

Peribaea tibialis Rob.-Desv. (Diptera: Tachinidae), new to Krasnodar Territory, parasitizes the introduced moth *Tarachidia candefacta* Hübner (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

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A Palaearctic fly species, *Peribaea tibialis* Rob.-Desv. (Diptera: Tachinidae), was found to parasitize larvae of the introduced moth *Tarachidia candefacta* Hübner (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae). *P. tibialis* is recorded from Krasnodar Terr. for the first time.

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The noctuid *Tarachidia candefacta* Hübner was introduced to the USSR (Krasnodar Territory) from Canada by O.V. Kovalev in 1967 for biological control of hogbrake, *Ambrosia artemisiifolia* L., an adventive weed native to North America. It was the first species introduced to Europe for the control of hogbrake. The choice was made owing to its host specificity, so as to reach safe introduction without damaging other plants (Kovalev & Runeva, 1970). It was shown that normal development of this noctuid species occurs only when feeding on hogbrake. In Krasnodar Territory, the duration of the larval and pupal stages is from 26 to 34 days, resulting in 3 or 4 generations per year (Kovalev & Runeva, 1970). *T. candefacta* overwinters as pupa in soil, in cocoon made of soil particles and silk threads. Though it has been shown that the noctuid can overwinter in Krasnodar Territory, the general conclusion is that it cannot be regarded as a promising controlling agent for hogbrake (Kovalev, 1989).

There was no information on the noctuid in ensuing years, but in 1995-1998 it was found that *T. candefacta* should be considered an established species, as it occurs in various localities of Krasnodar Territory, namely, in the Kuban area and at the Black Sea shore, spreading along river valleys to mountains up to 600-800 m above the sea level (Shchurov, 1998).

In 2004, *T. candefacta* was found to be common in the vicinity of Krasnodar (the territory of All-Russian Institute of Biological Control), on *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*. A newly emerged female of the tachinid fly *Peribaea tibialis* Rob.-Desv. was found on 5.IX.2004 in a cage with larvae and pupae of *T. candefacta* of the third generation (the specimen is deposited in the Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg).

P. tibialis is recorded from Krasnodar Territory for the first time. This tachinid was found to parasitize *T. candefacta* for the first time. *P. tibialis* is widely distributed in the Palaearctic from Europe to Transcaucasia, Uzbekistan, Mongolia, Far East of Russia, China, Japan and Burma. Larvae of this polyphagous species parasitize larvae of different genera of Noctuidae, more rarely larvae of other Macrolepidoptera (Tschorsnig & Herting, 1994; Andersen, 1996).

In Japan, *P. tibialis* was reared from *Furcula furcula* Clerck (Notodontidae) (Tachi & Shima, 2002).

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