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## BEETLES IN BIRDS' NESTS (COLEOPTERA: NOTERIDAE, DYTISCIDAE, HELOPHORIDAE, HYDROPHILIDAE & DRYOPIIDAE)

by Sergey K Ryndevich & Denis S Lundyshev

The beetles in the families Dytiscidae and Hydrophilidae found in nests of birds from Belarus have been mentioned in scientific literature earlier (Ryndevich 1991, 1992a, 1992b, 2004; Ryndevich & Lundyshev 2004; Ryndevich & Shatrovskiy 1995). In the course of a more detailed study of beetle fauna of nests, 31 species were found in 51 nests of the following birds:

- 1 White stork (*Ciconia ciconia* L.) – 2 species of beetles found
- 2 Mute swan (*Cygnus olor* Gmelin) – 9 species
- 3 Tufted duck (*Aythya fuligula* L.) – 4 species
- 4 Honey buzzard (*Pernis apivorus* L.) – 1 species
- 5 Marsh harrier (*Circus aeruginosus* L.) – 2 species
- 6 Black tern (*Chlidonias niger* L.) – 1 species
- 7 Common tern (*Sterna hirundo* L.) – 1 species
- 8 Black-headed gull (*Larus ridibundus* L.) – 15 species
- 9 Hooded crow (*Corvus corone cornix* L.) – 2 species
- 10 Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris* L.) – 1 species
- 11 Song thrush (*Turdus philomelos* Brehm) – 5 species
- 12 Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs* L.) – 2 species.

The checklist below indicates the numbers of the localities in Belarus and, in parentheses, the number of specimens found

### Noteridae

*Noterus crassicornis* (Müller) – 7 (1), 10 (3)

### Dytiscidae

*Hydroporus tristis* (Paykull) – 18 (1)

*Rhantus exsoletus* (Forster) – 2 (1)

*Graphoderus cinereus* (L.) – 17 (1)

*Cybister lateralimarginalis* (De Geer) – 14 (10), 16 (6)

### Helophoridae

*Helophorus nubilus* Fab. – 4 (1)

### Hydrophilidae

*Chaetarthria seminulum* (Herbst) – 11 (4)

*Laccobius minutus* (L.) – 9 (1)

*Helochares punctatus* Sharp – 10 (2)

*Enochrus testaceus* (Fab.) – 6 (3)

*Cymbiodyta marginellus* (Fab.) – 3 (1), 10 (1)

*Hydrophilus aterrimus* Eschscholtz – 17 (4)

*Coelostoma orbiculare* (Fab.) – 6 (9), 8 (18), 13 (7), 14 (12), 15 (7), 16(1)

*Cercyon analis* (Paykull) – 4 (1), 12 (1), 13 (2), 14 (2), 15 (3)

*Cercyon bifenestratus* Küster – 10 (1), 14 (4)

*Cercyon convexiusculus* Stephens – 10 (7), 12 (3), 13 (6), 15 (3), 18 (1)

*Cercyon granarius* Erichson – 8 (1)

*Cercyon haemorrhoidalis* (Fab.) – 10 (1)

*Cercyon laminatus* Sharp – 6 (6), 14 (8), 16 (8)

*Cercyon lateralis* (Marsham) – 19 (7), 21 (3), 22 (1)

*Cercyon marinus* Thomson – 8 (8), 10 (9), 14 (4), 16 (2)

*Cercyon melanocephalus* (L.) – 19 (1)

*Cercyon obsoletus* (Gyllenhal) – 20 (1)

*Cercyon pygmaeus* (Illiger) – 1 (1)

- Cercyon subsulcatus* Rey – 8 (4)  
*Cercyon tristis* (Illiger) – 8 (3), 10 (4)  
*Cercyon unipunctatus* (L.) – 6 (13), 10 (1), 13 (3), 14 (14), 16(10), 19 (1)  
*Cryptopleurum minutum* (Fab.) – 5 (1), 12 (1), 13 (2), 14 (2), 23 (1)  
*Cryptopleurum crenatum* (Kugelann) – 10 (2)  
*Cryptopleurum subtile* Sharp – 14 (4)

### Dryopidae

- Dryops griseus* (Erichson) – 3 (1).

### Localities

- 1 Brest region, Pinsk district, v. Khoyno, 8 June 2002, nest of fieldfare, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 2 Brest region, Pinsk district, v. Khoyno, 8 June 2002, nests of white stork, leg. Lundyshev D.S. & Zemoglyadchuk A.V.
- 3 Brest region, Pinsk district, v. Khoyno, 10 June 2002, nest of chaffinch, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 4 Brest region, Pinsk district, v. Khoyno, 12 June 2002, nest of hooded crow, leg. Lundyshev D.S. & Zemoglyadchuk A.V.
- 5 Brest region, Pinsk district, v. Khoyno, 12 June 2002, nests of white stork, leg. Lundyshev D.S. & Zemoglyadchuk A.V.
- 6 Brest region, Pruzhany district, water storage reservoir "Papernya", 4 October 2003, nest of mute swan, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 7 Brest region, Baranovichy district, near v. Kolpenitza, 15 May 2004, nests of black tern, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 8 Brest region, Zhabinka district, Sokolovo, 23 May 2004, nests of black-headed gull, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 9 Brest region, Baranovichy district, near v. Kolpenitza, nest of tufted duck, 25 June 2004, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 10 Brest region, Baranovichy district, near v. Kolpenitza, nests of black-headed gull, 25 June 2004, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 11 Brest region, Baranovichy district, near v. Kolpenitza, nests of common tern, 25 June 2004, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 12 Brest region, near Baranovichy, water storage reservoir "Baranovichskoe", nest of tufted duck, 19 July 2004, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 13 Brest region, near Baranovichy, water storage reservoir "Baranovichskoe", nests of black-headed gull, 19 July 2004, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 14 Brest region, Pruzhany district, water storage reservoir "Papernya", 5 August 2004, nest of mute swan, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 15 Brest region, Baranovichy district, near v. Kolpenitza, 10 August 2004, nests of black-headed gull, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 16 Brest region, Baranovichy district, near v. Guta, 15 August 2004, nest of mute swan, leg. Lundyshev D.S.
- 17 Near Grodno, 12 April 1989, nest of marsh harrier, leg Vinchevskiy A.
- 18 Gomel region, Zhitkovichi district, National Park "Pripyatskiy", 4 May 2003, nest of song thrush, leg. Lundyshev D.S. & Zemoglyadchuk A.V.
- 19 Minsk district, near v. Volovshchina, nest of song thrush, 22 May 1988, leg. Pisanenko A.D.
- 20 same data, 22 June 1985
- 21 Minsk region, Vileyka district, near v. Budishchy, under nest of honey buzzard, 28 July 1988, leg. Pisanenko A.D.

22 Minsk region, Vileyka district, near v. Budishchy, nest of song thrush, 12 July 1988, leg. Ryndevich S.K.

23 same data, 15 July 1988.

The reasons for finding beetles in nests can be the following:

1. some species use nests of aquatic and waterside birds for pupation. This fact can be proved the finding of larvae (*Cybister lateralimarginalis*), pupae (*C. lateralimarginalis* and *Hydrophilus aterrimus*) and immature specimens of beetles (*Graphoderus cinereus*, *Cercyon laminatus*, *C. marinus*, *C. bifenestratus*, *Cryptopleurum minutum* and *H. aterrimus*) in nests
2. use of nests as temporary shelters (e.g. *Noterus crassicornis*, *Laccobius minutus*, *Enochrus testaceus*, *Helophares punctatus* and *Cymbiodyta marginellus*)
3. aquatic and terrestrial hydrophilids find decaying organic remains in nests a food source (e.g. *Chaetarthria seminulum*, *Coelostoma orbiculare*, species of *Cercyon* and *Cryptopleurum*);

Some occurrences cannot yet be explained (e.g. *Hydroporus tristis*, *Rhantus exsoletus*, *Helophorus nubilus* and *Dryops griseus*). In particular the occurrence of *Cymbiodyta marginellus* in nests of both a chaffinch and a black-headed gull is remarkable.

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