SHORT COMMUNICATION


The mainly Holarctic genus Sciapus Zeller, 1842 needs revision in the Palearctic Region [1-4]. A new species from the Caucasian Mountains is described below. The holotype and most paratypes of new species are deposited in the Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg (ZIN), one paratype – in the Zoological Museum of Moscow State University, Russia (ZMU). Morphological terminology follows Robinson & Vockeroth [6], Stuckenberg [8], and Sinclair [7]. Body length is measured from the base of the antenna to the tip of abdominal segment 7. Wing length is measured from the base to the wing apex. The relative lengths of the tarsomerses should be regarded as representative ratios and not measurements. Male genitalia were macerated in 10% KOH. Figures showing the male genitalia in lateral view are oriented as they appear on the intact specimen (rotated 180° and lateroflexed to the right), with the morphologically ventral surface of the genitalia facing up, dorsal surface down, anterior end facing right and posterior end facing left.

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Sciapus richterae Negrobov et Grichanov sp. n. 

Figs 1-5


DESCRIPTION. MALE. Body length: 5.0-5.3 mm, wing length: 4.4-4.5 mm, wing width: 1.7 mm, antenna length: 1.2 mm, hypopygium length: 0.6 mm. Frons violet, shining metallic green, weakly silvery pollinose. A strong long front vertical bristle bends forward, 2 long black postverticals. Face violet, shining, weakly white pollinose, under antennae 3 times wider than postpedicel height. Face and convex epistome separated by distinct transverse suture. Proboscis brownish; palpus yellowish-brown, with black and yellow hairs. Antenna with scape and pedicel yellow, postpedicel brown, higher than long; pedicel with short setae; stylus dorsal, long, shortly haired. Postocular setae entirely white. Thorax metallic green, grey pollinose; mesonotum with black setae; six long dorsocentrals; acrostichals biseriate along whole mesonotum length; scutellum with 2 strong median and 2 fine lateral setae. Legs yellow; mid coxa with black spot in basal half; hind coxa brown at base; tarsi brown from tip of basitarsus; 5th segments black. Coxae with long yellow hairs; fore coxa with a few yellow
setae at base and at apex. Fore femur with antero- and posterovertral rows of long white hairs, longer than femur height; fore tibia and tarsi devoid of setae; 5th segment of fore tarsus ovate, flattened dorsoventrally. Mid femur with row of short black anteroventral setae, not longer than femur height, and with long fine white ventral cilia, twice longer than femur height; no anterior preapical seta. Mid tibia with 1 small anterodorsal and 1 small posterovertral setae, short apicals; tarsomeres simple, with short ventral and apical setae. Hind femur with row of black elongate anterodorsal and several white elongate posterior cilia; hind tibia and basitarsus with short black setae. Fore leg length ratio (from tibia to tarsomere 5): 52/65/28/18/9/9, mid leg: 77/61/24/14/8/6, hind leg: 100/36/31/18/10/5. Wing hyaline; costa almost straight. Ratio of part of costa between R2+3 and R4+5 to that between R4+5 and M1: 25/4 Crossvein m-cu straight. M2 and CuA distinct. Anal lobe well developed; anal angle acute. Lower calypter with yellow cilia. Halter yellow. Abdomen metallic green, with violet bands at tergal basal margins, with mainly black hairs of moderate length; 1st tergum with long yellowish-white hairs; sternum with yellowish-white hairs. Hypopygium dark; hypandrium short, oval at base, not longer than wide; surstylist deeply bifurcated, with ventral (outer) arm strongly curved, broad, widened at apex, and ventral (inner) arm thin, weakly curved, both with apical setae as figured; cercus free, long, 5 times longer than wide at base, with long hairs; no ventral projection (“Organ X”).

![Figure 1](image1.png)

Fig. 1. Head of Sciapus richterae sp. n., fronto-lateral aspect.

![Figures 2-5](image2.png)

Figs 2-5. Sciapus richterae sp. n. 2) hypopygium, left lateral aspect; 3) cerci and inner lobes of surstylist, ventral aspect; 4) suristylist and epandrial lobe, ventral aspect; 5) last segment of fore tarsus. Scale bars: 2 – 0.2 mm, 3-5 – 0.05 mm.
FEMALE. Similar to male except secondary sexual characters. Fore leg simple.

DISTRIBUTION. Azerbaijan (Zakatala) and Russia (Adygea and Krasnodar Territory).

ETYMOLOGY. The species is named after one of the collectors, Dr. Vera Richter (ZIN, St. Petersburg, Russia).

DIAGNOSIS. Based on the presence of simple segment 4 and modified segment 5 of fore tarsus the new species keys to *S. calceolatus* (Loew, 1859) and *S. contristans* (Wiedemann, 1817) [2, 5], strongly differing in setation of femora and morphology of hypopygium. Nevertheless, having free cerci and lacking ventral cercal projection (“Organ X”), new species is related to *S. frater* Parent, 1927, and its relatives that have simple fore tarsus, different leg setation and podomere ratio. In contrast to other species of the genus, *S. richterae* sp. n. has no true anterior preapical setae on mid and hind femora.

NOTES. New species was earlier mentioned for Caucasus by authors of this paper under the names *S. frater* and *S. spiniger* (Zetterstedt, 1859), so, both species must be excluded from the fauna of Caucasus.


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