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THE FEMALE OF *CHAETOPTERYX IRENAE* KRUŠNIK & MALICKY 1986

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Abstract - Pupae of the Slovenian endemic species *Chaetopteryx irenae* were recently collected near the type locality of the species. They were reared in the laboratory up to emergence. The female of *Chaetopteryx irenae* is described and figured for the first time. Information for its identification is given. In addition, some taxonomical, ecological and zoogeographical notes are added.

KEY WORDS: Trichoptera, *Chaetopteryx irenae*, female, Slovenia

Izvleček – OPIS SAMICE VRSTE *CHAETOPTERYX IRENAE* KRUŠNIK IN MALICKY 1986

Bube slovenske endemne vrste *Chaetopteryx irenae* smo nedavno nabrali blizu tipskega najdišča. V laboratoriju smo jih gojili do izletanja. Podan je opis in značilnosti za prepoznavanje samice ter tudi nekatere ekološke in zoogeografske značilnosti.

KLJUČNE BESEDE: Mladoletnice, *Chaetopteryx irenae*, samica, Slovenija

Introduction

In the revision of *Chaetopteryx rugulosa* Kolenati 1848 - group (Malicky et al., 1986) *Chaetopteryx irenae* Krušnik & Malicky was described. One single specimen

was collected by Krušnik at the Vrtiče spring near Artviže in southwestern Slovenia (Fig. 1). At the end of 1980s the type locality of the species was enclosed and impounded for water supplies. In the next years it was visited several more times but no specimens were found. Thus, the species was included in the Red List of Endangered Trichoptera in Slovenia in the group “probably extinct species” (IUCN: Ex?) (Krušnik, 1992). Nevertheless, Krušnik and Urbanič (2000) included this species in the preliminary list of Slovenian Trichoptera.

In the autumn of 2000 the type locality of *C. irenae* and some adjacent streams were visited. Despite no adults, pupae with a typical *Chaetopteryx* case habitus were found in the stream Brsnica near Artviže, whereas at the type locality no specimens were collected. Pupae were brought to the laboratory and reared to emergence. The identification of emerged males showed specimens belonging to *Chaetopteryx irenae*. Among those collected one female was present and is described here.



Fig. 1: Distribution of *C. irenae* Krušnik & Malicky.

Description of the female

Material examined: SW Slovenia, Brkini, stream Brsnica, Artviže, 18. 10. 2000, 1♀, leg. & coll. G. Urbanič and C. Krušnik.

Female habitus similar to the typical *Chaetopteryx rugulosa* group habitus. Body light yellowish brown with dark brown tarsi and broad light brown wings. Wing veins and membranes covered with bristles. Length of anterior wings 8 mm. Spur formula 133. Genitalia (Fig. 2, a-c): anal tube short and broad with small lateral excision. Lateral processes of the anal tube relatively long. Ventral lip very short and with concave edge. The inner dorsal sclerites exceed the edge of the dorsal lip. The supragenital plate almost as long as ventral lip and slightly rounded.

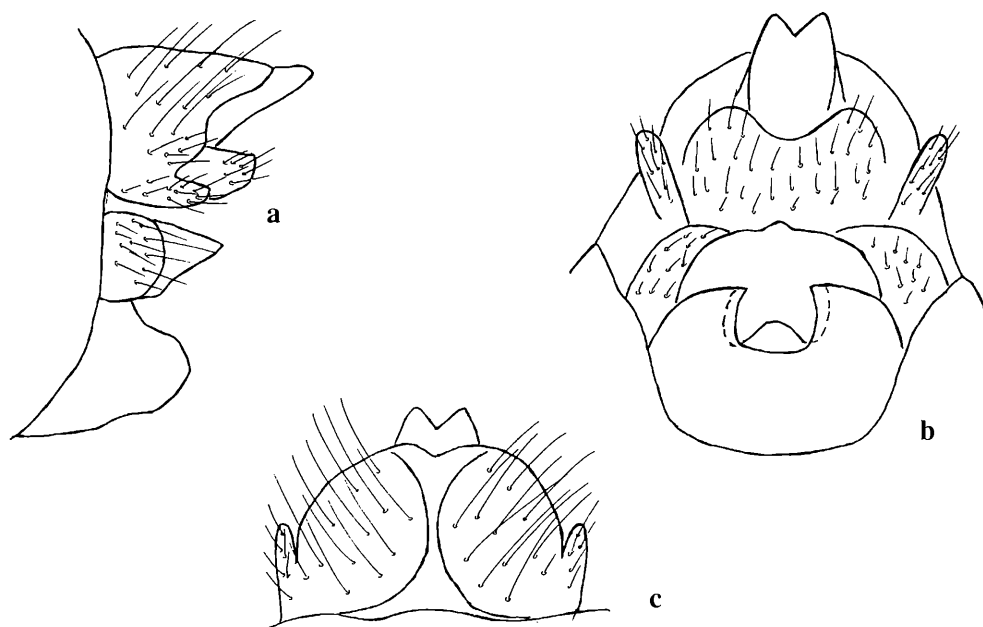


Fig. 2: Female genitalia of *C. irenae*, a: lateral view, b: dorsal view, c: ventral view.

Discussion

Female of *C. irenae* is similar in colour to the female of *C. goricensis*, but with darker tarsi. Genitalia are very similar. In addition, description of *C. irenae* is made on one single specimen (Malicky et al. 1986), and great intra-species variability of species belonging to *rugulosa* group is also known (Malicky et al. 1986, Malicky

1996). However, new male specimens collected at the same locality confirmed *C. irenae* as a good species with low variability in described characters: large triangular upper appendices, lower appendices long with distal spine and concave ventral edge, aedeagus with lateral fingers, parameres short with two equally long bristles.

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