

**THIRD EVIDENCE FOR OCCURRENCE OF *RHOPALAPION LONGIROSTRE*
(OLIVIER, 1807)
(COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONOIDEA: APIONIDAE) IN POLAND¹**

MILOSZ A. MAZUR

Center for Biodiversity Studies, Department of Biosystematics, Opole University,
Oleska 48, 45-022 Opole, Poland; e-mail: milosz@uni.opole.pl

ABSTRACT: *Rhopalapion longirostre* was recorded for the first time from Warsaw in Poland in 2002. Next group of observations of this species came from Wrocław. The author presents third locality, which is the Śnieżnik Mt. (East Sudetes).

KEY WORDS: *Rhopalapion longirostre*, Śnieżnik Massif, new locality, East Sudetes, Poland

One specimen of *Rhopalapion longirostre* was found during field-research on weevils in the Śnieżnik Massif in the mountain range of Eastern Sudetes (Fig. 1):

- East Sudetes: Śnieżnik Mountain: Międzygórze [XR 26], 700 AMSL, 1 ♀, in house-garden on the hollyhock (*Alcea rosea* L.). New to the fauna of the Eastern Sudetes region (following division from *Catalogus faunae Poloniae*).

First piece of information related to the occurrence of *Rh. longirostre* in Poland was provided by Tenenbaum (1923) but according to Smreczyński (1960, 1965) this information was erroneous. For that reason the authors of the *Catalogus faunae Poloniae* didn't include this species in the inventory of Polish fauna (Burakowski et al. 1992). Beyond any doubts, *Rhopalapion longirostre* was recorded for the first time in Warsaw, Poland (district Ursynów – UTM [EC 08]; Kozłowski and Knutelski 2003). The second set of localities origin from Wrocław ([XS 36, XS 46]; Szypuła and Wanat 2007).

Since 1960s *Rh. longirostre* has been recorded in Central Asia, Minor Asia, Mediterranean region (review in: Kozłowski and Knutelski 2003) as well as in Slovakia, Austria, Hungary and Italy (Dieckmann 1977). Since then it has begun intensive expansion into northern and north-western Europe. First evidence for occurrence of that species in Germany dates back to 1974, in France to 1982 and in the Netherlands to 1993 (Sprick et al. 2002). From Czech Republic known since 2001 (Strejček) and until now following

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localities has been found (Stejskal 2004, Strejček 2005, Špryňar 2005). It was also recorded in North America (review in: Knutelski and Petryszak 1997).

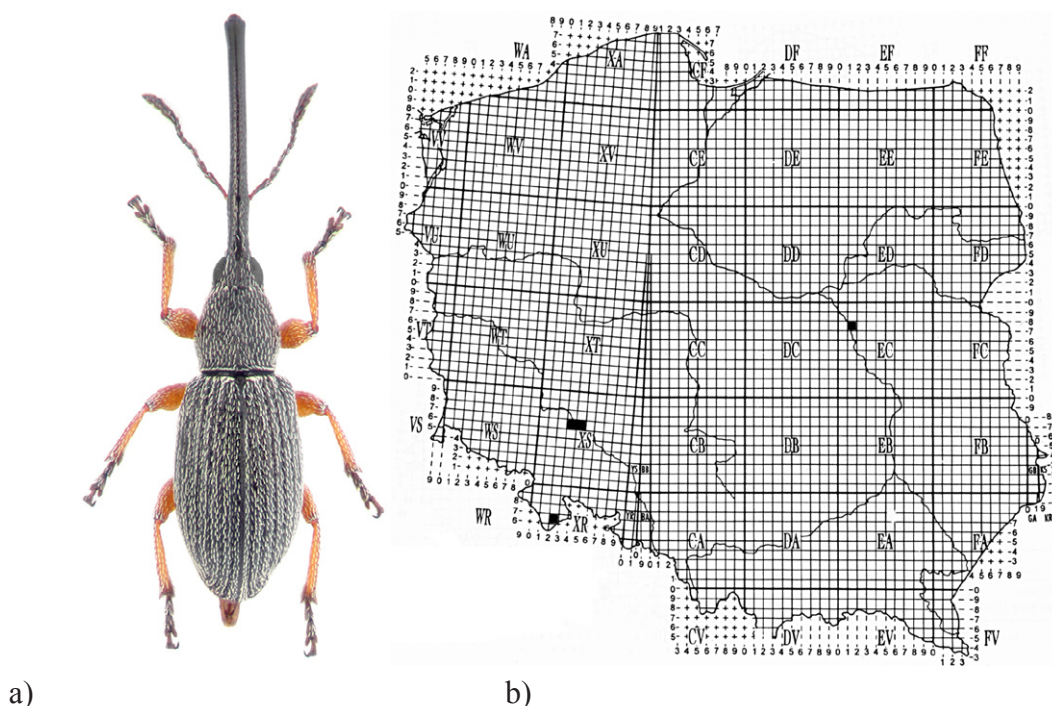


Fig. 1. *Rhopalapion longirostre* (Olivier, 1807): a) female; b) distribution in Poland

In Europe it's a monophagous of hollyhock (*Alcea rosea* L.). In other areas of its occurrence, namely in Turkey, Syria and North America, it feeds on a cotton plant (*Gossypium* sp.) (Kozłowski and Knutelski 2003). It is often possible to see this species in house-garden, where, according to some authors, a process of growing a hollyhock creates a specific microclimate (Sprick et al. 2002). This hypothesis may be further corroborated by the occurrence of the *Rh. longirostre* in mountainous areas with climate cooler than in urban areas, where this species have been recorded so far.

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