgroup (Diptera, Syrphidae) from Caucasus

Anatolii V. Barkalov & Tore R. Nielsen

Barkalov, A.V. & Nielsen, T.R. 2007. A new *Platycheirus* species of the *manicatus* subgroup (Diptera, Syrphidae) from Caucasus. *Norw. J. Entomol.* 54, 129-134.

A new species, *Platycheirus similis* sp. nov. is described from Kabardino-Balkaria, Republic of northern Caucasus. It is compared with other large species of the *Platycheirus manicatus* subgroup, and a key is presented.

Key words: Diptera, Syrphidae, *Platycheirus similis* sp. nov., *manicatus* subgroup, Caucasus.

Anatolii V. Barkalov, Institute of Animal Systematics and Ecology of RAS, Siberian Branch, Novosibirsk-91, Frunze str., 11, Russia. E-mail: bark@eco.nsc.ru

Tore R. Nielsen, Sandvedhagen 8, N-4318 Sandnes, Norway. E-mail: tore@nielsen.cc

## INTRODUCTION

This paper deals with a number of larger species of the European *Platycheirus manicatus* subgroup, a subgroup characterised (Vockeroth 1990) by fore femur without distinctive vestiture, fore tibia rather narrow and the following tarsal joints 1-2 distinctly broadened.

The first author collected an unknown species, described here, on an expedition to Caucasus in 1999. The new species, *Platycheirus similis* sp. nov. (Figure 1A) has great similarity with *P. tarsalis* (Schummel, 1837) and has been compared with that and other large species of the subgroup: *P. cejensis* Kuznetsov, 1987 (description) *P. cintoensis* van der Goot, 1961 (holotype, coll. Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam), *P. fasciculatus* Loew, 1856 (Italy, coll. T.R. Nielsen), *P. kashkarovi* Violovitsh, 1978 (paratype, coll. Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg), Figure 1C) and *P. manicatus* (Meigen, 1822) and *P. parmatus* Rondani, 1857. A key is presented for the species mentioned above.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

All drawings were made with the aid of a drawing mirror attached to a Wild M5 microscope. The photos of *Platycheirus similis* sp. nov. holotype and the *P. kashkarovi* Viol. paratype were taken with an electronic camera.

### *Platycheirus similis* sp. nov.

Holotype: Male, labelled «Кабардино-Балкария, ущ. Суган-Су, 1700 м 16.07.1999, Сб. А. Баркалов» (Kabardino-Balkaria, Sukan-Su Gorge, 1700 meters, 16 July 1999, leg. A. Barkalov), in coll. Zoological Museum, Novosibirsk.

Diagnosis: The new species belongs to the *manicatus* subgroup (Vockeroth 1990: 662) without distinctive vestiture of fore femur. It differs from *P. tarsalis* by having a wider face and a heavily dusted frons, a longer fore basitarsus and other characters.