New species of *Paragus* Latr. from Middle Asia (Diptera, Syrphidae)

Abstract: A new species of the genus *Paragus* Latr.: *P. gussakovskii* Bąkowska from Middle Asia is described. Materials were collected by V. Gussakovskii from Tajikistan (Hissar mountain ridge, Kondara Valley) also from Uzbekistan (environs of Tashkent).

Key words: New species, Diptera, Syrphidae, Paragus Latr., Middle Asia

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INTRODUCTION

A new species of the genus *Paragus* Latr. – *P. gussakovskii* sp. n., was identified during the examination of several collections of hover-flies specimens from Middle Asia. This species belongs to the *bicolor* group of the sub-genus *Paragus* Latr. It is readily distinguished from all other species of the genus by its yellow scutellum with 1/4 of its basal part black, and a microscopically dentate margin. The mesonotum of this species is similar to that in *P. quadrifasciatus* Meig. except for the presence of greyish longitudinal stripes in the central part. This species can also be distinguished from others by pale coloration of the body and a different structure of the male genitalia.

In his paper on dipterans from Kondara Valley, Stackelberg (1951) stressed the species richness of this area. Among species found there are also many endemic species for Middle Asian mountains. Stackelberg (1952) described several new species from Middle Asia, also from Kondara Valley, of the families *Syrphidae* and *Dolichopodidae*.

All the specimens of the new species *Paragus gussakovskii* were collected by a Russian entomologist V. Gussakovskii in the mountains of Middle Asia in
Kondara Valley 1100 m, Hissar mountain ridge (Tajikistan) and in the environs of Tashkent (Uzbekistan).

These materials were given to me for examination by Prof. A. A. Stackelberg of the Institute of Zoology RAS in St. Petersburg.

DESCRIPTION

*Paragus gussakovskii* BAŃKOWSKA sp. n.

Holotype of male.

Head: Face white-yellowish, except slightly darkened oral margin, with short, white pile. Antenna long brown, 3rd segment 4 times as long as wide, paler in basal part. Arista brown, shorter than 3rd antennal segment. Occiput shining black.

Thorax: black. Mesonotum shiny with pollinose longitudinal stripes, which extend from anterior margin to transverse suture. Lateral part of mesonotum with a pair of very little, rounded white pollinose patches. Pleura shining black with long silvery piles. Scutellum yellow, its basis on 1/4 black. Apical part of scutellum bordered by small teeth (not as distinct as in *P. serratus* group, STUCKENBERG 1954). Squamae and halteres white. Wing hyaline, stigma yellowish. Legs entirely yellow with white pale, sometimes basal part of hind femora greyish.


Paratype of female.

Similar to male except for sexual dimorphism and blackish marking on 3–5 tergites of abdomen (Fig. 3). Face with slender, longitudinal brown stripe and brownish oral margin. Frons shiny black except of white pollinose patches along eye margins (Fig. 4).

Size of the body: male 5.5 mm, female 6 mm.

MATERIAL EXAMINED

Holotype male: Tadjikistan, Hissar mountein ridge, Kondara Valley, Varzoba vill., 24.08.1945, coll. V. Gussakovskii. 2 paratypes of female (18.09.1938), (1937) and paratype of 1 male (26.08.1945) from the same locality, also 1 paratype of male from Uzbekistan, Darbaza st. near Tashkent, 16.05.1931, coll. V. Gussakovskii.
New species of *Paragus* LATR.


Holotype, and two paratypes are deposited in Museum and Institute of Zoology PAS in Warsaw and two paratypes of male and female in Institute of Zoology RAS in St. Petersburg.

**DISTRIBUTION**

Middle Asia: Tadkikistan and Uzbekistan.

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Paragus gussakovskii sp. n. is very similar to P. quadrifasciatus MEIG. The differences between the two species may be defined as follows:

1. Mesonotum with two longitudinal pollinose stripes not interrupted. Scutellum yellow with 1/4 of its basal part black. Legs yellow entirely. Male genitalia: surstyli simple without basoventral prong (Fig. 1). Lingula more slender, clavate. Lateral lobe of aedeagus with distinctively serrated lateral margin.

Female: frons with characteristic, white pollinose patches along eye margin (Fig. 4). In abdomen 7th tergum simple, without any tubercle .............................................................. P. gussakovskii sp. n.

2. Mesonotum with two longitudinal pollinose stripes broadly interrupted and appearing as four maculae. Scutellum black with 1/4 of its hind margin yellow. Legs yellow, except femora dark brown in basal part. Male genitalia: Surstyli curved, slender at tip, with distinct basoventral prong (GOELDLIN 1976, Fig. 9). Lingula greatly enlarged. Lateral lobe of aedeagus simple.

Female: frons with oval, white pollinose patches along eye margin (GOELDLIN 1976, Fig. 37). In abdomen 7th tergum with dorsoapical tubercle (GOELDLIN 1976, Fig. 24) ................................................ P. quadrifasciatus MEIG.

The species is named in honour of V. Gussakovskii, who collected these interesting species in the Middle Asia.

REFERENCES


STRESZCZENIE

[Tytuł: Nowy gatunek Paragus LATR. z Azji Środkowej (Diptera, Syrphidae)]

Opisano nowy gatunek z rodzaju Paragus LATR. – P. gussakovskii sp. n., podano cechy wyróżniające go od gatunków należących do grupy bicolor oraz zamieszczono rysunki diagnostyczne. Materiał stanowiący podstawę opisu tego gatunku został złowiony w górach Tadżykistanu (Dolina Kondara) oraz w okolicach Taszkietu (Uzbekistan) przez rosyjskiego uczonoego W. Gussakovskiego w latach 1931-1945.