

# *Leopoldius calceatus* (Rondani, 1857) expanding in Europe (Diptera, Conopidae)

ELIAS DE BREE

Bree, E. de 2019. *Leopoldius calceatus* (Rondani, 1857) expanding in Europe (Diptera, Conopidae). *Norwegian Journal of Entomology* 66, 71–72.

The conopid fly *Leopoldius calceatus* (Rondani, 1857) is reported new to Scandinavia (Norway) and the Balkans (Bosnia and Herzegovina). The species is recently expanding its range in Europe.

Key words: Ichneumonidae, Banchinae, Campopleginae, Cryptinae, Ctenopelmatinae, Ichneumoninae, Tersilochinae, Tryphoninae, Norway, Scandinavia, new records.

*Elias de Bree, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. E-mail: ectemnius@gmail.com*

## Introduction

During a visit to Sarajevo's gondola atop mount Trebvić I caught a Conopid fly of the genus *Leopoldius* Rondani, 1843. Closer examination revealed it to be a male *Leopoldius calceatus* (Rondani, 1857). During a search online for more information about the species, a photo was posted on the site diptera.info (Figure 1). As this was also new for the fauna of Norway, I decided to include both the Bosnian and the Norwegian specimen in a single paper.

## Identification

There are seven species of *Leopoldius* known from Europe (Chvála 1961, Stuke et. al. 2014). *Leopoldius calceatus* is the only *Leopoldius* species identifiable in both sexes by its colouration. The other European species can only be identified by examining the theca of the female. *L. calceatus* is therefore keyed out in Chvála 1961 immediately

based on its colours. *L. calceatus*' small yellow bands on the abdomen, it's black frons with yellow on the rest of the top of the head, extensive black markings on the femora and the dark band in the front half of the wing make it easily recognizable.

## Material examined

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Sarajevo, Mount Trebvić, N43.840917-E18.454268, 10-9-2018, leg. et col. E. de Bree. Norway: Telemark, Neslandsvatn, N58.976139-E009.167098, 23-09-2018, Leg. M. Mjelde, col. ZMUO

The find from Bosnia and Herzegovina is the first for the Balkans. At the same time the find in Norway is the first for Scandinavia. In Europe the species was known from: Germany, Poland, former Czechoslovakia, Austria, France, Italy; and in North Africa known from Tunisia (Chvála & Smith 1988).



**FIGURE 1.** Habitus of male *Leopoldius calceatus* (Rondani, 1857) from Telemark, Norway. Photo: M. Mjelde.

## Discussion

Recently the species seems to be expanding its range as it has been found in Belgium (de Bree *etal.* 2014) and the Netherlands (Smit *etal.* 2016). Its recent addition to the Hungarian checklist might be because it was overlooked (Sándor 2007). The expansion into Belgium and the Netherlands seems to be real. Both countries have extensive historical entomological collections and an active community of dipterist during the last century unable to capture the species.

Seeing its current distribution *Leopoldius calceatus* might certainly be found in more European countries. For example Denmark and Sweden. But possibly also the United Kingdom and other countries on the Balkans.

**Acknowledgements.** Thanks to Morten Mjelde for letting me use his photo and to Jens-Hermann Stuke for sharing distributional information about *Leopoldius calceatus*.

## References

- Bree, E. de, Smit, J.T., Mortelmans, J. 2014. Blaaskopvliegen van het genus *Leopoldius* in de Benelux (Diptera: Conopidae). *Nederlandse Faunistische Mededelingen* 43, 55-66.
- Chvála, M. 1961. Czechoslovak species of the subfamily Conopinae (Diptera, Conopidae). *Catalogue of Palaearctic Diptera* 8: 245-272.
- Chvála, M., Smith, K.G.V. 1988. Conopidae.: 245-272. In Soos A, Papp L. (ed.): *Catalogue of Palaearctic Diptera*. Vol. 8.
- Sándor, T. 2007. A Mátra és környékének fejeslégfaunája (Diptera: Conopidae). *Folia Historico-Naturalia Musei Matraensis* 31, 157-165.
- Smit, J., Raemakers, I., Aussems, R. 2016. Duistere wespblaaskop *Leopoldius calceatus* nu ook in Nederland (Diptera: Conopidae). *Nederlandse Faunistische Mededelingen* 43, 55-66.
- Stuke, J.-H., Clements, D.K., Madjdzadeh S.M., Gharali, B. 2014. Two new synonyms in the genus *Leopoldius* Rondani (Diptera, Conopidae). *Studia Dipterologica* 21(1): 41-44.

Received: 2 July 2019  
Accepted: 27 August 2019