

Vast ranges of some *Oscinella* species (Diptera: Chloropidae)

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Oscinella (*Oscinella*) *nitidigenes* Becker, 1908 is recorded for the first time from Indonesia (Java). The range of this species is correlated with the ranges of *O. (O.) frit* Linnaeus and *O. (Cyclocercula) nartshukiana* Beschovski. Host-plants and feeding of larvae of these species are discussed.

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Some species of the genus *Oscinella* Becker, 1909 have vast ranges. The common pest of cereals *O. (O.) frit* (Linnaeus, 1758) is known from the Palaearctic, Nearctic, Oriental and Afrotropical Regions. At first sight it is possible to assume that its vast range is due anthropogenic factors. However, there are other species of the same genus with similar ranges. Recently, Deeming (2003) has reported a vast range of *O. (Cyclocercula) nartshukiana* Beschovski. He found that this species described in 1978 from Bulgaria occurs not only in the Palaearctic but also in many localities within the Oriental and Afrotropical Regions.

In the same paper, Deeming discussed the range of *O. (O.) nitidigenes* Becker, 1908 as well. This species described from the Canary Islands was reported later from southern Europe, Israel and the Cape Verde Islands (Nartshuk, 1984). Sabrosky (1980) listed also Ussuri region in quotation marks, but I never saw this species from the Far East of Russia. Deeming added many localities in North Africa and the Afrotropical Region (Kenia, Nigeria, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Madagascar) and also Oman and Yemen.

Among the Chloropidae from the Institute of Zoology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, I found 5 females of *O. (O.) nitidigenis* from Indonesia (Jawa: Banjuwangi, 16.05.1959, leg. B. Pisarski, J. Prószyński). This record supports distribution of the species in the Oriental Region.

All discussed species are phytophagous in larval stage, but can develop in the same plant together with other, usually larger phytophagous species, often species of Muscidae or Anthomy-

iidae. Each species has a rather long list of host-plants belonging to many genera of Poaceae. *O. (C.) nartshukiana* develops within shoots of no less than 15 grass genera, including seedlings of cultivated wheat, barley, maize, sorghum, millet, and rice. *O. (O.) nitidigenis* develops in shoots of grass from 5 genera, but not recorded in cereals. The list of host-plants of *O. (O.) frit* is even vaster, but needs to be confirmed because of difficult diagnostic of flies. In my opinion, the capability of discussed species to develop in shoots of many genera and species of Poaceae, including those damaged by other pests, is favourable for their wide distribution.

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