

FAVNISTIČNI ZAPISKI / FAUNISTICAL NOTES

**BEMBECIA PAVICEVICI TOŠEVSKI, 1986 (LEPIDOPTERA: SESIIDAE),
A NEW SPECIES OF THE ITALIAN FAUNA**

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Abstract – The clearwing moth species *Bembecia pavicevici* Toševski, 1986 is reported from several localities in the Mediterranean region above the port city of Trieste (Trst) (NE Italy), close to the border with Slovenia. The presence of this species in Italy has not been mentioned before.

KEY WORDS: Sesiidae, *Bembecia pavicevici*, faunistics, Italy.

Izvleček - *BEMBECIA PAVICEVICI* TOŠEVSKI, 1986 (LEPIDOPTERA: SESIIDAE) TUDI V FAVNI ITALIJE

Steklokrilec vrste *Bembecia pavicevici* Toševski, 1986 je bil najden na nekaj krajih v mediteranski regiji nad pristaniškim mestom Trieste (Trst) (SV Italija), blizu meje s Slovenijo. Prisotnost te vrste v Italiji še nikoli ni bila omenjena.

KLJUČNE BESEDE: Sesiidae, *Bembecia pavicevici*, favnistika, Italija.

Introduction

During two expeditions to the south and south-westerly exposed warm rocky slopes of the karst edge in the hinterland above Trieste (Trst), seven males of *Bembecia pavicevici* Toševski, 1986, were captured. The specimens had flown onto a synthetic sexual pheromone lure (PRI-DLO, Wageningen, The Netherlands), intended for *Synanthedon myopaeformis* (Borkhausen, 1789) and are deposited in the author's collection.

B. pavicevici occurs in the Balkan peninsula and along the Adriatic coast to Slovenian Istria in the north. The species has been observed in Slovenia in the coastal part and along the karst edge frequently (Predovnik, 2001), so that its discovery near Trieste was expected. The new localities in this part of Italy represent the most northerly situated sites of *B. pavicevici* in its area of distribution. The host plant of the species, *Hippocrepis emerus* L. (= *Coronilla emerus*) (Fabaceae) is common in all investigated sites. The frequency of the host plant together with suitable biotopes suggests a high frequency of *B. pavicevici* in this area too.

According to Bertaccini & Fiumi (2002), ten clearwing species of the genus *Bembecia* Hübner, [1819] have been found in Italy: *B. hymenopteriformis* (Bellier,

1860), *B. ichneumoniformis* ([Denis & Schiffermüller], 1775), *B. albanensis* (Rebel, 1918), *B. psoraleae* Bartsch & Bettag, 1997, *B. scopigera* (Scopoli, 1763), *B. iberica* Špatenka, 1992, *B. sirphiformis* (Lucas, 1849), *B. flavida* (Oberthür, 1890), *B. himmighoffeni* (Staudinger, 1866) and *B. uroceriformis* (Treitschke, 1834). If we consider *B. tunetana* (Le Cerf, 1920) a separate species, then also this species occurs in Italy (Laštůvka, 2007). With the addition of *B. pavicevici* Toševski, 1986, the number of *Bembecia* species has risen to eleven or twelve, and total number of clearwing species in the Italian fauna has increased to 61 or 62 respectively. Compared to other countries, Italy has one of the richest clearwing faunas in Europe.

Finds

Italy sept.-or., Trieste (Trst), above S. Antonio in Bosco (Boršt), 329 m a. s. l., 29.7.2008, rocky slopes near stone pit, pher. myo., 14.41-14.56 h, 5♂; above Longera (Lonjer), 274 m a. s. l., 1.8.2008, rocky slopes near stone pit, pher. myo., 13.29 h, 1♂; Poggioreale (Selivec) hill, near Villa Opicina (Opčine), 312 m a. s. l., the edge of *Quercus* - *Pinus nigra* forest, 1.8.2008, pher. myo., 14.55 h, 1♂. The last locality represents the most northerly situated site of *B. pavicevici* so far.

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Received / Prejeto: 16. 8. 2008