

The second record of *Neurocrassus tesari* Šnoflák (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) in Czechia since the description of the species

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HOLÝ K. 2020: The second record of *Neurocrassus tesari* Šnoflák (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) in Czechia since the description of the species. *Acta Musei Moraviae, Scientiae biologicae* **105(1)**: 123–126. – A specimen of a male *Neurocrassus tesari*, a parastoid braconid, was collected in Czechia, only the second record since the species description in 2018. A species distribution in Europe is provided.

Key words. Hymenoptera, Braconidae, *Neurocrassus tesari*, Czechia, second record, geographic distribution

Introduction

Neurocrassus tesari Šnoflák, 1945 was described by ŠNOFLÁK (1945). The specific name commemorates Dr. Zdeněk Tesar (1907–1985), the Czech coleopterologist (KOLEŠKA 1995) who reared *N. tesari* from *Stenostola* sp. (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) collected in the surroundings of Stará Boleslav (ŠNOFLÁK 1945). Since that time, no other specimen has been found in Czechia (STARÝ 1957).

Beyond Czechia, *N. tesari* had been known only from Hungary (PAPP 1983, 1996) to date. A further two western Palearctic species of *Neurocrassus* Šnoflák, 1945 are known (YU *et al.* 2016). *Neurocrassus serbicus* Brajkovic, Curcic et Nikolic, 2006, occurring only in Serbia (BRAJKOVIC *et al.* 2006) and *N. rarus* (Belokobylskij, 1982) distributed in Abkhazia, Russia and Ukraine (BELOKOBYSKIJ & MAETO 2006, SAMARTSEV 2013).

Material and methods

Two Malaise traps were set from April 19 to December 5 2018 in a spruce forest glade near Doubí in Czechia (GPS: 50°36'33.983"N, 15°5'38.289"E), 310 m asl, the square 5356 in the central European grid for mapping flora and fauna (NOVÁK 1989, PRUNER & MÍKA 1996). The sampling interval was 14–30 days. The material was preserved in 70% alcohol and subsequently determined in an entomological laboratory. GPS and altitude figures for Šnoflák's record and Hungarian localities are approximate, based on public records (Fig. 2).



Fig 1. Holotype of *Neurocrassus tesari*, male, including its labels.

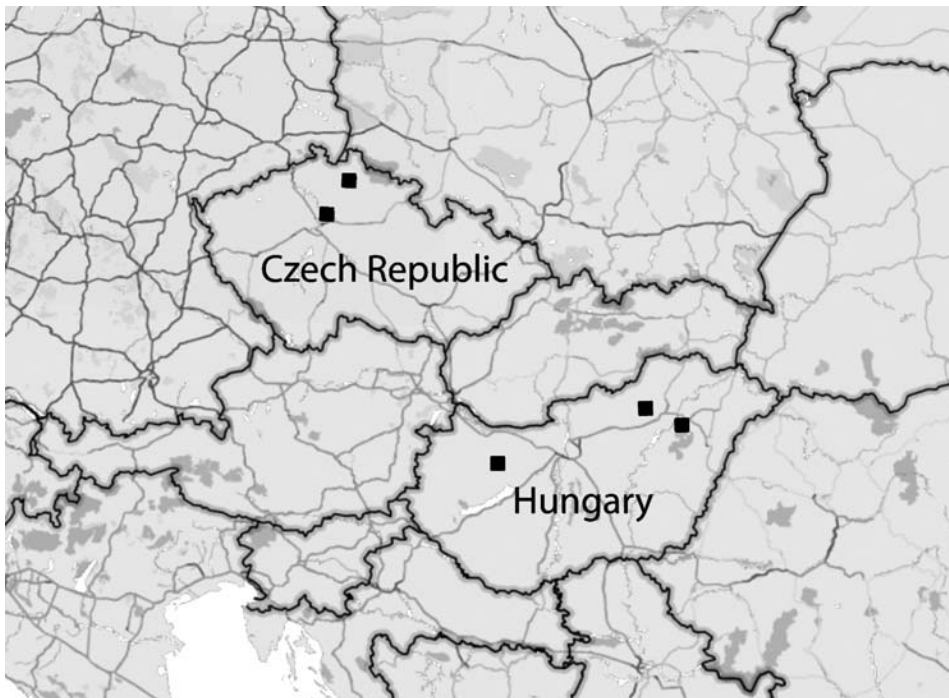


Fig 2. Distribution of *Neurocrassus tesari* in Europe.

Results and discussion

One male of *Neurocrassus tesari* was collected in a Malaise trap near Doubí between 18 August and 11 September 2018, K. Holý lgt., det. et coll. (Fig. 3). This locality is approximately 50 km north-east of the type-locality (Stará Boleslav (5754), GPS: 50°12'2.658"N, 14°42'39.841"E, 170–190 m asl). It has been reported from three localities in Hungary: Hortobágy National Park, Újszentmargita, Margitai Forest (GPS: 47°44'15.000"N, 21°5'40.000"E), 80–100 m asl, 1♂, 1♀; Noszvaj, Sík-főkút (GPS: 47°56'50.331"N, 20°27'47.789"E), 350 m asl, 1♀ (PAPP 1983) and Csesznek, Gézaháza (GPS: 47°19'23.560"N, 17°52'54.657"E), 450 m asl, 22.v.1957, 1♂, Bajári E. lgt. (PAPP 1996).

The male of *N. tesari* is clearly distinguished by the characteristic presence of a strongly sclerotized spot on the veins of the fore-wing. However, this species has been reported only from Czechia (ŠNOFLÁK 1945, STARÝ 1957) and Hungary (PAPP 1983, 1996). It is not clear whether this is a very rare species or if commonly-used collection methods are inappropriate to collecting it. The former hypothesis is supported by data from SLÁMA (1998). He summarized parasitoids reared from the genus *Stenostola* in Czechia, but no other specimens of *N. tesari* have been hatched.

According to ŠNOFLÁK (1945) and PAPP (1983), the adult period is April to May. The new record extends this to the end of August/beginning of September. *N. tesari* has been collected both in the lowlands and highlands (up to 450 m asl.). This corresponds with the distribution of its known host. Both Central European species of the genus *Stenostola* develop in broadleaved trees at comparatively low altitudes (SLÁMA 1998).

The holotype is deposited in the Moravian Museum, Brno (Fig. 1). Since the original description by ŠNOFLÁK (1945), this specimen has lost the right antenna and only the scapus and pedicellus remain of the left antenna. The left hind wing and right foreleg are lost, and only the first segment remains of the left hind tarsus. Based on its description, the holotype had 22 flagellomeres while the specimen from Doubí has 19 flagellomeres.

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Fig 3. Male specimen recently collected in Doubí, Czechia, Sept. 2018.

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