

CATALOGUE OF LATVIAN SILPHIDAE (INSECTA: COLEOPTERA)

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Bukejs A., Janovska M. 2019. Catalogue of Latvian Silphidae (Insecta: Coleoptera). *Acta Biol. Univ. Daugavp.*, 19 (1): 17 – 29.

A critical annotated catalogue of Silphidae species recorded in Latvia is presented. In total, 20 species belonging to 8 genera and two subfamilies are confirmed for Latvia. A complete bibliography of Latvian large carrion beetles is reviewed and analysed. The brief research history of Latvian Silphidae is presented. The Latvian silphid fauna is represented by five chorotypes. Species with wide distribution are prevailing: Asiatic-European (8 species or 40.0%), Palaearctic (4 species or 20.0%), and Centralasiatic-European (4 species or 20.0%).

Key words: large carrion beetles, Silphidae, Latvia, fauna, catalogue, biogeography, biodiversity..

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INTRODUCTION

Silphidae is divided into two subfamilies Silphinae and Nicrophorinae, and contains about 200 species in 15 genera worldwide (Bouchard et al. 2011, Ślipiński et al. 2011). The family has a worldwide distribution but is predominant in Holarctic (temperate regions) (Sikes 2005, 2008). The most of silphids are necrophagous and feed on carrion; members of few genera (e.g. *Ablattaria* Reitter, *Dendroxena* Motschulsky and *Phosphuga* Leach) are specialised predators of small invertebrates (snails, slugs and caterpillars) or phytophagous (genus *Aclypea* Reitter) (Nikolajev & Kozminykh 2002, Sikes 2005, 2008, Pushkin 2015). Large carrion beetles perform vital ecosystem function of contributing to the breakdown and recycling of organic matter within the terrestrial ecosystem (Peck 1990, Kalinova et al. 2009, Dekeirsschieter et al. 2011).

The first information on large carrion beetles from the present territory of Latvia was published in the second half of the 18th century by J.B. Fischer (1778, 1784, 1791). In the first edition of his monograph “*Versuch einer Naturgeschichte von Livland*”, which introduced the natural history of Livland (Fischer 1778), three species of *Silpha* were mentioned: *Silpha littoralis* L. [*Necrodes littoralis* (Linnaeus)]; *Silpha seminulum* L. [according to Perreau (2004), it is *Agathidium seminulum* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Leiodidae)]; and *Silpha aquatica* L. [according to Hansen (2004), it is *Helophorus aquaticus* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Helophoridae)]. After some additions (Fischer 1784), in the second edition of his monograph, Fischer (1791) already were mentioned eight *Silpha* species. Of them three species only belong to Silphidae, namely *S. littoralis* L. [*Necrodes littoralis* (Linnaeus)], *Silpha oscura* L., and *S.*

vespillo L. [*Nicrophorus vespillo* (Linnaeus)]. Other five listed *Silpha* species belongs to another Coleoptera families: *Silpha aquatica* L. [according to Hansen (2004), it is *Helophorus aquaticus* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Helophoridae)]; *Silpha ferruginea* L. [according to Kolibáč (2007), it is *Peltis ferruginea* Linnaeus, 1758 (Trogossitidae)]; *Silpha quadripustulata* L. [according to Jelínek & Audisio (2007), *Silpha quadripustulata* Linnaeus, 1761 is synonym of *Silpha quadripunctata* Linnaeus, 1758 and this taxon belong to sap beetle genus *Glischrochilus* Reitter, 1873, *G. quadripunctatus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Nitidulidae)]; *Silpha sabulosa* L. [according to Iwan & Löbl (2008), it is *Opatrium sabulosum* Linnaeus, 1760 (Tenebrionidae)]; and *Silpha seminulum* L. [according to Perreau (2004), it is *Agathidium seminulum* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Leiodidae)].

In “Beschreibungen der Provinz Kurland” (Groschke 1805), the author mentioned *Silpha vespillo* L. [*Nicrophorus vespillo* (Linnaeus)], *Silpha quadripustulata* L. [according to Jelínek & Audisio (2007), belong to genus *Glischrochilus* Reitter, 1873 (Nitidulidae), see comment above], *Silpha littoralis* L. [*Necrodes littoralis* (Linnaeus)], *Silpha atrata* L. [*Phosphuga atrata* (Linnaeus)] and *Silpha rugosa* L. [*Thanatophilus rugosus* (Linnaeus)].

In the monograph devoted to the beetle fauna of “Ostseeprovinzen” (Fleischer 1829), six large carrion beetles were mentioned: *Dendroxena quadrimaculata* (Scopoli) [listed as *Silpha quadripunctata*], *Necrodes littoralis* (Linnaeus) [as *Silpha*], *Silpha tristis* Illiger, *Thanatophilus dispar* (Herbst) [as *Silpha*], *Nicrophorus investigator* Zetterstedt [as *Necrophorus*], and *Nicrophorus vespillo* (Linnaeus) [as *Necrophorus*].

At the end of the 19th century, Seidlitz’s monograph “Fauna Baltica” (Seidlitz 1872-1875, 1887-1891) was published. In this monograph, keys to families, genera and species of the Baltic Coleoptera (including potential ones) were presented. Unfortunately, not all data on localities were provided. In the

second edition of the monograph Seidlitz (1887-1891), 12 species of Silphinae and 7 species of Nicrophorinae were mentioned.

At the beginning of the 20th century, another checklist of Baltic Coleoptera was published (Rathlef 1905). In this list, 19 species of Silphidae were reported for Latvia.

A few other papers containing faunal data on large carrion beetles were published at the beginning of the 20th century (Heyden 1903, Lindberg 1932, Lackschewitz & Mikutowicz 1939).

Four silphid species, namely *Necrodes littoralis* (Linnaeus), *Nicrophorus germanicus* (Linnaeus), *N. vespillo* (Linnaeus), and *N. vespilloides* Herbst, were recorded in Latvian storehouses (Vītols 1941).

Few species were mentioned as pest of agriculture (Tomsons 1939-1940, 1940, Danka 1950, Smarods & Liepa 1956).

Fragmentary information on Latvian Silphidae can also be found in Trauberga (1957), Brammanis (1930), Stiprais & Varzinska (1985), Barševskis (1988a, 1988b, 1997), Barševskis & Savenkovs (1991), Cibulskis (1995, 1997), Telnov (1996), and Cinītis (1997).

In monograph “The Beetles of Eastern Latvia” (Barševskis 1993), faunal data on fifteen silphid species are presented.

As for specially protected nature territories, 16 species of Silphidae are known from Silene Nature Park (Barševskis 2002), and 17 species – from Gauja National Park (Kalniņš et al. 2007).

During the last decades, Gailis & Vilks (2001), Spuņģis (2002), Barševskis et al. (2004, 2008, 2009), Telnov et al. (2005, 2010), Bukejs (2006), Telnov & Salmane (2015), and Roze & Barševskis (2018) have also provided fragmentary faunal data on Latvian large carrion beetles.

The catalogues of Latvian Coleoptera (Telnov et al. 1997, Telnov 2004) list 19 species of Silphidae.

Two papers especially devoted to Latvian Silphidae: Šmits (1975) present faunal data on 19 species, but Murd & Barševskis (2007) given faunal data on 16 silphid species.

The aim of the current work is to critically summarize previous bibliographical data, to compile the annotated catalogue of Latvian Silphidae according to modern systematics, and to provide biogeographical analysis of the Latvian fauna of large carrion beetles.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Taxa listed in the current catalogue are arranged in tribes and subfamilies. The order of higher taxa follows the Catalogue of Palaearctic Coleoptera, volume 2, chapter Silphidae (Růžička & Schneider 2004; Růžička 2015) and Bouchard et al. (2011), synonymy and nomenclature for the species-rank taxa were used in accordance with Sikes et al. (2002), Růžička & Schneider (2004), Růžička (2015). Species and genera are listed alphabetically.

The species certainly recorded from Latvia are marked with index number. Synonyms and references follow species names. For some species a Note is presented.

The general distribution of the species was analysed according to Lafer (1989), Peck & Miller (1993), Peck (2001), Nikolajev & Kozminykh (2002), Sikes et al. (2002), Růžička & Schneider (2004), Pushkin (2015), Růžička (2015), Ghahari & Háva (2015), and Çiftçi et al. 2018. The classification of chorotypes follows the one suggested by Taglianti et al. (1999). Abbreviations of chorotypes: OLA – Holarctic, PAL – Palaearctic, ASE – Asiatic-European, CAE – Centralasiatic-European, and WPA – West Palaearctic.

ANNOTATED CATALOGUE OF LATVIAN SILPHIDAE

Family Silphidae Latreille, 1806 Subfamily Silphinae Latreille, 1806

Genus *Aclypea* Reitter, 1885 = *Blitophaga* Reitter, 1885

1. *Aclypea opaca* (Linnaeus, 1758)
= *hirta* Herbst, 1783
= *tomentifera* Reitter, 1907
= *tomentosa* Villers, 1789
= *villosa* Naezén, 1792
= *villosa* Reitter, 1887

Precht 1818 (*Silpha*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Silpha*), 1887-1891 (*Silpha*); Rathlef 1905 (*Blitophaga*); Tomsons 1939-1940, 1940; Ozols 1948; Danka 1950; Eglītis 1954; Smarods & Liepa 1956; Trauberga 1957; Ozols 1963, 1973; Šmits & Spuris 1966; Šmits 1975; Barševskis 1988a, 1988b, 1993 (*Blitophaga*), 2002; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Růžička 2015.

2. *Aclypea undata* (O.F. Müller, 1776)
= *cancellata* Gmelin, 1790
= *kindermannii* Faust, 1877
= *reticulata* Fabricius, 1787
= *verrucosa* Faldermann, 1835

Precht 1818 (*Silpha reticulata*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Silpha*), 1887-1891 (*Silpha*); Rathlef 1905 (*Blitophaga*); Tomsons 1940; Trauberga 1957; Ozols 1963, 1973; Šmits 1975; Barševskis 1993, 2002; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Růžička 2015.

Note: Insufficiently known species, known from few localities.

Genus *Dendroxena* Motschulsky, 1858 = *Xylodrepa* Thomson, 1859

3. *Dendroxena quadrimaculata* (Scopoli, 1771)
= *flavicans* Goeze, 1777 (*Silpha*)

= *hexapunctata* Gerhard, 1897 (*Silpha*)
= *maculata* Geoffroy, 1785 (*Peltis*)
= *quadripunctata* (Schreber, 1759) nec
(Linnaeus, 1758)
Fleischer 1829 (*Silpha quadripunctata*);
Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Silpha*), 1887-1891
(*Silpha quadripunctata* L.); Rathlef 1905
(*Xylodrepa quadripunctata* L.); Lindberg 1932
(*Xylodrepa quadripunctata*); Lackschewitz &
Mikutowicz 1939 (*Xylodrepa quadripunctata*
L.); Šmits 1975 (*Xylodrepa quadripunctata* L.);
Telnov 1996, 2004; Cinītis 1997 (*Xylodrepa*
quadripunctata L.); Telnov et al. 1997, 2005;
Gailis & Vilks 2001; Silfverberg 2004, 2010;
Růžička & Schneider 2004; Murd & Barševskis
2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Barševskis et al.
2012; Růžička 2015.

Note: Officially protected species in Latvia.

Genus *Necrodes* Leach, 1815

= *Asbolus* (Bergroth, 1884)

4. *Necrodes littoralis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

= *clavipes* Sulzer, 1776
= *contusus* Bergsträsser, 1778
= *curtis* Leach, 1815
= *femoratus* O.F. Müller, 1776
= *gibbosus* Geoffroy, 1785
= *lividus* Herbst, 1783
= *rufoclavatus* DeGeer, 1774

Fischer 1778 (*Silpha*), 1791 (*Silpha*); Groschke
1805 (*Silpha*); Precht 1818 (*Silpha*); Fleischer
1829 (*Silpha*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Silpha*),
1887-1891 (*Silpha*); Rathlef 1905; Vītols 1941;
Trauberga 1957; Danka & Stiprais 1972; Šmits
1975; Stiprais & Varzinska 1985; Barševskis
1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Telnov et al. 1997;
Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička & Schneider
2004; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Telnov 2004;
Kalniņš et al. 2007; Růžička 2015.

Genus *Oiceoptoma* Leach, 1815

5. *Oiceoptoma thoracicum* (Linnaeus, 1758)

= *golowatschowii* Lindermann, 1865

Precht 1818 (*Silpha thoratica*); Kawall 1865

(*Silpha*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Silpha*), 1887-
1891 (*Silpha*); Heyden 1903 (*Oeceoptoma*);
Rathlef 1905 (*Oeceoptoma*); Danka 1950
(*Silpha*); Trauberga 1957 (*Oeceoptoma*
thoracicum L. and *Silpha thoracica* L.); Spuris
1974; Šmits 1975; Stiprais & Varzinska 1985;
Barševskis 1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Telnov
et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička
& Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Bukejs
2006; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al.
2007; Spuņģis 2008; Růžička 2015; Roze &
Barševskis 2018.

Genus *Phosphuga* Leach, 1817

6. *Phosphuga atrata atrata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

= *brunnea* Herbst, 1793
= *cassidea* Kraatz, 1876
= *fusca* Herbst, 1793
= *nitida* Faldermann, 1835
= *paedemontana* Fabricius, 1775
= *punctata* DeGeer, 1774
= *punctata* Herbst, 1786
= *rostrata* Reitter, 1885
= *subparallela* Reitter, 1885

Groschke 1805 (*Silpha*); Precht 1818 (*Silpha*);
Kawall 1866 (*Silpha*); Seidlitz 1872-1875
(*Silpha*), 1887-1891 (*Silpha*); Heyden 1903
(*Silpha*); Rathlef 1905; Trauberga 1957; Spuris
1974; Šmits 1975; Rūtenberga 1992; Barševskis
1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Telnov et al. 1997;
Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička & Schneider
2004; Telnov 2004; Bukejs 2006; Murd &
Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Růžička
2015; Roze & Barševskis 2018.

Genus *Silpha* Linnaeus, 1758

7. *Silpha carinata* Herbst, 1783

= *bilineata* Reitter, 1901
= *recta* Marsham, 1802
= *rufocincta* Reitter, 1901
= *trilineata* Gmelin, 1790

Seidlitz 1872-1875, 1887-1891; Rathlef 1905;
Šmits 1975; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg
2004, 2010; Spuņģis 2002; Růžička & Schneider
2004; Telnov 2004; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Růžička
2015.

Note: Insufficiently known species, probably rare; recorded from only a few localities.

8. *Silpha obscura obscura* Linnaeus, 1758

Fischer 1791; Precht 1818; Seidlitz 1872-1875, 1887-1891; Rathlef 1905; Lackschewitz & Mikutowicz 1939; Danka 1950; Priedītis 1958; Trauberga 1957; Šmits 1975; Barševskis 1988b, 1993, 1997, 2002; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Rūžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Barševskis et al. 2004, 2008, 2009; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Spuņģis 2008; Rūžička 2015.

9. *Silpha tristis* Illiger, 1798

= *dalmatina* Küster, 1851
= *granulata* Thunberg, 1794

Fleischer 1829; Seidlitz 1872-1875, 1887-1891; Rathlef 1905; Lackschewitz & Mikutowicz 1939; Šmits 1975; Stiprais & Varzinska 1985; Barševskis 1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Rūžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Petrova et al. 2006; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Barševskis et al. 2004, 2008, 2009, 2012; Rūžička 2015; Roze & Barševskis 2018.

Genus *Thanatophilus* Leach, 1815

10. *Thanatophilus dispar* (Herbst, 1793)

= *abscissus* Laicharting, 1781
= *frigidus* J. Sahlberg, 1889

Fleischer 1829 (*Silpha*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Silpha*), 1887-1891 (*Silpha*); Rathlef 1905; Šmits 1975; Barševskis 1993, 2002; Cibuļskis 1995, 1997; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Rūžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Bukejs 2006; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Rūžička 2015.

11. *Thanatophilus rugosus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

= *complicatus* Geoffroy, 1785
= *grossulus* Bergsträsser, 1778
= *parimaribous* Herbst, 1793
= *scaber* Scopoli, 1763

Groschke 1805 (*Silpha rugosa*); Precht 1818 (*Silpha*); Kawall 1865 (*Silpha*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Silpha*), 1887-1891 (*Silpha*); Rathlef 1905; Trauberga 1957; Danka & Stiprais 1972

(sic! *Tanathopilus*); Šmits 1975; Stiprais & Varzinska 1985; Barševskis 1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Rūžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Bukejs 2006; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Spuņģis 2008; Rūžička 2015; Roze & Barševskis 2018.

12. *Thanatophilu sinuatus* (Fabricius, 1775)

= *appendiculatus* Fuessli, 1775
= *pellaecephalus* Bergsträsser, 1778
= *unicostatus* Laporte, 1832

Precht 1818 (*Silpha*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Silpha*), 1887-1891 (*Silpha*); Rathlef 1905; Brammanis 1930; Trauberga 1957; Danka & Stiprais 1972 (sic! *Tanathopilus*); Šmits 1975; Barševskis 1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Rūžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Bukejs 2006; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Spuņģis 2008; Rūžička 2015; Roze & Barševskis 2018.

Subfamily Nicrophorinae Kirby, 1837

genus *Nicrophorus* Fabricius, 1775

= *Cyrtoscelis* Hope, 1840

13. *Nicrophorus germanicus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

= *apicalis* Kraatz, 1880
= *bimaculatus* Haworth, 1807
= *bipunctatus* Kraatz, 1880
= *cadaverinus* Gistel, 1857
= *frontalis* Fischer von Waldheim, 1844
= *listerianus* Geoffroy, 1785
= *speciosus* Schulze, 1775

Precht 1818 (*Necrophorus*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Necrophorus*), 1887-1891 (*Necrophorus*); Rathlef 1905 (*Necrophorus*); Vītols 1941 (*Necrophorus*); Trauberga 1957 (*Necrophorus*); Šmits 1975 (*Necrophorus*); Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Rūžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Rūžička 2015.

Note: This very rare species is only known from a few localities in western Latvia. North border of main distribution area.

14. *Nicrophorus humator* (Gleditsch, 1767)

= *nigerrimus* Kraatz, 1884
 = *sulcatus* Fischer von Waldheim, 1844
 Precht 1818 (*Necrophorus*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Necrophorus*), 1887-1891 (*Necrophorus*); Rathlef 1905 (*Necrophorus*); Lackschewitz & Mikutowicz 1939 (*Necrophorus*); Danka 1950 (*Necrophorus*); Trauberga 1957 (*Necrophorus*); Šmits 1975 (*Necrophorus*); Stiprais & Varzinska 1985 (*Necrophorus*); Barševskis 1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Barševskis & Savenkons 1991; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Růžička 2015; Roze & Barševskis 2018.

15. *Nicrophorus interruptus* Stephens, 1830

= *basalis* Gistel, 1848
 = *brunnipes* Gradl, 1882
 = *fossor* Erichson, 1837

Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Necrophorus*), 1887-1891 (*Necrophorus*); Rathlef 1905 (*Necrophorus*); Šmits 1975 (*Necrophorus*); Barševskis 1988a (*fossor* Erichson), 1988b (*fossor* Erichson), 1993 (*fossor* Erichson), 2002 (*fossor* Erichson); Cibulskis 1997 (*fossor* Erichson); Telnov et al. 1997 (*fossor* Erichson); Silfverberg 2004 (*fossor* Erichson), 2010 (*fossor* Erichson); Růžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Bukejs 2006 (*fossor* Erichson); Murd & Barševskis 2007 (*fossor* Erichson); Kalniņš et al. 2007 (*fossor* Erichson); Růžička 2015..

16. *Nicrophorus investigator* Zetterstedt, 1824

= *confossor* J.L. LeConte, 1854
 = *funeror* Reitter, 1885
 = *intermedius* Reitter, 1895
 = *maritimus* Mannerheim, 1843
 = *microcephalus* Thomson, 1862
 = *melsheimeri* Kirby, 1837
 = *particeps* Fischer von Waldheim, 1844
 = *ruspator* Erichson, 1837

Fleischer 1829 (*Necrophorus*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Necrophorus*), 1887-1891 (*Necrophorus*); Rathlef 1905 (*Necrophorus*); Brammanis 1930 (*Necrophorus*); Šmits 1975 (*Necrophorus*); Barševskis 1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Cibulskis 1997; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Bukejs 2006; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Spuņģis 2001, 2008; Růžička 2015; Roze & Barševskis 2018.

Bukejs 2006; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Spuňģis 2001, 2008; Růžička 2015.

17. *Nicrophorus sepultur* Charpentier, 1825

= *obrutor* Erichson, 1837

Telnov 1996, 2004; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička & Schneider 2004; Barševskis et al. 2004; Telnov et al. 2010; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Růžička 2015.

Localities: Sventa, Gulbitis (Barševskis et al. 2004); Sigulda, Kolka (Telnov 1996); Sigulda (Telnov et al. 2010);

Note: Insufficiently known species, known from few localities.

18. *Nicrophorus vespillo* (Linnaeus, 1758)

= *bifasciatus* Hausmann, 1799
 = *cadaverinus* Gravenhorst, 1807
 = *curvipes* Duftschmid, 1825
 = *hadenius* Gistel, 1857
 = *spinipes* Leach, 1815
 = *vulgaris* Fabricius, 1775

Fischer 1784 (*Silpha*); Groschke 1805 (*Silpha vespillo*); Precht 1818 (*Necrophorus*); Fleischer 1829 (*Necrophorus*); Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Necrophorus*), 1887-1891 (*Necrophorus*); Heyden 1903 (*Necrophorus*); Rathlef 1905 (*Necrophorus*); Brammanis 1930 (*Necrophorus*); Vītols 1941; Danka 1950 (*Necrophorus*); Trauberga 1957 (*Necrophorus*); Danka & Stiprais 1972; Spuris 1974; Šmits 1975 (*Necrophorus*); Barševskis 1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Telnov et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Bukejs 2006; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Spuňģis 2001, 2008; Růžička 2015; Roze & Barševskis 2018.

19. *Nicrophorus vespilloides* Herbst, 1783

= *hebes* Kirby, 1837
 = *mortuorum* Fabricius, 1792
 = *pygmaeus* Kirby, 1837
 = *sylvaticus* Reitter, 1895

Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Necrophorus*), 1887-1891 (*Necrophorus*); Rathlef 1905 (*Necrophorus*); Vītols 1941 (*Necrophorus*); Trauberga 1957 (*Necrophorus*); Šmits 1975 (*Necrophorus*); Stiprais & Varzinska 1985 (*Necrophorus*); Barševskis 1988a, 1988b, 1993, 2002; Telnov

et al. 1997; Silfverberg 2004, 2010; Růžička & Schneider 2004; Telnov 2004; Petrova et al. 2006; Bukejs 2006; Murd & Barševskis 2007; Kalniņš et al. 2007; Spuņģis 2001, 2008; Růžička 2015; Roze & Barševskis 2018.

= *interruptus* Brulle, 1832

= *interruptus* Gistel, 1857

= *olfactor* Gistel, 1848

= *sepultor* Gyllenhal, 1827

Seidlitz 1872-1875 (*Necrophorus*), 1887-1891

(*Necrophorus*); Rathlef 1905 (*Necrophorus*);

Danka 1950 (*Necrophorus*); Šmits 1975

(*Necrophorus*); Barševskis 2002; Silfverberg

2004, 2010.

20. *Nicrophorus vestigator* Herschel, 1807

= *anglicus* Stephens, 1830

= *brullei* Jakobson, 1910

Table 1. Comparision of the Silphidae fauna in Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Estonia (EE), and Belarus (BY)

Taxa		Number of species			
		LV	LT	EE	BY
Silphinae					
	<i>Ablattaria</i>	-	-	1	1
	<i>Aclypea</i>	2	2	2	2
	<i>Dendroxena</i>	1	1	1	1
	<i>Necrodes</i>	1	1	1	1
	<i>Oiceoptoma</i>	1	1	1	1
	<i>Phosphuga</i>	1	1	1	1
	<i>Silpha</i>	3	3	3	3
	<i>Thanatophilus</i>	3	3	4	3
Nicrophorinae					
	<i>Nicrophorus</i>	8	7	7	9
	Total	20	19	21	22

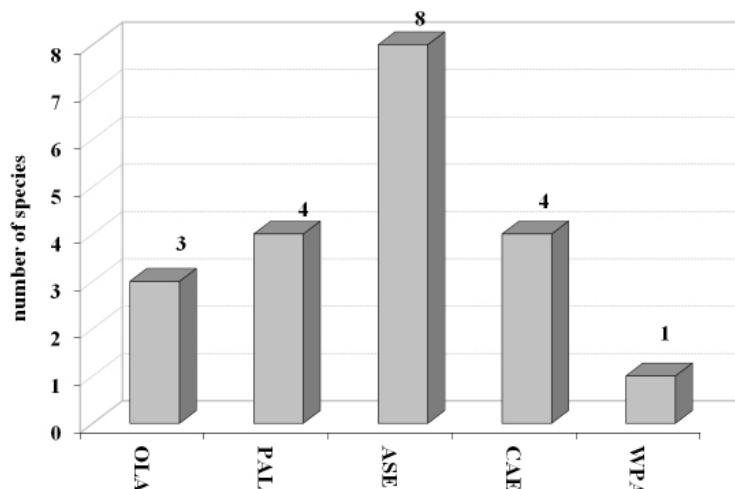


Fig. 1. Biogeographical structure of the Latvian Silphidae fauna: OLA – Holarctic, PAL – Palaearctic, ASE – Asiatic-European, CAE – Centralasiatic-European, and WPA – West Palaearctic.

Note: Insufficiently known species, known from few localities.

TAXONOMICAL STRUCTURE OF THE LATVIAN SILPHIDAE FAUNA

In Latvian fauna, 20 species belonging to 8 genera and 2 subfamilies of Silphidae are known. The number of known species in adjacent territories varies slightly (Table 1): 21 species in Estonia (Silfverberg 2010), 19 species in Lithuania (Tamutis et al. 2011), 22 species in Belarus (Alexandrovitch et al. 1996; Růžička & Schneider 2004; Růžička 2015).

BIOGEOGRAPHY OF LATVIAN SILPHIDAE

Ten chorotypes represent the Latvian fauna of large carrion beetles:

Holarctic – 3 species (15.0%): *Aclypea opaca*, *Nicrophorus investigator*, *N. vespilloides*;

Palaearctic – 4 species (20.0%): *Dendroxena quadrimaculata*, *Thanatophilus sinuatus*, *Nicrophorus humator*, *N. interruptus*;

Asiatic-European – 8 species (40.0%): *Necrodes littoralis*, *Oiceoptoma thoracicum*, *Phosphuga atrata*, *Silpha carinata*, *S. obscura*, *Thanatophilus dispar*, *Th. rugosus*, *Nicrophorus vespillo*;

Centralasiatic-European – 4 species (20.0%): *Aclypea undata*, *Nicrophorus germanicus*, *N. sepultor*, *N. vestigator*;

West Palaearctic – 1 species (5.0%): *Silpha tristis*.

The analysis of the distribution of Latvian Silphidae species shows that the range of chorotypes is rather limited. Species with wide distribution are prevailing. Asiatic-European (8 species or 40.0%), Palaearctic (4 or 20.0%), and Centralasiatic-European (4 or 20.0%) species are considered to be predominant (Fig. 1).

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Received: 12.05.2019.

Accepted: 10.08.2019.