

**FIRST RECORD OF *HYALOCHITON KOMAROFFII* IN SLOVENIA
(HETEROPTERA: TINGIDAE)**

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Abstract – The tingid *Hyalochiton komaroffii* (Jakovlev, 1880) was found in Slovenia for the first time.

KEY WORDS: Heteroptera, Tingidae, *Hyalochiton komaroffii*, new record, Slovenia

Izvleček – PRVA NAJDBA VRSTE *HYALOCHITON KOMAROFFII* V SLOVENIJI (HETEROPTERA: TINGIDAE)

Mrežasta stenica vrste *Hyalochiton komaroffii* (Jakovlev, 1880) je bila prvič najdena v Sloveniji.

KLJUČNE BESEDE: Heteroptera, Tingidae, *Hyalochiton komaroffii*, nova najdba, Slovenija

The genus *Hyalochiton* Horváth, 1905 is represented by four species in the West-Palaeartic Region, recorded from North Africa, West Asia, Central and South Europe. *Hyalochiton colpochilus* (Horváth, 1897) occurs in the west-mediterranean Region, *H. multiseratus* (Reuter, 1888) shows a pontic distribution and *H. syrmienensis* (Horváth, 1897) is reported from France, Morocco, Serbia, Romania and Russia (Péricart, 1983; Péricart & Golub, 1996; Protić, 1998, 2004). *Hyalochiton komaroffii* (Jakovlev, 1880) is distributed from the Iberian Peninsula to Israel, Iran and the Caucasus including Central and East Europe (Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Russia; Péricart & Golub, 1996; Rabitsch, 2007; Stehlik, 2002a, 2002b). On the Balkan Peninsula the species is reported from Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Greece (Péricart & Golub, 1996; Protić, 1994, 1998, 2004). However, there are no records from Italy so far (Faraci & Rizzotti Vlach, 1995; Péricart & Golub 1996). An identification key for the four species is presented in Péricart (1983).

In April 2009 *Hyalochiton komaroffii* was found in Slovenia for the first time. The occurrence of this rarely seen tingid in Slovenia was to be expected due to the fact that *H. komaroffii* is reported from the bordering countries Austria, Hungary and Croatia. This bizarre tingid species prefers dry habitats, lower elevations, and lives on *Teucrium* spp. (Lamiaceae) (Péricart, 1983; Štusák, 1972).

This finding enhances the number of recorded Heteroptera of Slovenia to 736 (Gogala, 2008, 2009).

Hyalochiton komaroffii (Jakovlev, 1880)

Sampling site: Primorska, Southeast of Divača, caught with sweep net in the middle of nutrient-poor, managed karst grassland [45°39'49,6''N, 13°58'37,17''E, 452m], 1 brachypterous male, 05.04.2009, leg. et in coll. G. Kunz (Schirning). Macropterous individuals do exist but up to know were not collected in Slovenia.

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Figs 1&2: *Hyalochiton komaroffii* (Jakovlev, 1880), 1 – dorsal view; 2 – dorso-lateral view. Photos: G. Kunz.

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