



Redescription of *Tipula octomaculata* Savchenko, with notes on related Holarctic species (Diptera, Tipulidae)

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Abstract

Tipula (Pterelachisus) octomaculata Savchenko, 1964 (Diptera, Tipulidae) has hitherto been known only from the type locality in north-western Russia, and no material besides the holotype male has been available for study. In this article we report *T. octomaculata* for the first time from Finland, redescribe the species and compare its morphological characters with those of related Nearctic species (*T. trivittata* Say, *T. angulata* Loew, *T. entomophthorae* Alexander). The Finnish finding locality in Ks: Taivalkoski, North boreal ecoregion, is briefly discussed.

Key words: Long-palped craneflies, Boreal region, Holarctic *Pterelachisus*

Introduction

The subgenus *Tipula (Pterelachisus)* is one of the largest within the Holarctic Tipulidae, and is represented by 167 taxa in the region (Oosterbroek 2006). Larvae of the subgenus mainly are associated with terrestrial habitats, such as decaying, soft wood and cushions of mosses (Alexander 1920; Theowald 1957). Many species within the subgenus are poorly known, some have been collected from the type locality only or are inadequately described. One of these enigmatic species is *T. (P.) octomaculata* Savchenko, 1964, known from the holotype male from north-western Russia (Savchenko 1964; Theowald 1980). In 2006 the species was discovered from North boreal Finland, a finding which raised the demand for a redescription. In the present paper we illustrate and redescribe *T. octomaculata* and discuss its affinities to related Holarctic species. Further, the Finnish finding locality is briefly discussed.

Material and methods

The studied material is deposited in the collection of Jukka Salmela, Jyväskylä (PCJS) and Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia (ANS). The holotype of *T. octomaculata* is deposited in the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg (ZIN). We were not able to study it directly but we were able to examine good quality electronic photographs of the holotype, including details of the male hypopygium. Most specimens were dry and pinned. Prior to illustration, male hypopygia were macerated in 10 % KOH and later stored in microvials in glycerol. Terminology follows mainly Alexander and Byers (1981) and Merz and Haenni (2000).