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Cordulegaster heros
Falk Petzold

Contribution of the participants of 4th Balkan Odonatological Meeting to the knowledge of Odonata distribution in Bosnia and Herzegovina

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Abstract

As a result of increased interest in dragonflies and close cooperation between odonatologists on the Balkan Peninsula, the Balkan Odonatological Meeting (BOOM) has been established in 2011. This report presents the results of the field trip during 4th Balkan Odonatological Meeting that was held in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1st to 8th August 2014. With 69 surveyed localities and 496 records of 47 species, this was the most successful BOOM until now.

The noteworthy results are records of several nationally rare species: *Chalcolestes viridis*, *Coenagrion scitulum*, *Erythromma najas* and *Ceriagrion tenellum*, and new populations of *Cordulegaster heros*, a species mentioned in the Annexes of the EU Habitats Directive. The distribution of *Chalcolestes* spp. in Bosnia and Herzegovina is also presented and discussed.

Key words: Odonata, dragonflies, Balkan Odonatological Meeting, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Balkan Peninsula

Sažetak

Istraživanje vilinih konjica na području zapadnog Balkana doživjelo je proteklih godina značajan napredak. Jedan od rezultata rastućeg interesa za viline konjice u regionu je i Balkanski Odonatološki sastanak ili skraćeno BOOM, utemeljen 2011. godine. Glavni cilj ovog skupa je doprinos istraživanju i zaštiti vilinih konjica Balkankog poluostrva, kao jedne od najmanje istraženih regija Evrope.

Ovaj izvještaj predstavlja rezultate IV Balkanskog odonatološkog sastanka održanog u Bosni i Hercegovini od 1. do 8. avgusta 2014. godine. Sa 69 istraženih lokaliteta i 496 prikupljenih nalaza 47 vrsta, ovo je najuspješniji sastanak do sada. Prikupljeni podaci su od velikog značaja za bolje poznavanje distribucije vilinih konjica u Bosni i Hercegovini. Najznačajniji rezultat su pronalasci nekoliko rijetkih vrsta: *Chalcolestes viridis, Coenagrion scitulum, Erythromma najas* i *Ceriagrion tenellum,* kao i nove populacije vrste *Cordulegaster heros,* vrste zaštićene Direktivom o staništima Evropske unije. U radu su detaljnije obrađeni nalazi ovih vrsta, a dat je i pregled i analiza distribucije *Chalcolestes* spp. u Bosni i Hercegovini.

Ključne riječi: Odonata, vilini konjici, Balkanski odonatološki sastanak, Bosna i Hercegovina, Balkansko poluostrvo

Introduction

Interest in dragonflies is increasing in recent years not only in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also in the other countries of the Balkan Peninsula (e.g. Boudot et al. 2009; Kulijer & Marinov 2010; Boudot & Kalkman 2015). Followed by better collaboration between odonatologists, particularly in the western part of the region this resulted in the establishment of the Balkan Odonatological Meeting or BOOM in 2011 (Jović 2011). The main goal of BOOM is the further development of odonatological research in the Balkans. The annually organized BOOM has quickly become a recognized event where dragonfly enthusiasts can meet, exchange their ideas, present their research and work together investigating dragonflies in one of the least known regions of Europe. New regional cooperation and joint research projects resulted in the publication of several papers dealing with the dragonfly fauna of the region (i.e. Kulijer & Marinov 2010; Vinko 2011; Šácha & Bedjanič 2011; Kulijer et al. 2012, 2013; Vinko & Vilenica 2013; Rajkov et al. 2015).

The dragonfly fauna of Bosnia and Herzegovina is still rather poorly investigated. After a good start in the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth century, poor research efforts in later years and the severe war in 1990's resulted in Bosnia and Herzegovina remaining one of the countries with least explored dragonfly fauna in Europe (Adamović 1948; Kulijer et al. 2013). This changed significantly in recent years when systematic investigations of dragonflies in Bosnia and Herzegovina started. Intensive research efforts resulted with notable increase of dragonfly knowledge in the country, although many regions are still insufficiently explored (i.e. Kulijer 2012; Kulijer et al. 2013; Kulijer 2015; Kulijer & Miljević 2015). The knowledge of the odonatofauna of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including new data collected up to 2013, has been summarized in Kulijer et al. (2013) and Boudot & Kalkman (2015).

This paper presents the results of the dragonfly survey conducted within the scope of the 4th Balkan Odonatological Meeting (BOOM 2014) and held between 1st and 8th August 2014 in Bosnia and Herzegovina (for more locality details see below in chapter "Study area").

Material & Methods

Data were collected mainly in the northern and southern part of Bosnia and Herzegovina during the meeting. Additionally, records from several localities visited by participants on 9th and 10th August on their trip back home are also included. Altogether, 69 localities were investigated (Fig. 1, Tab. I). Observations are mainly based on imagines, while exuviae and larvae were searched for only sporadically. During our survey weather was favorable for observing dragonflies at most days.

A total of 22 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia and Germany took part in the survey (Fig. 2). The participants were split in two to four groups on most days and every group was led by at least one experienced odonatologist. The records collected during the meeting have been inserted into the national dragonfly database, and voucher specimens were deposited in the collections of the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo.

Study area

Bosnia and Herzegovina is predominantly a mountainous country located in the western part of Balkan Peninsula. Karst mountains of Dinaric Alps cover the largest part, separating Mediterranean influenced southern region from the lowland continental area in the north (Fig. 1). Influences of the Dinaric Alps and the Adriatic Sea



Figure 1. Geographical position of Bosnia and Herzegovina (left) and the overview of the localities investigated during this study (right). The major rivers in the study area are highlighted.



Figure 2. Participants of the IV Balkan Odonatological Meeting at Blagaj, Herzegovina (Photo: Dejan Kulijer).

are the most important factors that determine diversity and distribution of dragonfly fauna in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Kulijer et al. 2013). Karst mountains of the Dinaric Alps are extended in a northwest-southeast direction limiting the influence of the Mediterranean climate to the north. This mountain chain spreads from Slovenia to Albania, forming the largest continuous karst landscape in Europe (Mihevc & Prelovšek 2010). Karst poljes are one of the specificities of the Dinaric karst region. These are large surface karst formations characteristic for karst region from Slovenia to Montenegro. Karst poljes are large, mainly closed depression characterized by a flat floor and surrounded by steep mountain slopes (Gams 1978; Prohić et al. 1998). As many of the poljes in Bosnia and Herzegovina are rich in water they represent important wetlands and rich dragonfly habitats in dry karst region (Kulijer 2012, 2014).

Our survey included localities from all three biogeographical regions of the country (Mediterranean, Alpine and Continental), but most surveys were conducted in the Continental and Mediterranean region. The meeting started in Prnjavor (North Bosnia), continued through the central part and finished in Blagaj (Herzegovina) (Fig. 3). Continental (Posavina) region encompasses the area between the Sava River, which represents the country's northern border, and the Dinaric Alps mountain range in the south. Characteristic habitats of this lowland region are slow flowing rivers. Most of the floodplains along these rivers were destroyed through the building of embankments at the end of XIX and the beginning of XX century, leaving only small fragments. In this region, we focused our research on the Vrbas and Ukrina river valleys, but also visited several localities along the River Bosna (Fig. 1). The Vrbas River is one of the Sava's main tributaries and one of the largest rivers



Figure 3. Spring of Buna River at Blagaj (Photo: Dejan Kulijer).

Figure 4. Oxbow near the Prnjavor Fish ponds (Loc. 17) (Photo: Dejan Kulijer).

Figure 5. Oxbow near Laktaši (Loc. 19) (Photo: Iva Miljević).

Figure 6. Gravel ponds along the Vrbas River (Loc. 9) (Photo: Falk Petzold).

in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In its lower section large lowland rivers changed its course throughout history and today these old riverbeds are transformed into ponds and oxbows (locally known as "starača"), e.g. starača close to Prnjavor Fish ponds on Ukrina River (Loc. 17, Fig. 4) or starača near Laktaši on Vrbas River (Loc. 19, Fig. 5). Numerous old gravel pits were transformed into ponds along both sides of the Vrbas River (Loc. 9, Fig. 6), while a large, Bardača fishpond is located near its mouth to the Sava River (Loc. 2, 4–5, Fig. 7–8).

Field surveys continued in the alpine region and included investigations at Plivska lakes and Ramsko Lake (Loc. 43, Fig. 9). Unfortunately, in this region bad weather and even storms prevented the survey of some typical mountainous habitats.

Figure 7. Matura River at Bardača Fish ponds (Loc. 4) (Photo: Falk Petzold).

Figure 8. Bardača Fish ponds (Loc. 4) (Photo: Dejan Kulijer).

Figure 9. Mouth of Brodić Stream into the Ramsko Lake (Loc. 43) (Photo: Ana Tratnik).

Figure 10. Kravice Waterfall on Trebižat River, the largest tufa waterfall in the Herzegovina region (Photo: Ana Tratnik).

Figure 11. Karst stream at Gornji Studenci (Loc. 58) (Photo: Ana Tratnik).

Figure 12. Veleško Lake at the outskirts of Nevesinjsko polje below the Velež Mountain (Loc. 50) (Photo: Iva Miljević).

The focus of our research in the southern, Mediterranean region was the Neretva River catchment where we investigated several tributaries of the Neretva River: Trebižat, Bregava and Lištica (Loc. 58, Fig. 11). In the Trebižat River catchment we investigated several small streams and rivers and visited Kravice Waterfall, a 25 m high tufa waterfall on Trebižat River (Fig. 10). In this region, we also surveyed several karst poljes: Mostarsko blato, Nevesinjsko and Dabarsko polje. Nevesinjsko karst polje (Loc. 50, Fig. 12) is one of the poljes at higher altitude where Alpine and Mediterranean influences met.

The final part of our field trip was dedicated to Hutovo blato wetland (Loc. 69, Fig. 13) which is a Ramsar site, Nature Park and the most pristine area of the Neretva River's delta. Neretva River, Hutovo blato wetland and Trebižat River are three biodiversity hotspot of the Mediterranean region in Bosnia and Herzegovina (see www.karsthabitats.ba, access: 20 II 2016).

Results

Dragonflies were surveyed at 69 localities (Tab. I) in all three biogeographical regions of the country resulting in 496 records of 47 dragonfly species (Tab. II, in appendix). This represents 73% of known dragonfly species in the country.

Figure 13. Deransko Lake at Hutovo blato Wetland, the shallow lake surrounded by vast read beds is the habitat of *Lindenia tetraphylla* (Loc. 69) (Photo: Falk Petzold).

	Locality	Date	Latitude	Longitude	Allitude (m)
1.	Small pond near Gradiška	10.08.2014	45°07'29''	17°13'16"	89
2.	Bardača, small fishpond near motel	03.08.2014	45°06'37"	17°26'13"	91
3.	Laminci Lake	04.08.2014	45°06'12"	17°19'26"	92
4.	Bardača, fishponds	03.08.2014	45°06'08'	17°25'45"	85
5.	Bardača, small private fishpond	03.08.2014	45°05'35''	17°26'24"	90
6.	Oxbow near Dania Dubica	04.08.2014	45°03'57"	18°25'30"	83
7.	Motajica Mountain, upper part of Stojkovića rijeka Stream	04.08.2014	45°03'53''	17°37'27"	199
8.	Motajica Mountain, lower part of the Stojkovića rijeka Stream	04.08.2014	45°03'30''	17°37'21"	165
9.	Gravel ponds along the Vrbas River	04.08.2014	45°03'14''	17°26'42"	94
10.	Lepenica Stream at Gornja Lepenica	03.08.2014	45°01'00"	17°39'10"	160
11.	Ada, Bosna River	04.08.2014	45°00'47''	18°22'52"	89
12.	Modrički lug, several small waterbodies	04.08.2014	44°58'39''	18°19'28"	95
13.	Modrički lug, sunny pool in a gravel pit along the Bosna River	04.08.2014	44°58'04''	18°19'22"	98
14.	Obudovac, irrigation canal near the bridge	04.08.2014	44°57'58''	18°36'26"	86
15.	Aleksandrovac, small temporary pond by the road	01.08.2014	44°57'51''	17°16'21"	119
16	Oxbow north of Vraniak Village	04.08.2014	44°56'59"	18°13'40"	106
17	Oxbow and Vijaka River near Prniavor fishponds	02.08.2014	44°55'08"	17°45'24"	124
18	Prniavor fishpond, canal along the large fishpond	02.08.2014	44°54'39"	17°45'26"	124
19	Laktaŝi Oxbow	03.08.2014	44°54'23"	17°19'03"	120
20	Vidara Lake, Gradačac	04.08.2014	44 53 20	18°24'30"	132
20.	Hazna Lake, Gradačac	04.08.2014	44 50 12	18°24'59"	138
21.	Criwena Stream near old mill	04.00.2014	44 52 54	1792744"	130
22.	Kanicka bara Rond, Brniavor	03.08.2014	44 32 32	17 22 40	140
23.	Vijaka River at Župića mil	02.00.2014	44-51-54	17940'40"	140
24.	Vijaka River al zanica mili	02.00.2014	44*50.51	17*40 40	142
25.	Outflow from Drenova Lake (Under the dam)	02.08.2014	44°48'50"	17°3814"	165
26.	Stari majaan (old mine) – pond by the road hear Drenova Lake	02.08.2014	44°48'41	1/~3/ 34.	1/5
27.	Mouth of Vijaka River into Drenova Lake	02.08.2014	44°48'21''	17°31'06"	171
28.	Drenova River	02.08.2014	44°48'09"	17°38'19"	187
29.	Lauš, garden near Crkvena Stream	09.08.2014	44°47'03"	17°09'55"	185
30.	Mladen Stojanović Park	09.08.2014	44°46'50''	17°12'02"	165
31.	Ukrina River, near the bridge	02.08.2014	44°46'27''	17°44'48"	152
32.	Ukrina River, gravel extraction site	02.08.2014	44°46'09''	17°43'59"	156
33.	Tubački Stream, near the playground	02.08.2014	44°46'01''	17°36'32"	233
34.	Sabanjska River	02.08.2014	44°46'00''	17°37'12"	234
35.	Skaut, Vrbas River	09.08.2014	44°45'58''	17°11'42"	154
36.	Suturlija River	03.08.2014	44°45'09''	17°09'40"	169
37.	Toplice, Vrbas River	03.08.2014	44°44'57''	17°09'33"	168
38.	Karanovac, gravel ponds	(a) 03.08.2014, (b) 10.08.2014	44°41'45''	17°12'03"	176
39.	Bočac, gravel ponds	05.08.2014	44°31'48''	17°09'14"	228
40.	Plivska lakes	05.08.2014	44°20'54''	17°13'40"	425
41.	Oborci, small stream	10.08.2014	44°11'30"	17°25'03"	608
42.	Small stream near Donii Vakuf	10.08.2014	44°11'24"	17°21'06"	543
43.	Ramsko Lake, at the inflow of Brodić Stream	05.08.2014	43°49'42"	17°31'26"	594
44	Ramsko Lake, pear Šćit Monasterv	05.08.2014	43°48'23"	17°31'53"	583
45	Idbar Stream	08.08.2014	43°40'28"	17°52'56"	319
46	Spring of Listicg River	06.08.2014	43923'30"	17°35'44"	305
47	Gnillige nand. Garni Gradac	06.08.2014	43°23'01''	17°30'11"	280
48	Knešpolie, stream by the road	06.08.2014	43º21'58"	17930"24"	200
10.	Dobrić small stream	06.08.2014	/392130	17%/0'09"	237
50	Veleško Lake	06.00.2014	43920'41"	18903'00"	1040
51	Lištica River, Mastarska blata	06.00.2014	43 20 41	17944'00"	202
51.	Listica River, Mostalisko piato	04.00.2014	43-17 27	1/-44.09	223
32.	Neverinisko polje, staliow ponos	06.08.2014	43-18 27	16"03 36"	040
33.	nevesinjsko polje, nevesinjsko Lake	06.08.2014	43*18'02'	18:06:39	043
54.	koaa near Blagaj	06.08.2014	43°15'50"	17*54'24'	303
55.	Buna kiver in Buna Village	06.08.2014	43°14'46"	17"50"21"	33
56.	vitina, spring of Vrioštica River	06.08.2014	43°14'16"	17°29'08"	96
57.	Trebižat River al Humac, Ljubuški	06.08.2014	43°11'01"	17°31'21"	69
58.	Spring and small stream at Gornji studenci	06.08.2014	43°10'52"	17°36'11"	67

Table I. List of surveyed localities during the 4th Balkan Odonatological Meeting.

	Locality	Date	Lattude	Longitude	Altitude [m]
56.	Vitina, spring of Vrioŝtica River	06.08.2014	43°14'16''	17°29'08"	96
57.	Trebižat River at Humac, Ljubuški	06.08.2014	43°11'01''	17°31'21"	69
58.	Spring and small stream at Gornji studenci	06.08.2014	43°10'52"	17°36'11"	67
59.	Rolimlja Siream	06.08.2014	43°10'26''	17°54'19"	340
60.	Spring and small stream at Donji Studenci	06.08.2014	43°10'11''	17°37'41"	47
61.	Trebižat River at the mouth of Studenčica River	06.08.2014	43°09'16''	17°38'15"	27
62.	Ljuca, two small ponds	06.08.2014	43°07'53''	17°55'17"	296
63.	Bregava River	06.08.2014	43°05'32''	17°59'42"	98
64.	Small artificial lake on Bregava River	06.08.2014	43°05'26''	17°59'52"	101
65.	Hutovo blato, Škrka Lake	07.08.2014	43°05'02''	17°44'32"	4
66.	Dabarsko polje, small ditches and channels	06.08.2014	43°05'00''	18°10'22"	489
67.	Dabarsko polje, springs of Vrijeka River	06.08.2014	43°04'27''	18°14'21"	496
68.	Hutovo blato, Drijen Lake	07.08.2014	43°03'30'	17°49'27"	3
69.	Hutovo blato, Krupa River and Deransko Lake	07.08.2014	43°02'57'	17°47'40"	1

Systematic account

Abbreviations used: 3 - male(s), 9 - female(s), MA - mature adult(s), AP - adults present (some participants of the mapping scheme didn't differ between mature and juvenile resp. teneral imagos), Juv/Ten - juvenile(s)/teneral(s), Lar - larva(e), Ex - exuvium(ae), Cop/Tan - copula(e)/tandem(s), Ovip - ovipositing.

CALOPTERYGIDAE

Calopteryx splendens (Harris, 1782)

Loc. 3: 13, 19, 1MA; Loc. 4: 23; Loc. 5: 13, 39; Loc. 8: 10MA; Loc. 9: 20MA; Loc. 10: 2MA; Loc. 11: 19; Loc. 13: 2–5MA; Loc. 15: 13; Loc. 17: >10MA; Loc. 18: 53; Loc. 19: 6–20MA; Loc. 22: 53, 39 Cop/Tan; Loc. 24: >10MA; Loc. 25: 6–20MA; Loc. 28: 2–5MA; Loc. 30: 13; Loc. 31: >10MA; Loc. 32: >10MA; Loc. 34: 2–5MA; Loc. 36: 2–5MA; Loc. 37: 1MA; Loc. 38(a): 2–5MA, (b): 13; Loc. 39: 13; Loc. 40: 23; Loc. 57: 20MA, 10Ex; Loc. 61: 10MA; Loc. 64: 2–5MA; Loc. 69: AP.

Calopteryx virgo (Linnaeus, 1758)

Loc. 4: 13; Loc. 7: 13; Loc. 8: 103; Loc. 10: >10MA; Loc. 19: 1MA; Loc. 22: 13, 1F; Loc. 24: 13; Loc. 25: 6–20MA; Loc. 28: 6–20MA; Loc. 31: >10MA; Loc. 33: 1MA; Loc. 34: 6–20MA; Loc. 35: 13; Loc. 36: 6–20MA; Loc. 37: 21–100MA; Loc. 38(a): 6–20MA, (b): 53; Loc. 41: 53, 19; Loc. 42: 23, 19; Loc. 43: 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 45: 53; Loc. 48: AP; Loc. 49: AP; Loc. 55: <10MA; Loc. 57: 13; Loc. 60: 29; Loc. 61: 5MA; Loc. 63: 1MA; Loc. 64: 21–100MA, >100Ex; Loc. 68: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

LESTIDAE

Chalcolestes parvidens (Artobolevskii, 1929)

Loc. 3: 33; Loc. 4: 2MA; Loc. 5: 53, 39; Loc. 23: 19; Loc. 27: 2–5MA; Loc. 38(a): 6–20MA, 1Cop/Tan, (b): 1MA; Loc. 68: AP.

Chalcolestes viridis (Vander Linden, 1825)

Loc. 43: 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 59: 1MA; Loc. 66: 1MA, 21–100Juv/Ten; Loc. 67: 1MA.

Odonata of Bosnia and Herzegovina in August 2014

Lestes barbarus (Fabricius, 1798)

Loc. 1: 10vip; Loc. 14: 13,19; Loc. 51: AP; Loc. 59: 1MA; Loc. 62: 6–20MA.

Lestes dryas Kirby, 1890

Loc. 9: 19; Loc. 38(a): 1MA; Loc. 43: 1MA; Loc. 50: 2–5MA; Loc. 52: 1Cop/Tan; Loc. 53: 1MA.

Lestes sponsa (Hansemann, 1823)

Loc. 4: 1♂; Loc. 5: 1♂; Loc. 12: 2–5MA; Loc. 17: 1♂; Loc. 23: 1MA; Loc. 27: 2–5MA; Loc. 38(a): 6–20MA; Loc. 50: 6–20MA; Loc. 52: >10MA; Loc. 53: >100MA, >10Cop/Tan.

Lestes virens (Charpentier, 1825)

Loc. 12: 1MA; Loc. 16: 3^o; Loc. 23: 1^d; Loc. 53: 2^d; Loc. 62: 1MA; Loc. 66: 21–100MA, 1Juv/Ten.

Sympecma fusca (Vander Linden, 1820)

Loc. 43: 21–100Juv/Ten; Loc. 47: AP; Loc. 53: 5MA, 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 66: 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 68: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

COENAGRIONIDAE

Ceriagrion tenellum (de Villers, 1789)

Loc. 19: 1MA; Loc. 65: 5MA.

Coenagrion puella (Linnaeus, 1758)

Loc. 4: 33; Loc. 9: 103; Loc. 25: 1MA; Loc. 27: 6–20MA,2Cop/Tan; Loc. 38(a): 6–20MA, 3Cop/Tan; Loc. 39: 103; Loc. 43: 1MA; Loc. 50: 2–5MA; Loc. 52: 10MA; Loc. 69: AP.

Coenagrion scitulum (Rambur, 1842)

Loc. 62: 6-20MA.

Enallagma cyathigerum (Charpentier, 1840)

Loc. 39: >10MA, 1Cop/Tan; Loc. 40: 13; Loc. 43: >10MA; Loc. 50: 2–5MA; Loc. 52: >10MA; Loc. 53: <10MA; Loc. 62: 6–20MA.

Erythromma lindenii (Selys, 1840)

Loc. 9: 30³; Loc. 18: 2MA; Loc. 19: 6–20MA; Loc. 25: 2–5MA; Loc. 47: AP; Loc. 51: AP; Loc. 53: >10MA; Loc. 69: AP.

Erythromma najas (Hansemann, 1823)

Loc. 9: 23; Loc. 19: <10MA; Loc. 38(a): 1MA.

Erythromma viridulum (Charpentier, 1840)

Loc. 2: >10MA; Loc. 3: 10MA; Loc. 4: >10MA; Loc. 5: 20MA; Loc. 9: >10MA; Loc. 11: 13; Loc. 13: 21-100MA; Loc. 14: 23; Loc. 17: 5MA; Loc. 18: >10MA; Loc. 19: 21-100MA; Loc. 20: 6-20MA; Loc. 21: 1MA; Loc. 27: 6-20MA; Loc. 38(a): 21-100MA; Loc. 69: AP.

Ischnura elegans (Vander Linden, 1820)

Loc. 2: >10MA; Loc. 3: >10MA; Loc. 4: >10MA, 10Juv/Ten; Loc. 5: >10MA; Loc. 9: >10MA, 10Cop/Tan; Loc. 12: 21–100MA; Loc. 13: 2–5MA; Loc. 14: <10MA; Loc. 15: 20MA, <10Cop/Tan; Loc. 16: 2MA; Loc. 17: 20MA; Loc. 18: 10MA, 1Cop/Tan; Loc. 19: 21–100MA; Loc. 20: 21–100MA; Loc. 21: 21–100MA; Loc. 22: 13; Loc. 23: 10MA; Loc. 24: >10MA; Loc. 25: 21–100MA, <10Cop/Tan; Loc. 26: 6–20MA; Loc. 27: 21–100MA, 3Cop/Tan; Loc. 38(a): 21–100MA; <10Lou/Ten, (b): 15MA; Loc. 39: >10MA, 3Cop/Tan; Loc. 40: 23; Loc. 43: 6–20MA; Loc. 44: 1MA; Loc. 47: AP; Loc. 50: 2–5MA; Loc. 51: AP; Loc. 52: >10MA; Loc. 53: >10MA; Loc. 56: <10MA; Loc. 60: 5MA; Loc. 61: <10MA; Loc. 62: 21–100MA; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 66: 1MA.

Ischnura pumilio (Charpentier, 1825)

Loc. 14: 1Cop/Tan; Loc. 15: 30MA, <10Cop/Tan; Loc. 24: 2♂; Loc. 26: 2–5MA; Loc. 27: 6–20MA, 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 39: 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 43: 6–20MA; Loc. 62: 2–5MA; Loc. 66: 6–20MA.

PLATYCNEMIDIDAE

Platycnemis pennipes (Pallas, 1771)

Loc. 2: 20MA; Loc. 3: >10MA; Loc. 4: 2MA; Loc. 5: 10MA; Loc. 8: 20MA; Loc. 9: >10MA; Loc. 10: 10MA; Loc. 11: 1MA; Loc. 12: 2–5MA; Loc. 13: 2–5MA; Loc. 14: >20MA; Loc. 16: >5MA; Loc. 17: >10MA, >10Cop/Tan; Loc. 18: 5MA; Loc. 19: >100MA; Loc. 20: 2–5MA; Loc. 21: 2–5MA; Loc. 22: 10MA; Loc. 24: >10MA, 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 25: <10MA; Loc. 26: 2–5MA; Loc. 27: 21–100MA; Loc. 31: 13; Loc. 32: 50MA; Loc. 36: 2–5MA; Loc. 37: 6–20MA; Loc. 38(a): 6–20MA, (b): 5MA; Loc. 39: 10MA, 2Cop/Tan; Loc. 43: 1MA; Loc. 51: AP; Loc. 53: 5MA, 1Cop/Tan; Loc. 57: 10MA; Loc. 61: 100MA; Loc. 64: 6–20MA; Loc. 65: AP.

AESHNIDAE

Aeshna affinis Vander Linden, 1820

Loc. 2: 53; Loc. 3: 13; Loc. 5: 3MA; Loc. 6: <10MA; Loc. 7: 10MA; Loc. 8: 10MA; Loc. 9: 73; Loc. 11: 1MA; Loc. 12: 21–100MA; Loc. 17: >10MA, 2Cop/Tan; Loc. 23: 1MA; Loc. 24: 23; Loc. 27: 6–20MA, 2Cop/Tan; Loc. 33: 1MA; Loc. 61: 1MA; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 66: 2–5MA; Loc. 68: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

Aeshna cyanea (Müller, 1764)

Loc. 16: 1♂; Loc. 23: 2♂, 1♀; Loc. 27: 2–5MA; Loc. 29: 1♂; Loc. 52: 3♂; Loc. 53: 1♀. Aeshna isoceles (Müller, 1767)

Loc. 40: 13 M; Loc. 69: AP.

Aeshna mixta Latreille, 1805

Loc. 4: 2Ex; Loc. 5: 10Ex; Loc. 6: <10MA; Loc. 9: 1Ex; Loc. 14: 13; Loc. 18: 1EX; Loc. 64: 1MA; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

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Anax ephippiger (Burmeister, 1839)

Loc. 54: 1♂.

Anax imperator Leach, 1815

Loc. 2: 43; Loc. 3: 33; Loc. 4: 10MA, 3Ex; Loc. 8: 13; Loc. 9: 53, 10vip; Loc. 18: 53, 15Ex; Loc. 19: 1MA; Loc. 20: 1MA; Loc. 23: 1MA, 10vip; Loc. 25: 2–5MA; Loc. 27: 2–5MA; Loc. 38(a): 6–20MA, (b): 23; Loc. 39: 23, 29; Loc. 47: AP; Loc. 50: 5Ex; Loc. 51: AP; Loc. 52: 53, 19; Loc. 53: 1Ex; Loc. 59: 2Ex; Loc. 62: 2–5MA; Loc. 64: 6–20MA; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 68: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

Anax parthenope Selys, 1839

Loc. 9: 13; Loc. 12: 1MA; Loc. 25: 1MA; Loc. 47: AP.

GOMPHIDAE

Gomphus vulgatissimus (Linnaeus, 1758)

Loc. 10: 1MA.

Lindenia tetraphylla (Vander Linden, 1825)

Loc. 69: <10MA.

Onychogomphus forcipatus (Linnaeus, 1758)

Loc. 8: 19; Loc. 9: 153; Loc. 10: 10MA; Loc. 17: 1MA; Loc. 25: 2–5MA; Loc. 28: 2–5MA; Loc. 31: 13; Loc. 32: 53, 19, 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 38(b): 13; Loc. 59: 2–5MA; Loc. 61: 19, 2Ex; Loc. 63: 1MA; Loc. 64: 1MA, 2Ex.

CORDULEGASTERIDAE

Cordulegaster bidentata Selys, 1843

Loc. 45: 13; Loc. 46: <10MA.

Cordulegaster heros Theischinger, 1979

Loc. 7: 1♂, 1♀, 8Lar; Loc. 33: 1Lar; Loc. 34: 1Lar; Loc. 58: 1♂; Loc. 60: 1♂.

Cordulegaster sp. Leach, 1815

Loc. 29: 1MA; Loc. 34: 2Lar; Loc. 42: 1MA; Loc. 64: 1MA.

(At ${\it Loc.}~{\it 34}$ two early instar stadia of larvae were collected but could not be reliable identified)

CORDULIIDAE

Cordulia aenea (Linnaeus, 1758)

Loc. 4: 2Ex.

Somatochlora flavomaculata (Vander Linden, 1825)

Loc. 17: 1MA; Loc. 39: 53; Loc. 46: AP; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 68: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

Somatochlora meridionalis Nielsen, 1935

Loc. 9: 19; Loc. 10: 5MA; Loc. 17: 2MA; Loc. 18: 13; Loc. 22: 23; Loc. 24: 10MA; Loc. 25: 2–5MA; Loc. 43: 1MA; Loc. 52: 53.

LIBELLULIDAE

Crocothemis erythraea (Brullé, 1832)

Loc. 2: 10*3*; Loc. 3: >10MA; Loc. 4: 10MA; Loc. 9: 20*3*, 2♀, 1Cop/Tan, 1Ovip; Loc. 13: 6–20MA; Loc. 18: 25*3*, 1Ovip; Loc. 19: 21–100MA; Loc. 20: 1MA; Loc. 25: 1MA; Loc. 27: 2–5MA; Loc. 38(a): 21–100MA; Loc. 43: 1MA; Loc. 47: AP; Loc. 50: 1MA; Loc. 62: >10MA; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 68: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

Libellula depressa Linnaeus, 1758

Loc. 3: 12; Loc. 7: 12; Loc. 39: 43; Loc. 52: 53; Loc. 53: 13; Loc. 62: 2–5MA.

Libellula quadrimaculata Linnaeus, 1758

Loc. 53: 10vip.

Orthetrum albistylum (Selys, 1848)

Loc. 2: 23, 19; Loc. 3: >10MA; Loc. 4: 53, 19; Loc. 5: 5MA; Loc. 9: 103, 59, 1Cop/Tan, 1Ovip; Loc. 12: 6–20MA; Loc. 13: 2–5MA, <10Ovip; Loc. 17: 13, 19; Loc. 18: 10MA, 10Juv/Ten; Loc. 19: 6–20MA; Loc. 20: 21–100MA; Loc. 25: 2–5MA; Loc. 26: 2–5MA; Loc. 27: 1MA; Loc. 38(a): 21–100MA, (b): 33, 1Cop/Tan; Loc. 47: AP; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 68: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

Orthetrum brunneum (Fonscolombe, 1837)

Loc. 13: 2–5MA; Loc. 18: 1♂, 1♀, 10MA; Loc. 39: 10♂; Loc. 46: AP; Loc. 56: >10MA; Loc. 57: 1♂; Loc. 59: 6–20MA, <10Juv/Ten; Loc. 62: 1MA; Loc. 64: 2–5MA, 1Cop/Tan; Loc. 66: >10MA.

Orthetrum cancellatum (Linnaeus, 1758)

Loc. 3: 5MA, 1Cop/Tan; Loc. 9: 13; Loc. 11: >5MA; Loc. 15: 33, 1Ovip; Loc. 18: 10MA; Loc. 21: 6–20MA; Loc. 25: 2–5MA, <10Cop/Tan; Loc. 27: 1MA; Loc. 38(a): 1MA, (b): 13; Loc. 47: AP; Loc. 53: 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 62: 6–20MA, 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 69: AP.

Orthetrum coerulescens (Fabricius, 1798)

Loc. 18: 13, 19; Loc. 19: 6–20MA; Loc. 38(b): 13; Loc. 39: 23; Loc. 46: AP; Loc. 47: AP; Loc. 56: <10MA; Loc. 57: 10MA; Loc. 59: 1MA; Loc. 60: 19; Loc. 61: 5MA; Loc. 66: 2–5MA; Loc. 68: AP.

Selysiothemis nigra (Vander Linden, 1825)

Loc. 61: 19; Loc. 62: 1MA; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 68: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

Sympetrum flaveolum (Linnaeus, 1758)

Loc. 43: 6-20MA; Loc. 50: 6-20MA; Loc. 53: >10MA.

Sympetrum fonscolombii (Selys, 1840)

Loc. 43: 2–5MA; Loc. 44: 2Ex; Loc. 47: AP; Loc. 52: 13; Loc. 62: 1MA, 1Ex.

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Sympetrum meridionale (Selys, 1841)

Loc. 8: 1♂, 1♀; Loc. 10: 2♂, 3MA; Loc. 12: 2–5MA; Loc. 17: 1♂; Loc. 27: 1MA; Loc. 38(b): 3♂; Loc. 62: 1MA; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 66: 1Juv/Ten.

Sympetrum sanguineum (Müller, 1764)

Loc. 1: 1*3*; Loc. 2: >10MA, 3Cop/Tan; Loc. 3: >10MA; Loc. 4: >10MA, 10Cop/Tan, 10Ovip; Loc. 5: >10MA; Loc. 6: <10MA; Loc. 7: 5MA; Loc. 8: 20MA; Loc. 9: >10MA; Loc. 10: 3*2*; Loc. 11: 1*3*, 2*2*; Loc. 12: 21–100MA; Loc. 13: 2–5MA, <10Cop/Tan; Loc. 14: 3*2*; Loc. 17: >10MA; Loc. 18: 10MA, 1Cop/Tan, 10Ovip; Loc. 19: 6–20MA; Loc. 23: 10MA; Loc. 26: 6–20MA, 1Cop/Tan; Loc. 27: 21–100MA, 3Cop/Tan; Loc. 28: 1MA; Loc. 31: 2*2*, 1MA; Loc. 32: 1*2*; Loc. 33: 2–5MA; Loc. 38(a): 21–100MA, 5Cop/Tan, (b): 5*3*; Loc. 39: 1*3*; Loc. 50: 2–5MA; Loc. 52: >10MA; Loc. 53: >10MA; Loc. 59: 2–5MA; Loc. 61: 1MA; Loc. 62: 6–20MA; Loc. 64: 6–20MA; Loc. 65: AP; Loc. 69: AP.

Sympetrum striolatum (Charpentier, 1840)

Loc. 4: 1Ex; Loc. 25: 2Juv/Ten; Loc. 38(a): 1MA, (b): 23; Loc. 39: 23, 12; Loc. 43: 1Juv/Ten; Loc. 46: AP; Loc. 50: 2–5MA; Loc. 52: 13; Loc. 59: 1MA, <10Juv/Ten; Loc. 66: 21–100MA, 1Juv/Ten.

Sympetrum sp. Newman, 1833

Loc. 42: 1ೆ.

Discussion

Until recently, dragonfly distribution in Bosnia and Herzegovina was one of the least known in Europe, but systematic investigations conducted in recent years significantly contributed and increased the dragonfly knowledge of the country. Nevertheless, many regions are still insufficiently explored. This was the reason for focusing our research on these areas, particularly on the northern, lowland region of the country.

Only one week excursion and the poor weather conditions in the Alpine region did not allow us to visit all the localities we planned, but we were able to collect large amount of species data from many different habitats. In terms of number of collected records (496) and the number of surveyed localities (69) this was by far the most successful BOOM meeting so far. Although our survey did not result in additional species for the country, many new records represent valuable contribution to the knowledge of the distribution of many species, as well as for the work on the protection of rare and threatened dragonfly species and their habitats in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The noteworthy results are new records of several nationally rare species – Chalcolestes viridis, Coenagrion scitulum, Erythromma najas and Ceriagrion tenellum – as well as new populations of Cordulegaster heros, species of the EU Habitats Directive.

Species notes

As the range of both *Chalcolestes spp.* overlaps in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Olias et al. 2007), it is interesting to have more precise data on the local distribution of both species. Particularly as until recently there was almost no reliable data on the presence of *Chalcolestes* spp. in the country (Olias et al. 2007; Kulijer et al. 2013).

The oldest known record of *Chalcolestes* spp. for Bosnia and Herzegovina is one female found in the collections of the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo, collected on 23 July 1888 near Stolac in South Herzegovina. This record was previously reported by Adamović (1948) as *C. viridis*, but it was found to belong to *C. parvidens* (Kulijer et al. 2013). This specimen is among the oldest known dragonfly records for the country (Kulijer et al. 2013) and possibly among the oldest confirmed *C. parvidens* from the Balkans. Only one additional literature record was published by Vukić (1992), who reported *C. viridis* for Hutovo blato wetland. This record could not be checked but we suspect that it also belongs to *C. parvidens*, as at this locality the largest population of *C. parvidens* occurs in the country (Kulijer, unpublished data) (Fig. 14).

Figure 14. Habitat of *Chalcolestes parvidens* at Hutovo blato Wetland (Photo: Dejan Kulijer).

The first reliable record of *C. viridis* for Bosnia and Herzegovina is from Plivska Lakes in the central part of Dinaric Alps and was found in 2009 (D. Kulijer, unpublished data). In addition to several new locations of *C. parvidens*, Jović et al. (2010) also reported specimens of *C. viridis* (or hybrids between *C. viridis* and *C. parvidens*).

Recent investigations confirmed the presence of both species in all three biogeographical regions (Kulijer et al. 2013). Based on the current knowledge of the species distribution (Fig. 15), C. parvidens is mostly found in the coastal region and along Sava River, while C. viridis is more common in mountain regions of the Dinaric Alps and in some cases goes further south into Mediterranean part. This roughly corresponds to the distribution of these two taxa in the Balkans as predicted by Olias et al. (2007). Yet, the number of records is still insufficient to determine their distribution more accurately.

Fig 15. Distribution of *Chalcolestes* spp. in Bosnia and Herzegovina (*C. viridis* – dots, *C. parvidens* – squares; BOOM records are given in white color; Stars are locations where hybrids were observed, question mark represents the location of unchecked literature record of *C. viridis* in Hutovo blato wetland).

At several locations there were indications of hybridization, but as only one or two individuals were found at these sites, this needs further investigation. According to Olias et al. (2007) hybridization probably occurs in all contact zones where both species co-occur and the lack of evidence of hybridization is probably due to lack of research. During the BOOM most of our observations of *C. parvidens* were made in the northern lowland region, at standing water habitats, while *C. viridis* was found only at four localities in the central and southern region, all in flowing water habitats. The observations from Rotimlja Stream (Loc. 59) and Dabarsko Polje (Loc. 66–67) are the southernmost records of *C. viridis* in the country. This finding also corresponds to the suggestion from Olias et al. (2007) that *C. viridis* prefers cooler habitats than *C. parvidens*, and that it is more restricted to streams and rivulets in the south. Specimens observed during BOOM did not have any hybrid characters.

Coenagrion scitulum is widespread species in the Balkans, although much scarcer than in most of SW Europe (Boudot & Jović 2015). In Bosnia and Herzegovina the data on this species are rare. It can be found at small sunny and shallow standing waters, particularly ponds and small ditches in Mediterranean and Alpine region (e.g. Kulijer 2012, 2014; Kulijer et al. 2013). During our survey C. *scitulum* was recorded only at two small shallow ponds (L 62) near Stolac in the southern part of the country.

Erythromma najas is much scarcer in the country than its congener, *Erythromma viridulum* (Kulijer et al. 2013). The reason therefore could be attributed to rather poor research, particularly in spring, as well as scarce investigations in the northern region. As *E. viridulum* is very common in the country and quite abundant at many habitats in summer it is easy to overlook *E. najas* that becomes much less numerous towards the end of its flying season. Although our survey took place in August, this resulted in two new localities of *E. najas* (Loc. 9, 19).

Ceriagrion tenellum is a western Mediterranean species that in the Balkans is confined to a narrow belt along the Adriatic coast and to some Greek islands (Kalkman 2005; Boudot et al. 2009). Before 2009 only a single, old record was known for Bosnia and Herzegovina, but in the last years, several new populations were discovered (Jović et al. 2010; Kulijer et al. 2012; Kulijer 2014), including the first population in the Danube River catchment in the Balkans (Kulijer & Topić 2013).

Our visit to starača near Laktaši (Loc. 19, Fig. 5) is a new location and the second for the Danube catchment. This population was discovered in June 2014 during the ongoing investigations in the Posavina region supported by IDF (unpublished data). *Ceriagrion tenellum* was further found in Hutovo blato (Loc. 65) in the Mediterranean region.

These new country records, including the finding of a population in the Danube catchment (Kulijer & Topić 2013) suggest that the knowledge of the species distribution in the region is still insufficient. It is unclear if *C. tenellum* recently expanded its range to the north in the Balkans or if the species was overlooked due to low prospections. The regional distribution of the species is discussed in Kulijer & Topić (2013).

In the western part of the Balkans, C. *tenellum* is rare and therefore of special conservation interest (Kulijer & Topić 2013). Based on current distribution and status, C. tenellum has been considered as potentially threatened in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Kulijer et al. 2013). The species populations in natural habitats in the Mediterranean region of the country could be threatened in the future due to numerous

Figure 16. a) Upper part of the Stojkovića Rijeka Stream (Loc. 7) and b) some of the collected Cordulegaster heros larvae (Photo: Falk Petzold).

hydro power plants and other infrastructure projects. Increased water usage in combination with climate warming could cause desiccation of natural habitats (Kulijer & Topić 2013).

Cordulegaster heros was first discovered in 2007 in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Kulijer et al. 2013). Since then, several new observations were made from all parts of the country (i.e. Kulijer 2012, Kulijer et al. 2012, 2013). All of the records from the north originate from the NW region (Kulijer et al. 2013, unpublished data), while the species was not known from the Posavina region. During the BOOM, we found two adults and several larvae at a Stojkovića rijeka stream on the Motajica Mountain (Loc. 7, Fig. 16). The larvae were also found on Tubački Stream (Loc. 33) and Sabanjska River (Loc. 34) near Prnjavor. In the Mediterranean region adults were observed at two small streams in the Trebižat River valley (Loc. 58, 60). At several locations (Loc. 29, 34, 42, 64) *Cordulegaster imagines were observed*, but could not be identified to the species level. *Cordulegaster heros* is expected to be found at suitable habitats in all parts of the country, particularly along partly shaded streams or small rivers in the hilly region.

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Appendix

Table II. List or recorded species with the reference to the specific locality (Tab. I, Fig. 1).

Locality	Date	Latitude	Longitude	Altitude [m]
Small pond near Gradiška	10.08.2014	45°07'29"	17°13'16"	89
Bardača, small fishpond near motel	03.08.2014	45°06'37"	17°26'13"	91
Laminci Lake	04.08.2014	45°06'12"	17°19'26"	92
Bardača, fishponds	03.08.2014	45°06'08'	17°25'45"	85
Bardača, small private fishpond	03.08.2014	45°05'35"	17°26'24"	90
Oxbow near Donja Dubica	04.08.2014	45°03'57"	18°25'30"	83
Motajica Mountain, upper part of Stojkovića rijeka Stream	04.08.2014	45°03'53"	17°37'27"	199
Motajica Mountain, lower part of the Stojkovića rijeka Stream	04.08.2014	45°03'30"	17°37'21"	165
Gravel ponds along the Vrbas River	04.08.2014	45°03'14"	17°26'42"	94
Lepenica Stream at Gomja Lepenica	03.08.2014	45°01'00"	17°39'10"	160
Ada, Bosna River	04.08.2014	45°00'47"	18°22'52"	89
Modrički lug, several small waterbodies	04.08.2014	44°58'39"	18°19'28"	95
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— Odonata of Bosnia and Herzegovina in August 2014 —

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