

The Leucospidae (Hym. Chalcidoidea) of the Zoologisches Museum Hamburg

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Abstract

The Leucospidae in the entomological collections of the Zoological Museum of the University of Hamburg (ZMH) are listed in a data file available in the Museum. It contains dates of 72 specimens of 5 species.

Key words: Leucospidae, *Leucospis*, *L. bifasciata*, *L. biguetina*, *L. dorsigera*, *L. gigas*, *L. intermedia*.

Weidner (1972) wrote in his catalogue of the entomological collections in the Zoological Museum of the University of Hamburg (ZMH) that Leucospidae were represented by specimens of the two species *Leucospis dorsigera* and *L. gigas*. He did not mention the numbers. Meanwhile more specimens could be added coming from the Altonaer Museum in Hamburg and from the private collectors F.W. Kettner, J. van der Smissen and M. Török.

For this new synopsis of the Leucospid material all specimens were checked and determined using the keys of Boucek (1959, 1974) and Baur & Amiet (2000); those of Török were determined by Boucek himself. There are 72 specimens of 5 European species:

- L. bifasciata* Klug, 1814 (♀),
- L. biguetina* Jurine, 1807 (5 ♀, 2 ♂),
- L. dorsigera* Fabricius, 1775 (22 ♀, 13 ♂),
- L. gigas* Fabricius, 1793 (18 ♀) and
- L. intermedia* Illiger, 1807 (3 ♀, 8 ♂).

All specimens were found within the known distribution borders (Boucek 1974). Only one female of *L. dorsigera* comes from Germany whereas all other specimens were found in more southern countries. There is one specimen of the American species *L. affinis* Say, 1824 from Canada. All known details of these species are listed in a data file available in the entomological collection of the ZMH.

Weidner (1972) described the beginning of a new entomological collection after the total destruction of the Museum in 1943. Several private insect collections were given to the Museum or could be bought. In a collection of Hammer (Vienna) several Leucospidae were found. Kettner (Hamburg)

collected Hymenoptera all over Europe. He worked voluntarily in the museum and gave doublets to the Altonaer Museum (Hamburg) and to the Zoological Museum. After his death all collections with his specimens were united in the Zoological Museum. They contained several *Leucospis* specimens. Kettner determined many Hymenoptera of the new collection probably by using Schmiedeknecht (1930). That could explain why he adjoined all *Leucospis* specimens to the three species *dorsigera*, *gigas* and *biguetina* mentioned by Schmiedeknecht (1930).

With the new start of the Museum the collection got several specimens, which had been collected by Mader. The labels of the Mader specimens are without date but show the collecting site: Island of Krk in Croatia and his name. Krk is mentioned by Mader (1936, 1937). There are four *L. dorsigera*, two *L. varia* and four *L. gigas* F. (*grandis* Klug) which make it possible to understand how he interpreted the *Leucospis* species. In his two papers he argued against the synonymy of *L. varia* Klug, 1814, *L. grandis* Klug, 1814 and *L. rufonotata* Westw. 1839 with *L. gigas* by Schletterer (1890). Boucek (1959) follows the interpretation of Schletterer (1890). He did not see any differences with taxonomic value. Boucek (1974) created "species groups" using morphological differences. Darling & Cardinal (2005) could show that a cladistic analysis made it necessary to divide one group of American species into two groups. This might happen with the species groups from other continents too when further cladistic analysis takes statistic and genetic investigations into account.

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