Hoverfly records (Syrphidae) from Croatia
with a short note on Cheilosia thessala Claussen & Stahls
[Schwebfliegennachweise (Syrphidae) aus Kroatien
mit einer kurzen Anmerkung zu Cheilosia thessala Claussen & Stahls]

by
Axel SSYMANK
Wachtberg (Germany)

Croatia does not have a complete checklist of hoverflies (Syrphidae) yet. Only a little faunistic data is available, except for some older works between the series of papers from Strobl on the Balkan hoverflies (Strobl 1989, 1900, 1902) up to 1961 (Leclercq 1961), where determinations will need a revision. While Langhofer (1909) already knew 211 species, up to now according to Nedeljkovic (2007), Radenkovic (2008) and Nedeljkovic et al. (2009), together with the only recent investigation in Kopački rit Nature Park, Northeast Croatia (Jelicic et al. 2010; see also here a more complete list of Croatian hoverfly literature) a total of 236 hoverfly species have been reported from Croatia, a number almost certainly still much too low.

Prof. Dr Joachim Oehlke (Eberswalde, Germany) brought a small collection of Syrphidae from one locality in Croatia (no. 7402 in the authors database) home from a stay in the country and sent the material to me. The locality is east of Labin, geographical coordinates 45°06'27’’N 14°09'05’’E, altitude 365 m a. s. l., leg. Joachim and Renate Oehlke, collected between 24th September and 10th October 2010. The material is in the collection of the author. For the results of the determination see Tab. 1.

Cheilosia thessala was first described in 2005 by Clausen & Stahls (2005) from material collected by Lisa and Klaus Standfuss in Platania/Volos, Thessaly, Greece on the basis of a series of specimens. No other locality besides the type locality has been reported so far. The record from Croatia is the second known locality of this mediterranean species and new for the Croatian fauna. The species closely resembles Cheilosia scutellata, but in the original description a key as well as a number of diagnostic characters are given. The Croatian specimen could be readily keyed out with this key, was compared to paratype material from Platania/Volos and also checked by Claus Clausen himself. As already stated in Clausen & Stahls (2005) it is a late-flying species and the record from Croatia from the end September to the beginning of October confirms this.