

The tachinid species *Cleonice nitidiuscula* Zetterstedt new to the fauna of Murmansk Province (Diptera: Tachinidae)

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The northernmost record of *Cleonice nitidiuscula* Zetterstedt in Russia is given. The tachinid was reared from a new host, leaf-beetle *Melasoma lapponica* L.

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Genus *Cleonice* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1863

Cleonice nitidiuscula Zetterstedt, 1859

Material. Murmansk Province, vicinity of Monchegorsk: 4 ♂, 5 ♀, from pupae of *Melasoma lapponica* L., pupation in August 1991, adults emerged in laboratory in July 1992 (E.L. Zvereva).

The tachinid *Cleonice nitidiuscula* is distributed in Europe from Northern Scandinavia to the Czech Republic and is very rare (Tschorsnig & Herting, 1994). It is known to parasitize the leaf-beetle *Melasoma saliceti* Weise (Chrysomelidae). This tachinid species was recorded from Novosibirsk Province (Richter, 1981) based on two specimens reared from the same host.

An outbreak of *Melasoma lapponica* L., a willow feeding leaf beetle, was studied by E.L. Zvereva since 1989 in vicinity of Monchegorsk (68° N), region of northern taiga. High local densities of the leaf beetle were observed during five successive years. In the studied region about 80% of *M. lapponica* larvae were found on *Salix borealis*. Two species of parasitic flies were reared from *M. lapponica* pupae: a tachinid, *Cleonice nitidiuscula* Zetterstedt, and a phorid (not identified). A single tachinid larva or two to five phorid larvae developed in one beetle larva.

Mortality of beetles caused by *C. nitidiuscula* was high (58-66%) and did not depend on either beetle population density or the level of aerial pollution. *Melasoma lapponica* L. is for the first time recorded as a host of *Cleonice nitidiuscula* Zetterstedt.

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