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D. S. Lundyshev [1], I. A. Orlov [2]
[1] Baranovichi State University, Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus, 21, Voykova str., 225404 Baranovichi, Belarus, + 375 (163) 48 73 97, LundyshevDenis@yandex.ru
[2] Natural History Museum of Denmark at the University of Copenhagen, Zoological Museum, Denmark, 2100 Copenhagen, Universitetsparken 15, igorrlw@gmail.com

BEETLES OF THE GENUS *HAPLOGLOSSA* KRAATZ, 1856, AND *ATHETA* THOMSON, 1858, (COLEOPTERA, STAPHYLINIDAE) — INHABITANTS OF BIRD NESTS IN BELARUS

The article contains information on the beetles of the genera *Haploglossa* Kraatz, 1856, and *Atheta* Thomson, 1858, (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae) recorded in bird nests in Belarus. 1 603 nests belonging to 123 bird species were studied from 2002 to 2015. Only 169 nests (10.5% of all the studied nests) belonging to 44 bird species were inhabited by the species of the analyzed genera. 4 species of the genus *Haploglossa* and 11 species of the genus *Atheta* (2 340 samples) were collected in the bird nests. The most common species were *Haploglossa picipennis* (Gyllenhal, 1827) and *Atheta vaga* Heer, 1839. *Atheta zosterae* (Thomson, 1856) is recorded for the first time for the fauna of Belarus. Beetles from the genus *Haploglossa* were found in the nests of 28 bird species and in the nests of 33 bird species in the case of *Atheta*. The highest index of occurrence (46.6%) was found for *A. vaga* Heer, 1839 and 28.2% for *H. picipennis.*

Key words: Coleoptera, nidicolous, Staphylinidae, *Haploglossa*, *Atheta*, nests, birds, Belarus.
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Д. С. Лундышев[1], И. А. Орлов [2]
[1] Учреждение образования «Барановичский государственный университет», Министерство образования Республики Беларусь, ул. Войкова, 21, 225404 Барановичи, Республика Беларусь, + 375 (163) 48 73 97, LundyshevDenis@yandex.ru
[2] Музей естественной истории Дании Копенгагенского университета, Зоологический музей, Дания, 2100 Копенгаген, Университетская набережная, 15, igorrlw@gmail.com

ЖЕСТКОКРЫЛЫЕ РОДА *HAPLOGLOSSA* KRAATZ, 1856, И *ATHETA* THOMSON, 1858, (COLEOPTERA, STAPHYLINIDAE) — ОБИТАТЕЛИ ГНЁЗД ПТИЦ БЕЛАРУСИ

Статья содержит сведения по жесткокрылым рода *Haploglossa* Kraatz, 1856, и *Atheta* Thomson, 1858, (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae), зафиксированных в гнёздах птиц Беларуси. С 2002 по 2015 год было изучено 1 603 гнезда, принадлежащих 123 видам птиц фауны Беларуси. Только 169 гнёзд (10,5% от всех изученных гнёзд), принадлежащих 44 видам птиц, были заселены жесткокрылыми исследуемых родов. В гнёздах птиц собрано 4 вида жесткокрылых рода *Haploglossa* и 11 видов жесткокрылых рода *Atheta* (2 340 экземпляров). Наиболее обычными видами явились *Haploglossa picipennis* и *Atheta vaga* Heer, 1839. *Atheta zosterae* (Thomson, 1856) приводится впервые для фауны Беларуси. Жесткокрылые рода *Haploglossa* отмечены в гнёздах 28 видов птиц и рода *Atheta* — в гнёздах 33 видов птиц. Наибольший показатель встречаемости (46,6%) характерен для *A. vaga* Heer, 1839, и *H. picipennis* — 28,2%.

Ключевые слова: жесткокрылые, нидиколы, Staphylinidae, *Haploglossa*, *Atheta*, гнёзда, птицы, Беларусь.
Библиогр.: 21 назв.

Introduction. Beetles of the family Staphylinidae are one of the most numerous families of Coleoptera in Belarus fauna [1]. High species diversity and ecological plasticity have influenced the very wide biotopic distribution of the family members. For example, they occur in soil litter, decaying plant and animal residue,

wood, dung, etc. Until recently the family Staphylinidae has remained one of the most poorly studied groups inhabiting nests and shelters of vertebrates. The territory of Belarus was not an exception. The Staphylinidae representatives of the environmental group of nidicoulous beetles are mainly zoophagous. Therefore they act as regulators of a number of parasitic arthropods and their larvae, which develop in bird nests and mammal shelters, which in turn determines their high practical value. The regulation of the number of larvae and imago of parasitic arthropods by zoophagous beetles reduces the likelihood of viral and bacterial disease outbreaks, and consequently increases the success of bird nesting. The information about complex biotic relationships between the nest host and nidicoulous beetles is very urgent and important both in terms of the distribution of vector-born diseases and planning of environmental measures aimed at increasing the number of rare and protected bird species.

At present there is little information on the Coleoptera fauna of the family Staphylinidae from bird nests. One of the first works devoted to nidicolous insects from bird nests, including the Staphylinidae, were the works by A. Hicks [2—4]. Fragmented information on the fauna of nidicolous beetles of the Staphylinidae from bird nests is found in other faunal reports of European counterparts [5—15].

The study of beetles of the Staphylinidae on the territory of Belarus was also until recently, incomplete. This is proved by a small number of works [16—20]. The most comprehensive are the works by A.D. Pisanenko, V.S. Monsjavichjus and the present authors [17; 18]. The present work reflects the current results of the study of Coleoptera of the family Staphylinidae (genera *Haploglossa* and *Atheta*) inhabiting bird nests in Belarus.

Material and methods. The basis for this work were authors' collections from 2002 to 2015 on the territory of 15 administrative districts (Baranovichi, Brest, Disna, Zhabinka, Zhitkovichi, Ivatsevichi, Krichevsky, Lyakhovichi, Miory, Pinsk, Pruzhany, Petrikovichi, Rogachevskii, Slonimsky, Smolevichi) of Belarus. Nests of 123 bird species from 39 families belonging to 16 orders were studied during the indicated period. Coleoptera of the genera *Haploglossa* and *Atheta* were discovered in the nests of 43 species of birds belonging to 10 orders: Ciconiiformes (2 species), Anseriformes (1), Accipitriformes (7), Falconiformes (1), Gruiformes (1), Charadriiformes (1), Strigiformes (3), Apodiformes (1), Coraciiformes (1), Piciformes (5) and Passeriformes (21).

1 603 different nests were studied during the period of research. However only 169 nests (10.5% of all the studied nests) were inhabited by the studied genera of Coleoptera.

Standard methods of collection of nidicolous beetles were used, including the screening of nest material with the help of soil sieve, the method of hand collection of beetles and the collection of beetles by means of thermoeclector. Nest material was studied either after the fledging or when there were fledglings in the nest. The study of the nest material was carried out in different seasons of the year.

A number of quantitative characteristics were determined in the course of the research: relative abundance (D) — the ratio of the number of examples of one type to the total number of collected specimens of the genus Coleoptera, expressed in percentage; frequency of occurrence (Ng) — is the ratio of the number of nests in which the species were marked to the total number of nests inhabited by beetles of the *Atheta* and *Haploglossa* genera and expressed in percentage.

The microscopes MBS-10 and Nikon SMZ800 as well as identification literature were used for the species identification of Coleoptera.

All collection materials are stored in the collection of the Department of Natural Sciences, Baranovichi State University.

Results and discussion. 4 species of Coleoptera of the genus *Haploglossa* and 11 species of the genus *Atheta* (2 340 samples) were identified in bird nests.

The most common type of nidicolous species of the genus *Haploglossa* was staphylin *Haploglossa picipennis* (Gyllenhal, 1827), the relative abundance of which was 80.6%. At the same time the most common species of the genus *Atheta* was *Atheta vaga* Heer, 1839, the relative abundance of which was 75.7%.

Below is an annotated list of Coleoptera of the genus *Haploglossa* Kraatz, 1856, and *Atheta* Thomson, 1858, found in bird nests in Belarus. The following abbreviations of bird species in nests of which beetles of the studied genera were found are used in the given list: *Ciconia ciconia* (BB), *Ixobrychus minutus* (BI), *Aythya fuligula* (AF), *Milvus migrans* (MI), *Circus aeruginosus* (MU), *Accipiter gentilis* (MG), *Accipiter nisus* (MN), *Buteo buteo* (MB), *Aquila pomarina* (MP), *Aquila clanga* (MQ), *Falco tinnunculus* (MT), *Fulica atra* (GF),

Larus ridibundus (LR), *Bubo bubo* (SB), *Strix aluco* (SN), *Strix uralensis* (SU), *Asio otus* (SO), *Apus apus* (JA), *Dendrocopos medius* (DA), *Dendrocopos major* (DD), *Dendrocopos minor* (DI), *Dryocopus martius* (DM), *Jynx torquilla* (DT), *Alcedo atthis* (UA), *Riparia riparia* (PDD), *Lanius collurio* (PJX), *Sturnus vulgaris* (PSW), *Pica pica* (PNR), *Corvus frugilegus* (PPT), *Sylvia curruca* (PLO), *Sylvia communis* (PMN), *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* (PIR), *Ficedula hypoleuca* (PWD), *Oenanthe oenanthe* (PUU), *Erithacus rubecula* (POO), *Turdus philomelos* (PXX), *Turdus pilaris* (PWW), *Parus palustris* (PZA), *Parus major* (PES), *Sitta europaea* (PFT), *Passer montanus* (PUY), *Fringilla coelebs* (PVZ), *Carduelis cannabina* (PAJ), *Carduelis chloris (*PXG). Relative abundance (D) and occurrence (Ng) is marked for every species of Coleoptera. The list is prepared considering the items listed in the world catalogue of beetles [21]. The species marked with the sign "*" is reported for the first time for the fauna of Belarus.

Haploglossa Kraatz, 1856

1. *Haploglossa marginalis* (Gravenhorst, 1806) DT, JA, PMN, PSW, PFT, PES (D — 2.3%; Ng — 7.4%)
2. *Haploglossa nidicola* (Fairmaire, 1853) UA, DI, PDD, PSW, PZA (D — 9.05%; Ng — 8%)
3. *Haploglossa picipennis* (Gyllenhal, 1827) SB, MU, LR, BB, MB, MG, MP, MQ, MI, PDD, PPT, PSW (D — 80.6%; Ng — 28.2%)
4. *Haploglossa villosula* (Stephens, 1832) MN, DD, PDD, PWW, PVZ, PAJ, PLO, POO, PZA, PES, PSW, PWD (D — 8.0%; Ng — 15.9%)

Atheta Thomson, 1858

subgenus ***Alaobia*** Thomson, 1858

1. *Atheta (Alaobia) trinotata* (Kraatz, 1856) PWW, PSW (D — 1.25%; Ng — 1.8%)

subgenus ***Atheta*** Thomson, 1858

2. *Atheta (Atheta) divisa* (Märkel, 1844) UA [18]
3. *Atheta (Atheta) graminicola* (Gravenhorst, 1806) LR (D — 0.75%; Ng — 1.8%)
4. *Atheta (Atheta) nidicola* (Johansen, 1914) PXG, PXX (D — 1%; Ng — 1.8%)
5. *Atheta (Atheta) paracrassicornis* Brundin, 1954 LR, GF, PVZ (D — 1.75%; Ng — 1.8%)
6. *Atheta (Atheta) vaga* Heer, 1839 MU, MT, MB, MG, MQ, MP, DA, DM, DD, SN, SO, SU [17], BB, LR, PPT, PWW, PJX, PVZ, PXX, PXG, PAJ, PSW, PES, PFT, PUY (D — 75.7%; Ng — 46.6%)

subgenus ***Chaetida*** Mulsant & Rey, 1873

7. *Atheta (Chaetida) longicornis* (Gravenhorst, 1802) PSW (D — 0.25%; Ng — 0.6%)

subgenus ***Datomicra*** Mulsant & Rey, 1874

8. *Atheta (Datomicra) celata* (Erichson, 1837) SB, AF, LR, GF, BI, MQ, MU, PIR, PNR (D — 12.25%; Ng — 11.7%)
9. *Atheta (Datomicra) nigra* (Kraatz, 1856) MU, PPT, PUU (D — 1.25%; Ng — 2.4%)
10. **Atheta (Datomicra) zosterae* (Thomson, 1856) BI (D — 3.75%; Ng — 1.2%)

subgenus ***Mocyta*** Mulsant & Rey, 1874

11. *Atheta (Mocyta) fungi fungi* (Gravenhorst, 1806) BI, PIR, PWW, PSW (D — 2%; Ng — 3.7%)

Beetles of the genus *Haploglossa* were found in the nests of 28 bird species. *H. picipennis* and *H. villosula* were found in the nests of the greatest number of bird species (12). At the same time specimens of the genus *Atheta* were found in the nests of 33 bird species. The species *A. vaga* was found in the nests of 25 bird species. The highest occurrence (46.6%) was characteristic for *A. vaga* Heer, 1839; and two times less to *H. picipennis* — 28.2%. For genera *H. marginalis*, *H. nidicola*, *H. villosula* and *A. celata* occurrence amounted to 7.4—15.9%, and to other species — to less than 3.6%.

Of special interest was the first finding of the genus A. zosterae (Thomson, 1856). Previously, this genus was observed in most parts of Europe and Central Asia [21].

Conclusion. Thus, 4 species of Coleoptera of the genus *Haploglossa* and 11 species of the genus of *Atheta* (2 340 samples) were found in bird nests. The most common type of nidicolous was *H. picipennis* (Gyllenhal, 1827), the relative abundance of which was 80.6%; and *A. vaga* Heer, 1839 — 75.7%. The highest occurrence (46.6%) was characteristic for *A. vaga* Heer, 1839, and *H. picipennis* (28.2%).

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Д. С. Лундышев [1], И. А. Орлов [2]

[1] Учреждение образования «Барановичский государственный университет», Министерство образования Республики Беларусь, ул. Войкова, 21, 225404 Барановичи, Республика Беларусь, + 375 (163) 48 73 97, LundyshevDenis@yandex.ru

[2] Музей естественной истории Дании Копенгагенского университета, Зоологический музей, Дания, 2100 Копенгаген, Университетская набережная, 15, igorrlw@gmail.com

ЖЕСТКОКРЫЛЫЕ РОДА *HAPLOGLOSSA* KRAATZ, 1856, И *ATHETA* THOMSON, 1858, (COLEOPTERA, STAPHYLINIDAE) — ОБИТАТЕЛИ ГНЁЗД ПТИЦ БЕЛАРУСИ

В статье содержатся сведения по жесткокрылым рода *Haploglossa* Kraatz, 1856, и *Atheta* Thomson, 1858, (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae), зафиксированных в гнёздах птиц Беларуси. Материал для работы собран на протяжении 13 лет (2002—2015) с территории 15 административных районов Беларуси. Всего были изучены гнёзда 123 видов птиц из 39 семейств, принадлежащих к 16 отрядам. За период исследований было изучено 1 603 различных гнезда. Однако только 169 гнёзд (10,5% от всех изученных) были заселены жесткокрылыми исследуемых родов.

На основании проведённых исследований в гнездах птиц отмечено 4 вида жесткокрылых родов *Haploglossa* и 11 видов жесткокрылых рода *Atheta* (2 340 экземпляров). Наиболее обычным видом нидиколов рода *Haploglossa* явился стафилин *Haploglossa picipennis* (Gyllenhal, 1827), показатель относительного обилия которого составил 80,6%. В то же время наиболее обычный вид рода *Atheta* — *Atheta vaga* Heer, 1839, относительное обилие которого составило 75,7%. Вид *Atheta (Datomicra) zosterae* (Thomson, 1856) приводится впервые для фауны Беларуси.

Жесткокрылые рода *Haploglossa* отмечаются в гнёздах 28 видов птиц. В гнёздах наибольшего числа видов птиц (12) отмечаются *H. picipennis* и *H. villosula*. В то же время представители рода *Atheta* были отмечены в гнёздах 33 видов птиц. Вид *A. vaga* отмечен в гнёздах 25 видов птиц. Наибольший показатель встречаемости (46,6%) характерен для *A. vaga* Heer, 1839, и меньший, почти вдвое, для *H. picipennis* — 28,2%. Для видов *H. marginalis*, *H. nidicola*, *H. villosula* и *A. celata* показатель встречаемости составил 7,4—15,9%, а для остальных видов — менее 3,6%.