

FIRST RECORD OF DIPRIONID SAWFLY *GILPINIA SOCIA* (HYMENOPTERA: SYMPHYTA) FROM SLOVAKIA

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Abstract: *Gilpinia socia* (Klug, 1812) was recorded in the territory of Slovakia for the first time. Larvae were found in a forest of the Scots pines (*Pinus sylvestris*) in the Záhorie Protected Landscape Area.

Key words: *Gilpinia socia*, Hymenoptera, Symphyta, Scots pine, *Pinus*, Slovakia.

INTRODUCTION

Eight species of the genus *Gilpinia* are known from Slovakia (ROLLER & HARIS 2008). *Gilpinia socia* is considered to be a rare species (HANSKI & OTRONEN 1985) restricted to *Pinus* (SMITH 1974). This paper deals with first record of this species in Slovakia.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Locality: Managed Scots pine forest in the Záhorie Protected Landscape Area, north of the village Studienka. Pine trees are above 100-year old with grassy undergrowth. Near the forest there is a meadow (Figure 1). GPS coordinates of the sampling site are as follows: N 48°32'23", E 17°8'28", altitude 219 m.

Collected insects were preserved in 70 % ethanol and identified in the laboratory with a stereomicroscope Leica EZ4. The study plot was visited during the vegetation season from April to October at approximately monthly intervals.

Identification of sawfly larvae was made according to LORENZ & KRAUS (1957) and VIITASAARI & VARA-MÄ (1987).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Subfamily: Tenthredinoidea

Family: Diprionidae

Gilpinia socia (Klug, 1812) (Figure 2, 3) – material examined (larvae only): 13.7.2013: 1 ex., 20.9.2013: 2 ex., leg. M. Holecová & M. Kulfan, det. M. Kupková, 18.9.2014: 4 ex. leg. M. Kupková, det. M. Kupková

Gilpinia socia is a widespread but rare species with weak outbreak potential (HANSKI & OTRONEN 1985). Larvae are gregarious, but less than *Diprion pini* (Schwenke 1982). Larval development lasts from one to one and half month (HELLRIGL 1996). It produces two generations in the valleys (the first generation in June and July, the second generation in August and September), one in the northernmost localities and high altitude (from August to mid September) (SCHWENKE 1982). The species has boreo-alpine distribution (KNERER 1977) and was recorded from Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, European Russia, Estonia, Finland, French, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Switzerland and Ukraine (TAEGER et al. 2006, ROLLER & HARIS 2008). *Gilpinia socia* has not been collected from Slovakia until this research (ROLLER & HARIS 2008).



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Figure 1. Sampling site of *Gilpinia socia*, i.e., Scots pine forest in the surroundings of the village of Studienka (photograph by M. Kulfan).



Figure 2. *Gilpinia socia* larva, lateral view, body length 24 mm (photograph by A. Šestáková).



Figure 3. *Gilpinia socia* larva, dorsal view (photograph by A. Šestáková).

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