

New and noteworthy records of vespid wasps (Hymenoptera: Vespidae) from the Palaearctic region

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Abstract. Records of 15 Palaearctic species of Vespidae are given. The following taxa are newly recorded: *Polistes rubellus* Gusenleitner, 2006, from Nepal, *Dolichovespula adulterina* (du Buysson, 1905) and *Katamenes tauricus* (de Saussure, 1855) from the Tuva Republic (Eastern Siberia, Russia), *Vespula vulgaris* (Linnaeus, 1758) from Ciudad Real province (Spain), *Ancistrocerus gazella* (Panzer, 1798) from Gran Canaria (Spain, Canary Islands), *Hemipterochilus bicoloricornis* (Giordani Soika, 1952) from Turkey (Asian part), *Microdynerus latro* Blüthgen, 1955, from Syria, and *Leptochilus membranaceus* (Morawitz, 1867) and *Pseudepipona tricolor* Gusenleitner, 1976, both from Kazakhstan. Worldwide distribution of each taxon is also summarized.

Key words. Hymenoptera, Vespidae, Eumeninae, Polistinae, Vespinae, first records, distribution, Palaearctic region

Introduction

In recent years we have seen some specimens of the family Vespidae which either belong to taxa that are rarely reported or were collected in areas from where the species or subspecies have not been recorded so far. They include 15 species from the subfamilies Eumeninae, Polistinae and Vespinae, and come from 11 countries of Europe and Palaearctic Asia. The data are given below, with the taxa arranged by subfamilies and accompanied by information on the worldwide distribution of each taxon. The specimens are deposited in our private collections and in the collections of the American Museum of Natural History (New York, AMNH) and National Museum in Prague (Praha, NMPC).