

Distribution of the water beetle *Cybister lateralimarginalis* De Geer, 1774 (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae) in Latvia

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Abstract

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Water beetle *Cybister lateralimarginalis* is the only species of the Cybisterini tribe in Latvia. This species was stated only in the Eastern part of Latvia (in Latgale) so far. There it is commonly found in the small lakes of the valley of the river Daugava as well as along the river itself. The water beetle *C. lateralimarginalis* was found in the Western part of Latvia – in lake Engure in May 1997; in the Northern part of Latvia – in pond near Valmiera in May 1999; in the Central part of Latvia – in Lake Beberbeķu in September 1999.

Key words: Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, *Cybister*, fauna, lakes.

The water beetle *Cybister lateralimarginalis* De Geer, 1774, is one of the species belonging to the tribe Cybisterini. Five genera belong to this tribe altogether and only one of them – *Cybister* Curtis, 1827 with several species is represented in Palaearctic region. Totally 80 species are known for this genus, most of them inhabit tropical and subtropical zones all over the world except South America. Seven species have been established in temperate zones.

South European species *C. lateralimarginalis* is widespread in the Southern regions of the Europe, Transcaucasus, Central Asia and in the most part of Palearctics except the North. Spreading eastwards the species is creating weakly separated local forms. The basic form inhabits Western Europe, Mediterranean region, except the Middle East and the Crimea, where the basic form mixes with other forms (Zaitzev, 1953). In Finland species has been found only in Ingermanland (the border of Finland and Russia) (Hellen, 1929). This finding is doubtful.

C. lateralimarginalis has so far been stated only in the Eastern part of Latvia (Latgale). There it is commonly recorded in the small lakes of valley of Daugava as well as along the river itself. The species is recorded on a mass scale in Lake Balticas near Varnaviči and has therefore practically ousted other species belonging to the genus *Dytiscus*. The latter are commonly recorded in Latvia (Barševskis, 1993).

Distribution of species in Latvia (number of specimens, year, finder): Krāslavas district., lake Mazais Ožuhnas, (3 specimens, 1953, Z.Spuris), lake Rāznas, (1 larva, 1959, O.Kačalova) (Spuris, 1991); Daugavpils district, Ilgas, lake Sitas, (1 specimen, 1984, A.Barševskis); Krāslavas district, Izvalta, lake Sargavas, (1 specimen, 1986, A.Barševskis), Varnaviči, lake Balticas, (1 specimen, 1990, A.Barševskis) (Barševskis, 1993).

During the investigations of the water beetle fauna in Lake Engure (Talsu district – Western part of Latvia) one specimen of *C. lateralimarginalis* was found in May 17, 1997. It was caught in the Northern part of lake Engure in reeds near a small slime island (by M. Kalniņš). This species was found in the Northern part of Latvia – in pond at Koceni (Valmieras district) in May 28, 1999 (by I.Upīte); *C. lateralimarginalis* was found in the Central part of Latvia also – in lake Beberbeku (Riga district) in September 8, 1999 (by S.Inberga). Evidently, *C. lateralimarginalis* is widespread in whole Latvia. But the frequency is still unknown.

Kopsavilkums

Airvabole *Cybister lateralimarginalis* De Geer, 1774 ir vienīgā tribas Cybisterini suga Latvijā. Šī suga ir izplatīta Eiropas dienvidu daļā, Aizkaukāzā, Vidusāzijā un lielākajā daļā Palearktiskas, izņemot ziemeļus. Latvijā *C. lateralimarginalis* līdz šim bija konstatēta tikai Ausrumlatvijā (Latgalē). 1997. un 1999.gadā *C. lateralimarginalis* tika atrasta gan Latvijas rietumu (Engures ez.), gan ziemeļu (dīķis pie Valmieras), gan centrālajā (beberbeķu ez.) daļā. Acīmredzot, *C. lateralimarginalis* ir izplatīta visā Latvijā, tomēr pagaidām nav skaidrs sugas sastopamības biežums.

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