

# BOMBUS HAEMATURUS (HYMENOPTERA: APIDAE), NEW SPECIES IN THE SLOVENIAN BUMBLEBEE FAUNA

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**Abstract** - Records of *Bombus haematurus*, a new species in the Slovenian bumblebee fauna, are presented. The distribution of the species, its expansion towards the north west and possible implications are discussed.

KEY WORDS: Hymenoptera, Apidae, *Bombus*, new records

**Izvleček** - *BOMBUS HAEMATURUS* (HYMENOPTERA: APIDAE), NOVA VRSTA V SLOVENSKI FAVNI ČMRLJEV

Predstavljene so najdbe vrste *Bombus haematurus* v Sloveniji, nove priseljenke v slovenski favni čmrljev. Opisana je celotna razširjenost vrste, njeno širjenje proti severozahodu in možni razlogi zanj.

KLJUČNE BESEDE: Hymenoptera, Apidae, *Bombus*, nove najdbe



**Fig. 1:** Distribution of *B. haematurus*. Dots present records from: Anagnostopoulos (2005), Baker (1996), Ban-Calefariu et al. (2007), Neumayer (2004), Širna et al. (2009), Özbek (1998), Yilmaz et al. (2004), Knechtel (1955), TkalcU (1969), Reinig (1967), Reinig (1974), Sarospataki et al. (2003), Teppner (2010). Distribution on the Crimean Peninsula is taken from Konovalova (2010). Records in the recently colonized territory are marked in red.

The source of the map groundwork: ESRI Data & Maps 9.3 [DVD]. Global Imagery and Shaded Relief, Redlands, CA, 2008.

*Bombus haematurus* Kriechbaumer, 1870 is a polylectic species, bound mainly to forest, forest edge or forest clearings (Baker 1996, Knechtel 1955, Reinig 1972). It is mostly a species of low-altitude sites, although some data from the southern part of its range show it occurs quite frequently at higher altitudes (up to 2100 m).

Older distribution data of *Bombus haematurus* come from Iran (Baker 1996), Turkey (Reinig 1967, Reinig 1968), Greece (Anagnostopoulos 2005), Bulgaria (Reinig 1974), Romania (Knechtel 1955), Serbia (Reinig 1974) and Albania (TkalcU 1969). Reinig (1974) considered records from Albania (Kruja) and from Serbia (Vršac, Fruska gora) as the most western and at the northern edge of its distribution.

Recently, the species has spread towards the north west. In 1982 it was recorded in Hungary (Jozan 2007), 1995 (first record) and in 2002 (second record) in Austria (Teppner 2010) and 2003 in Slovakia (Šíma et al. 2009) (fig. 1). It seems that the species is spreading relatively quickly and successfully since new records are more and more common.

In Slovenia it was observed and photographed for the first time by Prof. Dr. Janez Grad in 2007 in Petelinje near Dol pri Ljubljani, feeding on *Lonicera* sp. But it was identified only later, when a specimen was caught in May 2009.

#### List of records of *B. haematurus* in Slovenia:

1. 19.5. 2007, Petelinje, Dol pri Ljubljani, Lat: 46,096; Lon: 14,673, photo Grad J., 1 sp. feeding on *Lonicera* sp.
2. 21.3. 2008, Petelinje, Dol pri Ljubljani, Lat: 46,096; Lon: 14,673, vid: Grad J., 1♂ feeding on *Prunus armeniaca*
3. 22.4. 2009, Petelinje, Dol pri Ljubljani, Lat: 46,096; Lon: 14,673, vid: Grad J., 1♂ feeding on *Wisteria* sp.
4. 29.5. 2009, Zasavci, Miklavž pri Ormožu, Lat: 46,454; Lon: 16,230, leg: Jenič A., det. Gogala A., 1\$ feeding on ornamental flowers
5. 5.4. 2010, Petelinje, Dol pri Ljubljani, Lat: 46,096; Lon: 14,673, vid.: Grad J., 1 \$ feeding on *Prunus armeniaca*
6. 11.4. 2010, Ljubljana, Lat: 46,030; Lon: 14,459, vid: Grad J., 1\$ feeding on *Erica* sp.
7. 14.4. 2010, Ljubljana, Lat: 46,078; Lon: 14,508, leg Presetnik P., det. Gogala A., 1\$ found dead on window sill

One of the most important land use changes recorded in southern and eastern Europe is the abandonment of agricultural lands due to economic and social changes. Reforestation can occur in these places (Koulouri et al. 2007, Moreira et al. 2007). A greater proportion of woodlands, together with global warming, may be the cause for spread of this hylophilous Eastern Mediterranean species towards the north west.

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