



First record of *Hebrus ruficeps* (Heteroptera: Hebridae) from the Caucasus Первая находка *Hebrus ruficeps* (Heteroptera: Hebridae) на Кавказе

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Abstract. *Hebrus (Hebrusella) ruficeps* Thomson, 1871 (Heteroptera: Hebridae) is recorded for the Caucasus for the first time from a Sphagnum peat bog in the Kabardino-Balkaria Republic.

Резюме. *Hebrus (Hebrusella) ruficeps* Thomson, 1871 (Heteroptera: Hebridae) впервые обнаружен на Кавказе, в сфагновом болоте Кабардино-Балкарии.

Key words: Caucasus, Sphagnum peat bog, Hebridae, first record

Ключевые слова: Кавказ, сфагновое болото, Hebridae, первая находка

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Hebrus (Hebrusella) ruficeps Thomson, 1871, a species of the velvet water bugs (Hebridae), is widely distributed in Europe, in particular, recorded from Estonia, Latvia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, as well as from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan (Andersen, 1995). The known range of this species in Russia covers the European part from the Republic of Karelia, Leningrad and Novgorod Provinces in the north up to Kursk, Voronezh and Samara Provinces in the south; in Siberia, it was recorded from the Irkutsk Province and Primorskiy Territory (Kanyukova, 1997, 2006; Vinokurov et al., 2010).

This year I found *H. ruficeps* in a mountain Sphagnum peat bog in the Kabardino-Balkaria Republic, and this is the first record of the species in the Caucasus. This finding allows to assume that the postglacial colonisation is the most likely way for the species has penetrated into the Caucasus region.

Material examined. Three specimens, **Russia, Kabardino-Balkaria Republic**, Verkhnyaya Balkaria vill. environs, Sphagnum peat bog (No 2), 43°05'52"N 43°28'41"E, 1783 m alt., 7 June 2018, coll. A. Prokin. The material is deposited in the collection of the Pa-

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