

***Oxyethira tristella* KLAPALEK, 1895 (Trichoptera: Hydroptilidae)
a caddis-fly species new to the fauna of Poland**

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ABSTRACT. *Oxyethira tristella* KLAPALEK, 1895 (Trichoptera: Hydroptilidae) is recorded for the first time from Poland. Adults and pupae of this species have been found at the slowly flowing canals of the delta of Narew river in the Narwiański National Park (NE Poland).

KEY WORDS: Trichoptera, Hydroptilidae, *Oxyethira tristella*, new record, distribution, Poland.

INTRODUCTION

According to the most updated checklist of Polish Trichoptera (CZACHOROWSKI 2002) 264 species has been recorded from Poland, so far. However, the senior author has collected several species of Trichoptera in the Narwiański National Park (NE Poland). One of these, the hydroptilid *Oxyethira tristella* KLAPALEK, 1895, has appeared to be new to Poland.

It was collected on the 28th of August 1995 at Waniewo, a village located close to the delta of Narew river in northeastern Poland (UTM: FD28 - Fig.). The total material collected there included 7 males and 11 females caught with a sweeping net from willows at the banks of the river. In addition, 22 pupae and 2 larvae have been sampled. Two of these pupae (1 male and 1 female) could have also been identified as *O. tristella* on the basis of their genitalia. The pupae and larvae have all been found on the bottom of floating leaves of waterlilies *Nuphar luteum* in one of several slow-flowing canals which formed the delta.

The canals of this extraordinary nature reserve (the Narwiański National Park) are remarkable for their clear water and luxurious growth of numerous aquatic macrophytes, not at least the large-leaved species of *Potamogeton* (e.g. *P. lucens*, *P. praelongus*, *P. zosterifolius*).

This record of *O. tristella* is not at great surprise, as the species is known from the neighbouring areas, namely Denmark, Sweden (ANDERSEN & WIBERG-LARSEN 1987), Brandenburg and Berlin in Germany (ROBERT 2001), Kaliningrad district in Russia (CZACHOROWSKI 1996), western Belarus (CZACHOROWSKI 1997), and the Bohemian part of Czech Republic (CHVOJKA & NOVAK 2000).

Our knowledge on the habitat of juvenile stages of this species is still unsatisfactory. WALLACE (1991), based on a few scattered adult records from the United Kingdom simply stated that the species occurred in "streams, rivers and lakes", whereas LEPNEVA (1964) indicated "running water, in rapid current of small rivulets in the plains". Norwegian and Danish records of adults (ANDERSEN 1979, WIBERG-LARSEN 1985) came from slow-flowing streams and rivers; some adults (and larvae which might belong to the same species) were found also at dystrophic lakes in the Celau Peat-bog, located in the Kaliningrad district, Russia (CZACHOROWSKI 1996).



Fig. Locality of *Oxyethira tristella* in Poland.

The scattered literature records indicate a flight period from May to September for the species (MARSHALL 1978, ANDERSEN 1979, WIBERG-LARSEN 1985); it has probably two generations per year, as several other European hydroptilids.

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Received: April 8, 2002

Accepted: May 20, 2002