# DATA FOR KNOWLEDGE THE ENTOMOLOGY OF THE UPPER-TISZA DISTRICT

(Orthopteroidea and Formicoidea)

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The entomological elaboration of the river Tisza began with the monograph of Zilahi-Sebess (Bába et al. 1962). The orthopterological and myrmecological investigations of the Tisza are contained, so far, in the articles of Gausz (1966, 1967) and in those of Gallé, jr. (1966a, 1966b, 1967). This work is containing the results of our investigations carried out in the summer of 1967 concerning this topic.

# Geographic and climatological conditions

The area investigated is lying along the Upper-Tisza, on the right of the river, in the district of villages Tiszaszalka and Gergelyiugornya at the degree of latitude 48.25.

Macroclimatologically it belongs to the climatic area of the Great Hungarian Plain, the mean annual temperature being 9° C degree (Pécsi-Sárfalvi, 1960), with —3,5° C january and 20,3° C July mean temperature. The amount of the annual precipitation is 650 mm (Bacsó, 1959). The number of rainy days exceeds ninty, the dominant direction of wind is N—E. Height above sea-level of the Adriatic is 109,2 m. The soil is mud, rather middle-bound, poorly permeable to water.

#### Methods

Nagy's quadratic method (in Balogh, 1953) could not be applied because of the difficulty of orthopterological surveyings, thus the quantitative conditions of the respective biotopes could be established by a definite number of grass-net strokes. During applying this method of grass nets, we had, of course to gather grasshoppers one by one, too, owing to their strongly different faculty of movement.

That surveying method can, however, be applied with results only in case of an adequately homogeneous grass level. Therefore, in the underwood of the woods "Bagiszeg" and "Bockerek" and in the association *Cypero-Juncetum*, we have rather performed a time collection lasting for one hour. The comparison of the

two areas investigated with two different methods is thus, of course, unreal but

the orthopterological importance of the latter ones is negligible.

The tables published about the biotopes are putting down the summarized results of ten surveyings. In every biotope, the number of larvae, determined and averaged to one survey, is a characteristic particular, as well. A similarly significant datum is also the ratio Acridoidea/Tettigonoidea, necessary first of all on the basis of considerations concerning the production. The establishment of biotopes has taken places according to plant associations.

The ecological evaluation of the Orthopteroidea fauna is given on the basis of works of Nagy (1949) and Harz (1957), the dispersion of the fauna according to spectrum on the basis of those of Harz (1957). In connection with feeding types of Orthoptera, Gangwere's classification (1961) has been used (forbivorous,

graminivorous, carnivorous ones, etc.).

At the cenological surveyings of the Formicoidea populations, the methods contained in works published previously concerning this topic (Gallé, 1966b, 1967) have been followed. On the grass of the dam sides and on the protected grassland of the inundation area, squares  $1 \times 1$  m have generally been applied owing to the relatively high frequency of the ants nests; on the soil of Querceta in the inundation area, however, there were to be applied only squares of  $5 \times 5$  m for the survey. For the ecological evaluation of the Formicoidea fauna Pittioni's ecological classification has been used (according to Móczár, 1953).

# Characterization of biotopes and cenoses

The cenoses investigated in the area are members of the macrozonation complex along the river Tisza. Their characteristic type is determined by the distance from the river and, in the function of that, by the microclimatic picture, by soil conditions and, in connection with those by plant associations. Surveys were carried out in the following biotopes:

1. Wood in the inundation area. Inside it three association types can

be separated from one another.

a) Salicetum triandrae Malcuit, 1929. — in the bush-willow plantation along the river the increased inundation effect is impeading the formation of constant Orthopteroidea and Formicoidea faunae.

- b) Salicetum albae-fragilis Issler, 1926 this typical inundation association is forming but lesser substances, as a rule with a mixed Salix-Populus consociate, the most frequently with Rubus caesius facies and here and there with Cornus sanguinea subass. (Salicetum albaefragilis cornetosum sanguineae). Wendelbg.-Zelinka, 1952. In smaller spots with substance Populus it appears also in the Convallario-Quercetum.
- c) Convallario-Quercetum roboris Soó, [1934] 1957 wood "Bagiszeg". — It is the most considerable from the inundation woods. As a consequence of a shading effect of the comparatively dense and tall tree-substance, the vegetation of grass level is poor. The litter production, as compared with the former cenoses, is higher and the soil humidity is more moderate.
- 2. The ruderal ecotonic cenosis of the inundation area. Its bulk belongs to the substance Amarantho-Chenopodietum albi Soó, 1947, here and there Echinochloeto-Polygonetum lapathifolii Soó et Csűrös. 1944 can be observed, as well. The areas under cultivation (Trifolium pratense, Triticum aestivum) being close, and also disarranged by

the near-by road, it is a substance rather poor in quality. The height of vegetation is changing between broad limits, the value of coverage being 85—90 per cent.

3. Dam. The course of dam is of direction N-S, its sides having accordingly an exposition of direction E-W. The dam of river is relatively

low, its sides are steep, with a 55-60 degree slope of gradient.

The vegetation of the dam-side is homogeneous: with facies Alopecuretum pratensis ranunculetosum acris Rumex acetosa fac. On both sides of the dam crown a weed-bordering of Schlerochloo-Polygonetum avicularis (G a m s, 1927) S o ó, 1940 is spreading. Hegiht of vegetation is 15—25—30(—40) cm, covering 100 per cent. On the side of dam of Eastern exposition the vegetation is somewhat lower, the insolation is rather strong.

4. Protected grassland in the inundation area. The grasslands, lying at both banks of the canal that connects the wood "Bockerek" with the Tisza, are closely connected with the flood area, first of all with the dam-sides. Also the plant association is nearly the same: it has been produced by the progressive decay of Alopecuretum pratensis festucetosum pseudovinae S o ó, 1957 and the previous association. Height of vegetation is 10—20—25(—35) cm, the cover 100 per cent.

5. Protected meadow in the inundation area. In areas of humid subsoil smaller stagnant waters are not rare, either, and the plant association is *Cypero-Juncetum*. Height of vegetation is between 50 and

70 cm, the cover being 80-85 per cent.

6. Protected wood in the inundation area ("Bockerek"). Convallario-Quercetum roboris of a rather dry soil, with a secondarily grown tree vegetation in a considerable part of its territory. The Salicetum albae-fragilis is entirely missing.

# Orthopteroidea

The result of surveys carried out in surveyings in seven biotopes is: 29 species, 614 specimens. (The distribution of species, explanation of the notation of ecological types and fauna are contained in Table I.) In a part of biotopes, however, we have not succeeded in demonstrating constant *Saltatoria* associations.

1. Wood in the inundation area. It is an unfavourable biotope for the *Orthopteroidea* fauna. Only in the underwood of the *Convallario-Quercetum* of a higher situation we have found some hygrophilic species preferring shade. The biotope is not stable, the eggs of immigrated species are anyway destroyed by the spiring inundations. That is probably the cause of not finding larvae, either.

Ecological type	Type of area	Species	Number	Dom.p.c.	
Hyg.	Middle-Eu.	Leptophyes albovittata	4	28.59	
Hyg.	EuSib.	Roeseliana roeselii	2	14.30	
Hyg.	Eu.	Pholidoptera griseoaptera	7	49.98	
Mes.	EuSib	Chortippus longicornis	1	7.14	

The great predominance of hygrophilic species is obvious at first sight. The total dominance of *Pholidoptera griseoaptera* is remarkable and can be considered, in some degree, as a montanic effect.

The species Leptophyes albovittata and Roeseliana roeselii are less bound to the underwood and are frequent in open associations, as well. For the graminivorous Chortippus longicornis the wood is not a satisfying biotope.

2. Ruderal ecotonic cenosis in the inundation area. Lying on a higher point of the inundation area, it is less exposed to inundation influences. Nevertheless, a stable Saltatoria cenosis has not been taken place here, either. The picture of fauna is disturbed, to a certain extent, by the joint occurrence of some species of different ecological types (Chortippus dorsatus — Omocestus ventralis). The dominance of Roeseliana roeselii is a particular case as in Saltatoria associations the carnivorous species is usually not in dominance. Also the Chortippus longicornis of relatively mesophilious nature is characteristic. The Decticus verrucivorus is a local character species, the cause of its lower dominance being the larger alimentary field of its single specimens. It is particularly frequent in the Trifolium pratense culture; we have not, however, carried out any investigations there. On the other hand, we have observed the joint occurrence of the two colour types of Decticus verrucivorus.

Ecological type			Number	Dom.p.c.
Hyg.	EuSib.	Roeseliana roeselii	15	34.15
Mes.	EuSib.	Decticus verrucivorus	2	4.54
Hyg.	Palearc.	Tetrix tenuicornis	2	4.54
Mes.	East-Eu.	Stenobothrus crassipes	2	4.54
Mes.	EuSib.	Omocestus haemorrhoidalis	2	4.54
Xer.	Palearc.	Omocestus ventralis	1	2.27
Xer.	Palearc.	Glyphtobothrus brunneus	2	4.54
Xer.	Palearc.	Glyphtobothrus biguttulus	1	2.27
Hyg.	EuSib.	Chortippus dorsatus	3	6.71
Mes.	EuSib.	Chortippus longicornis	14	31.90

Ratio of imago/larva for one survey: 4.4 to 12 Ratio of Acridoidea/Tettigonoidea: 27 to 17

The species of association are characteristic of the mesophilious meadows. The hygrophilious species, too, are rather distributed in the plain. Thus the *Roeseliana roeselii* is the common grasshopper species of the southern river sectors and can be observed even in the rather arid biotopes.

The total dominance of the xerophilious species is insignificant; they are more accessory in nature. That is easy to understand, the *Omocestus ventralis* being a character species of macchia associations at the seasides comparable to the half-desert conditions (Pravdin, 1964).

- 3. Dam-side. Inspite of the identical plant association, it is advisable to elaborate separately the faunas found on both sides of the dam. According to Nagy's experience (1949), the Saltatoria faunas of the two areas can be differentiated in case of the same plant association with different vegetation heights. The Schlerochloo-Polygonetum avicularis weed-association of small extent on the dam top has no peculiar orthopterous fauna, it is therefore not practical to be investigated separately.
- a) Side from the inundation area. Shading being rather strong, the dominance of hygrophilious species is increasing. From the mountain species we have observed the *Pholidoptera aptera aptera* that has probably moved forward to the Plain by the way of the valley of river Bodrog. One of the mountain species is the *Bicolorana bicolor*, too, living on dry mountain slopes and mentioned by Nagy (1953) from the area of Bátorliget. We also don't know about the plain occurrence of *Pseudopodisma fieberi* that frequently occur, according to Knechtel and Biznoseanu (1959), in the wood clearings of the Beech-zone. Owing to the very incomplete orthopterologic knowledge of the Tisza valley, the exact distribution of these species in Hungary isn't, of course, cleared, as yet.

It is worthy of our attention if even a single specimen of *Pezotettix giornae* in state of larva could be observed, because it is a proof of the spreading of species. It isn't contained in Gausz's material (1966) from Taktaköz, and even in the Southern parts of the Plain it has occured dominantly only in the latter years (Gausz, 1967). In the secondary spreading of the species the Tisza valley has probably had an important role. The direction of its primary invasion in not cleared.

Ecological type			Number	Dom.p.c.
Hyg.			1	1,1
Hyg.	Palearc.	Conocephalus fuscus	1	1.1
Mes.	EuSib.	Phaneroptera falcata	. 2	2.2
Mes.	Palearc.	Tettigonia viridissima	1	1.1
Hyg.	Central-Eu.	Pholidoptera aptera aptera	1	1.1
Hyg.	Eu.	Pholidoptera griseoaptera	1	1.1
Xer.	EuSib.	Bicolorana bicolor	4	4.4
Hyg.	EuSib.	Roeseliana roeselii	29	31.9
Mes.	EuSib.	Decticus verrucivorus	1	1.1
Xer.	Med.	Pezotettix giornae	1	1.1
Hyg.	Central-Eu.	Pseudopodisma fieberi	2	2.2
Mes.	Eastern-Eu.	Stenobothrus crassipes	6 /	6.6
Mes.	EuSib.	Omocestus haemorrhoidalis	4	4.4
Xer.	Palearc.	Glyphtobothrus biguttulus	1	1.1
Hyg.	Palearc.	Chortippus albomarginatus	1	1.1

Ecological type	Type of area	Species	Number	Dom.p.c.
Hyg.	EuSib.	Chortippus dorsatus	2	2.2
Mes.	EuSib.	Chortippus longicornis	33	36.2

Ratio of imago/larva for one survey: 8.9 to 68 Ratio of Acridoidea/ettigonoidea: 50 to 41

Some of the hygrophilious grasshopper species of the wood fringe cenoses are of accessory character (Conocephalus fuscus, Leptophyes albovittata). The number of definitely local character species is low. It is a transitory Saltatoria association type rather characteristic of the hygrophilious-mesophilious grasslands. The influence of the July aspect on the Orthopteroidea fauna has been noticeable in the later surveyings, as well. From the species that can less be determined in larval state in the autumn aspect probably the percentage of xerophilious ones is increasing. Therefore, all the surveying data can be used only after taking those into consideration.

b) Protected side from the inundation area. As a consequence of a lower vegetation and a stronger insolation, in spite of the same plant association, there can be observed definite differences. A great part of the colouring mountain species disappear and the *Glyphtobothrus brunneus* and *Glyphotobothrus biguttulus*, so frequent under extreme conditions, do indicate the change of the fauna picture.

Ecological Type of area Species type		Species	Number	Dom.p.c.
Hyg.	Central-Eu. Leptophyes albovittata		22	17.68
Hyg.	Palearc.	Conocephalus fuscus	4	3.18
Mes.	Palearc.	Tettigonia viridissima	2	1.58
Hyg.	EuSib.	Roeseliana roeselii	10	7.98
Hyg.	Central-Eu.	Pseudopodisma fieberi	2	1.58
Mes.	Eastern-Eu.	Stenobothrus crassipes	31	23.99
Mes.	EuSib.	Omocestus haemorrhoidalis	8	6.32
Xer.	Palearc.	Glyphtobothrus brunneus	2	1,58
Xer.	Palearc.	Glyphtobothrus biguttulus	10	7.98
Hyg.	EuSib.	Chortippus dorsatus	10	7.98
Mes.	EuSib.	Chortippus longicornis	25	20.25

Ratio of Acridoidea/Tettigonoidea: 86 to 40 Ratio of Acridoidea/ettigonoidea: 86 to 40

Compared with the other side of dam, the species number of the Saltatoria fauna is decreasing, the number of specimens, however, increasing. A general increase of the dominance of transitory species may be observed (Stenobothrus crassipes, Omocestus haemorrhoidalis), anyway, an adequate quantity of sunshine is absolutely necessary even to certain parts of the development of individuals of the hygrophilous species. Therefore, the number of imagos is higher, generally too.

The high dominance of the *Leptophyes albovittata* is one of the recent results of the *Saltatoria* cenology in the Plain. In the associations published in literature the *Glyphtobothrus biguttulus*, as well, can be observed in a lower number of specimens, while here it is a local character species.

4. Protected grassland in the inundation area. Among all the associations the population is conspicious with its qualitative and quantitative manysidedness. A representative of the Mediterranian species is the *Phaneroptera quadripunctata* the penetration of which is similar to that of *Pezotettix giornae*, its expansion, however, is not by a long way so large in numbers. The elements of the Ponto-Mediterranian fauna in the Southern Plain are the common *Platycleis affinis* and the *Stenobothrus nigromaculatus*. The *Euchortippus declivus*, as well, is common but in the environs of the Lower Tisza, there it can be classified only among the accessory elements of the association. The specimen number of the *Tetrix subulata* can only be explained by the mistakes of collection.

Ecological type	Type of area	Species	Number	Dom.p.c.
Mes.	EuSib.	Phaneroptera falcata	2	0.63
Mes.	Med.	Phaneroptera quadripunctata	1	0.32
Hyg.	Central-Eu.	Leptophyes albovittata	13	4.12
Hyg.	Palearc.	Conocephalus fuscus	15	4.75
Mes.	Palearc.	Tettigonia viridissima	5	1.58
Xer.	PontMed.	Platycleis affinis	2	0.63
Xer.	EuSib.	Bicolorana bicolor	5	2.63
Hyg.	EuSib.	Roeseliana roeselii	36	11.37
Mes.	EuSib.	Decticus verrucivorus	2	0.63
Hyg.	Palearc.	Tetrix subulata	2	0.63
Xer.	Med.	Pezotettix giornae	2	0.63
Hyg.	Central-Eu.	Pseudopodisma fieberi	. 7	2.20
Mes.	Eastern-Eu.	Stenobothrus crassipes	68	21.56
Xer.	PontMed.	Stenobothrus nigromaculatus	2	0.63
Xer.	Palearc.	Omocestus ventralis	1	0.32
Mes.	EuSib.	Omocestus haemorrhoidalis	18	5.71
Xer.	Palearc.	Glyphtobothrus biguttulus	6	1.90
Hyg.	Palearc.	Chortippus albomarginatus	4	1.27
Hyg.	EuSib.	Chortippus dorsatus	7	2.22
Mes.	EuSib.	Chortippus longicornis	111	35.18
Mes.	Central-Eu.	Euchortippus declivus	· 6	1.90

Ratio of imago/larva for one survey: 30.5 to 227 Ratoi of Acridoidea/Tettigonoidea: 234 to 81

The Saltatoria association can be characterized first of all by the species of the mesophilious meadows of the Plain. It differs from the former population of the dam side rather in quantitative respect. The ecological conditions are not homogeneous inside the biotope, either. The higher percentage of the Mediterranian and Ponto- Mediterranian elements may be a function of the better thermostatic capacity of soil: unfortumately, however, that cannot be demonstrated for lack of a soil analysis. The biotope is open in the direction of the adjacent culture areas, shrubberies, and meadows of humid subsoil. Therefore, a part of its species is deriving from those. On the basis of the high number of imagos and larvae the area investigated is optimal from the point of view of the Saltatoria fauna.

5. Protected humid meadow in the inundation area. In spite of the low specimen number of the *Mecostethus grossus* and *Parapleurus alliaceus*, they are considered as local character species of the biotope in respect of their significance. Nagy (1943) on the basis of his surveyings in the Nyírség, mentioned both of them as important species of hygrophilious meadows. Their dominance, however, does not achieve the level mentioned there. The appearance of *Tettigonia caudata* is remarkable, as well.

Ecological type	Type of area	Species	Number	Dom.p.c.	
Mes.	Palearc.	Tettigonia viridissima	4	14.70	
Mes.	Central-Eu.	Tettigonia caudata	2	8.70	
Hyg.	EuSib.	Mecostethus grossus	3	13.05	
Hyg.	EuSib.	Parapleurus alliaceus	3	13.05	
Mes.	EuSib.	Chortippus longicornis	11	47.80	

Value of imago/larva for one hour: 23 to 54 Ratio of Acridoidea/Tettigonoidea: 17 to 6

The predominance of mesophilious species, on the other hand, denotes probably that the association is no longer covered by water at the end of August and that then it is changed in character. And its stability is doubtful by reason of the low number of larvae and the small density of specimens.

6. "Bockerek" wood. It is to be mentioned only for the sake of completeness. For the *Orthopteroidea fauna*, the very strong shade of underwood and a complete lack of clearings don't assure adequate essential conditions. The whole fauna is represented by a single species.

Ecological type	Type of area	Species	Number	Dom.p.c.
Hyg.	Eastern-Eu.	Poecilimon schmidti	. 1	100.00

There must live in the wood, of course, also other species that do prefer shadow, first of all arboricolous ones, however they have not appeared during the collecting time. The *Poecilimon schmidti* can rather

be classified among the species of mountain character. The *Poecilimon fussi*, a species similar to that in many respects, is mentioned by Gausz (1966) in his material of Taktaköz.

# General evaluation of the orthopterological results

For evaluating the collected material of the entire area, it is wort while making a conparison with the surveying of the *Orthopteroidea* fauna in the district of the Southern Tisza on the basis of similar principles (G a u s z, 1967). With help of the analysis, performed according to the fauna spectrum and with ecological demand, clear and vivid differences may be noticed. A detailed explanation of the differences would not be reasonable in this monograph and anyway, it needs some complementary examinations, too.

Ecological demand of species

Tiszaszalka Szeged (Ve		esszős)	
Xerophilous	6.12 p.c.	. Xerophilous 38.	
Mesophilous	58.91 p.c.	Mesophilous	38.04 p.c.
Hygrophilous	34.57 p.c.	Hygrophilous	43.14 p.c.

#### Biogeographic spectrum of species

Tiszaszalka		Szeged (Vesszős)		
EuSib.	59.40 p.c.	EuSib.	29.24 p.c.	
Palearct.	10.61 p.c.	Palearct.	31.30 p.c.	
Central Eu.	9.78 p.c.	Central Eu.	9.52 p.c.	
Eastern Eu.	17.60 p.c.	Southern Eu.	, 0,34 p.c.	
European	1.30 p.c.	Mediterranean	28.55 p.c.	
Ponto-Med.	0,65 p.c.	Ponto-Med.	1.02 p.c.	
Mediterranean	0.65 p.c.	,		

Ratio of Acridoidea/Tettigonoidea

Tiszaszalka: 407 to 197 Szeged (Vesszős): 824 to 54

A comparison is possible, of course, but in the relation of inundation areas. The sodic lowland plains ("puszta") and sand-grasses are in orthopterological respect thoroughly different. The Saltatoria associations of the environs of Tiszaszalka at the Upper Tisza are characteristic of the hygrophilous-mesophilous meadows. The number of xerophilous species and mainly their dominance are unimportant. The mountain species are deriving probably from the Zemplén mountains, a connection with the Carpathians being less probable. The general combination of Saltatoria associations, like that of the homogeneous plant associations, is the same, taken all round. This does not concern the associations of woods and those strongly influenced by inundations. A considerable

part of the associations in inundation areas are seasonal and the populations grown again and again every year.

The density of specimens is influenced harmfully by the higher percentage of carnivorous species. As influenced by a favourable microclimate, in certain biotopes the production may be much higher than the average one (Protected meadow in the inundation area).

The Europo-Siberian species are predominant, the Mediterranian, Ponto-Mediterranian elements being very few. The Pezotettix giornae and Phaneroptera quadripunctata do nevertheless penetrate by the way of the dams along the rivers and the river valleys. The complete lack of Calliptamus italicus, highly euryoekous in nature, is very obvious. The geophilous species can be found, at any rate, but in minimal quantity. Taking into consideration G angwere's (1961) classification of alimentary types, the proportion of graminivorous/forbivorous species is growing, as well. Even making allowance for all the conditions, it is not right to call the association on the basis of the Saltatoria fauna because we could not take account of the change of the autumn aspect.

# Formicoidea fauna

In the biotopes in the environs of Tiszaszalka we have established nesting of twenty-five ant species. In the period of investigation (July 3—13 1967), at the cenological surveyings, we counted 266 nests. From the species that could not be determined on the site, we collected 712 specimens altogether, for being determined.

1. Wood associations in the inundation area. As a consequence of the mixed phytocenotical character of the "Bagiszeg" wood lying in the inundation area, the ant population isn't homogeneous, either.

In the soil level of the dominant *Convallario-Quercetum roboris*, the presence of five nesting species could be established, two of them being absolutely constant:

Ecological type	Species	N/1 sq.m	C/1 sq.m	N/25 sq.m	N/25 sq.m	D.p.c.
EH	Myrmica laevinodis N y l.	0,28	0,40	7,00	10	35,76
EH	Myrmica ruginodis N y 1.	0,05	0,20	1,33	5	10,24
EE	Leptothorax tuberum unifasciata LATR	0,13	0,40	3,33	10	25,76
HI	Lasius niger. L.	0,04	0,16	1,00	4	7,68
EE	Lasius emarginatus O l.	0,01	0,04	0,33	. 1	2,56

It is obvious that owing to the small density of nests the constant minimiareal of the population for the species Myrmica laevinodis-Leptothorax tuberum unifasciata is 25 sq.m. From the concomitant species the Myrmica ruginodis nested first of all in the less shaded parts

of biotope, having a rather dry soil while the Lasius emarginatus nested on hills of dryer soil with less top soil (humus). The dispersion of all the three concomitant species is bad. The small density of the ant nests can be explained partly with the influence of inundations, partly with the poor grass level. This Formicoidea population is showing a good qualitative conformity with the associations Lasius emarginatus — Leptothorax tuberum unifasciata — Myrmica ruginodis described by Balogh and Loksa (1948) from the oak forests of the Hungarian Central Mountains.

In the fragments of the Salicetum albaz-fragilis, appearing at Bagiszeg as a Populus, there could not be carried out any exact quantitative analysis because of the small extent and strong dispersion of these cenosis parts. The qualitative composition of the ant population is corresponding to the myrmecological character of the woods of Populus substance in the inundation areas of other habitats along the Tisza (cf. Gallé, 1966 b):

litter level:

Myrmica ruginodis Nyl. Myrmica rugulosoides For. Lasius emarginatus Ol.

log level:

Lasius niger L.
Myrmi caruginodis Nyl.

level of tree-trunks and leafy crowns:

Dolichoderus quadripunctatus L. Lasius fuliginosus Latr. Lasius brunneus Latr. Lasius emarginatus Ol.

The ant population discovered in the protected *Quercetum* in the inundation area of the "Bockerek" wood:

Ecological type	Species	N/1 sq.m	C/1 sq.m	N/25 sq.m.	C/25 sq.m	D.p.c.
HI	Myrmica scabrinodis N y l	0,24	0,40	6,00	10	17,80
EE	Leptothorax nylanderi För.	0,99	0,40	24,86	10	76,50
HI	Lasius niger L.	0,02	0,28	0,60	7	1,80
Ţ	Lasius flavus F.	0,04	0,08	1,17	2	3,60
EH	Formica rufa L.	0,003	0,04	0,09	1	0,30

The character of the protected inundation area and, connected with that, the lower amount of soil air moisture is shown by the fact that in the ensemble of a combination similar to that of the oak forest at Bagiszeg, inside the *Myrmica* and *Leptothorax* population, the species of Bagiszeg have been changed with more thermophilous xerophytic species; therefore, the ecological character of the species of high dominance is containing the hypereuryoecical intermediary — euryoecical eremophilous provinces, the euryoecical hylophilous total dominance being small, 0,3 percent, contradiction to the 64 p.c. euryoecical hylophilous

philous total dominance of the "Bagiszeg" wood. Similarly, the character of the protected inundation area and, in connection with that, the lack of an inundation is shown by the greater average number of nests in the unit of territory (N/1 sq.m) and in one square of surveying (N/25 sq.m).

2. Grasslands on the dam-sides. The ant faunas of the dam-sides of eastern and western expositions correspond well to each other in respect of the elementary ways of life. In the plant association Alopecuretum prantensis ranunculetosum acris Rumex Acetosa facies on the dam-side, exposed to the West and the inundation area, there occured the more hygrophytic type of the Lasius — Plagiolepis — Formica association that is generally characteristic of the dam-sides of the river Tisza:

Ecological type	Species	N/1 sq.m	C/1 sq.m	D.p.c.	
·HI	Myrmica rugulosoides For.	0,2	2	5,88	
HI	Solenopsis fugax Latr.	1,6	6	47,04	
HI	Tetramorium caespitum L.	0,4	4	11,76	
EE	EE Tapinoma erraticum Latr.		2	5,88	
SE	SE Camponotus caryae fallax Latr.		. 1	1,47	
EE	Camponotus aethiops Latr.	0,1	1	1,47	
HI Lasius niger L.		0,4	, 4	11,76	
EE Lasius mixtus N y l.		0,2	2	5,88	
EH Formica fusca L.		0,2	2	5,88	
EE	Polyergus rufescens Latr.	0,1	1	2,94	

The constant minimiareal of this group of Formicidae population, taking into consideration the species Solenopsis fugax — Tetramorium caespitum — Lasius niger, is 2,5, square metre. The generally constant-dominant, thermopyilous Plagiolepsis species of southern distribution, taking a dominant part is the ant fauna of dams in the central and lower sectors of the Tisza, are completely lacking on the dam-sides at Tiszaszalka. Their functioning is taken over by the Tapinoma erraticum of a similar way of life. The strong climatilogical dependence of these reaches of the Upper Tisza on the Northern Central Mountains is shown by the lack of Plagiolepis species, as well.

In the Lasius — Formica — Solenopsis combination of the dam-side of eastern exposition the Myrmica rugulosoides and the Lasius (Chthonolasius) flavus are dominant. The dominant character of both species can be explained by the milieu being humid as a consequence of the exuberant vegetation; both species being thermophilous and, in the same time, claiming some humidity, too. It may be explained by the warmer microclimtae a,s well, that the Formica population is represented here by the eremophilous Formica rufibarbis.

Ecological type	Species	N/1 sq.m	C/1 sq.m	D.p.c.
HI	Myrmica rugulosoides For.	3,0	6	27,75
HI	Solenopsis fugax Latr.	1,2	4	11,10
HI Tetramorium caespitum L.		0,4	2	3,70
EE Tapinoma erraticum Latr.		. 0,4	2	3,70
HI Lasius niger L.		9,6	2.	5,55
EI Lasius flavus F.		5,0	. 8	46,25
EE	Formica rufibarbis F.	0,2	1	1,85

The minimiareal of this association is: 2.5 square metre.

In the weed association Schlerochloo-Polygonetum avicularis extending on the dam-top, and in the Messor-Tetramorium combination that is characteristic of this cenosis, the Messor structor of southern distribution is lacking because of the northern situation of the habitat, and only the Tetramorium caespitum is nesting there.

From the protected grasslands in the inundation area, an ant combination characterized by constant species has been demonstrated only in the grassland Alopecuretum pratensis festucetosum pseudovinae:

Ecological type	Species	N/1 sq.m	C/1 sq.m	D.p.c.
HI	Myrmica rugulosoides For.	0,9	6	18,36
EE	Myrmica lobicornis For.	0,2	2	4,08
HI	Solenopsis fugax Latr.	0,2	2	4,08
HI	Tetramorium caespitum L.	0,2	2	4,08
EE	Tapinoma erraticum Latr.	0,1	1	2,04
HI	Lasius niger L.	0,3	2	6,12
EI	Lasius flavus F.	2,0	10	40,10
EE	Formica rufibarbis F.	0,3	2	6,12
EE	Formica fusca glebaria Nyl.	0,5	4	10,20
EE	Formica pratensis Retz.	_	_	2,04
EE	Polyergus rufescens Latr.	0,1	1	2,04

The average nest density of the association is mediocre, its constant minimiareal for the species *Myrmica rugulosoides* — *Tetramorium caespitum* — *Formica fusca glebaria is:* 2,5 square metre.

4. In the weed fringe Amarantho-Chenopodietum albi of the inundation area there occurred no constant ant population. The species nesting there are: Tetramorium caespitum L., Formica rufibarbis F., Lasius niger L. From them the Tetramorium caespitum and Formica rufibarbis are frequent weed-fringe species, the Lasius niger of broad ecological amplitude, however, occurs but rarely in other weed fringes.

# Evaluation of the myrmecological results

The *Formicoidea* species combinations investigated in the three cenoses of different physiognomy have been separated well in qualitative and quantitative respects.

The Formicidae play a significant role in some cenoses, like the carnivorous, necrophagous, and coprophagous groups. The species having a similar food combination create a population different concerning their way of life, the place of their alimentation and the nesting oecus, and separated even inside the same cenosis. Inside these elementary groups of the way of life there is generally one dominant species in each. It can be explained by that the ant population of a cenosis appears usually with condominant species.

In the woods of the inundation area there can be observed two ant populations of different ways of life: (1) Terricolous, arboricolous species or those nesting in punks that hunt on the surface of soil or of fallen leaves, visiting and sometimes breeding plant-lice. There belong to here also the Myrmica, Lasius and Formica species although the way of life of the last ones partly differs from that of the Myrmica and Lasius species because they don't breed any plant-lice but they do attack even bigger insects and preserve larger alimentary and hunting grounds in the environment of their nest. The dominant species of this group in the "Bagiszeg" wood is the Myrmica laevinodis, in the "Bockerek" the Myrmica scabrinodis. (2) Tiny, photophobe, rather necrophagous Myrmicinae that nest in the soil on fallen leaves or under the rind, leaving their nest rarely or but in a small district. This group is represented in the "Bagiszeg" by the Leptothorax tuberum unifasciata, in the "Bockerek" wood by the Leptothorax nylanderi.

The ant populations of the grasslands and hayfields on the damsides have more combined species with a way of life rather varied. (1) Inside the species group Lasius - Myrmica described above, on the dam-side of western exposition, the Lasius niger and elsewhere the Myrmica rugulosoides are the dominant species. (2) The cenotical role of the Solenopsis fugax is similar to that of the Leptothorax species thus it is a representative of the syntrophium of the tiny Myrmicinae described at the woods. (3) The yellow Lasius (Chthonolasius subgenus), on the basis of their obligatory endogenous way of life, are separated from the Lasius — Myrmica group hunting on the surface of soil. The condominance of the Lasius niger — Lasius (Chthonolasius) flavus, so frequent in grasslike cenoses, can be explained with the different alimentary levels. On the dams and grasslands at Tiszaszalka the Chthonolasius species are represented by the Lasius flavus and Lasius mixtus. (4) Finally, the Tapinoma erraticum is to be mentioned as a species with a way of alimentation differring from that of the former ones. This may probably be classified into the dam-side syntrophium of the Plagiolepis species that are, as a rule, dominant at the central amd lower sectors of the Tisza.

In the weed cenoses only the *Tetramorium caespitum* is constant, therefore we may not speak in that case about an ant fauna differentiated in respect of its way of life.

As to the ecological evaluation of the ant fauna, it can be established that the species comprise the stenooecical eremophilous — euryoecical eremophilous — hypereuryoecical intermediary — euryoecical hylophilous ecological scale. Evaluating the types according to species number and dominance percentage, it is practical to compare the data from the Upper Tisza with the results of the Central Tisza and Lower Tisza environs:

1. (	On	the	basis	of	the	distribution	of	species	numbers
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	Upper	Central Tisza (p.c.)	Lower
stenoecical eremophilous (SE)	3.84	0.00	4.00
euryoecical eremophilous (EE)	53.76	50.00	52.00
hypereuryoecical intermediary (HI)	26.88	35.00	24.00
euryoecical hylophilous (EH)	15.46	15.00	20.00

2. On the basis of dominance percentage

	Upper	Central Tisza (p.c.)	Lower
stenoecical eremophilous (SE)	0.29	0.00	0.001
euryoecical eremophilous (EE)	30.61	48.57	55.64
hypereuryoecical intermediary (HI)	53.75	50.66	39.12
euryoecical hylophilous (EH)	15.35	0.67	5.23

As it is obvious, there is not too great difference as to the distribution of the species number of the three habitats. In case of the values reckoned on the basis of the dominance percentage, however, the percentile value of the mountain-hylophilous species at Tiszaszalka (Upper-Tisza) surpasses many times both the values from the Central Tisza and those from the Lower Tisza. On the other hand, the dominance percentage of the eremophilous species decreases at the Upper Tisza; that is so say, the mountain-climatological influence of the habitat at the Upper Tisza is reflected by the ant fauna not with the appearance of the populous mountain-sivicolous species but with higher dominance values of the hylophilous species living in other areas of the Tisza valley, as well.

Evaluating the ant fauna faunistically, both on the basis of species number and on that of the dominance percentage, the dominace of the Euro-Siberian species is characteristic, and, apart from that, also the percentile value of the Palearctic and European speices is considerable:

Investigating the distribution of the single ecological and area types according to cenoses, it is obvious that in the woods of inundation areas there occur rather mountain-silvicolous species while of damsides the dominance of eremophilous species of more southern distribution is characteristic. The Tisza valley has, accordingly, a double mediatory effect on the fauna: in the woods first of all the mountain-hylophilous

	on the basis of species number	dominance			
	percent				
Palearctic	28.00	25.42			
Euro-Siberian	36.00	38.71			
Euro-Turanian	1,2.00	8.18			
European	12.00	26.70			
Euro-Mediterranian	4.00	0.48			
Ponto-Mediterranian	8.00	0.48			

species (e.g., Myrmica laevinodis, Myrmica ruginodis) are spreading on the Plain while along the dams the eremophilous species of more southern distribution (e.g., Camponotus caryae fallax, Camponotus aethiops) are advancing westwards.

# **Summary**

In the course of our collection along the Upper Tisza we have demonstrated 29 Orthopteroidea and 24 Formicoidea species from the environs of Tiszaszalka-Gergelyiugornya. In the several cenoses four relatively independent Saltatoria combinations have been established on the basis of the dominant species (woods in the inundation area: Pholidoptera griseoaptera — Leptophyes albovittata, in the weed association of the inundation a area: Roeseliana roeselii — Chortippus longicornis, on the dams: Chortippus longicornis — Stenobothrus crassipes Roeseliana roeselii, in the protected humid meadow of the inundation area: Chortippus longicornis — Mecostethus grossus — Parapleurus alliaceus. In the ant fauna five combinations have been separated that can be classified into three more general types: the Myrmica -Leptothorax — Lasius association type of the oak woods in the inundation area, the Myrmica rugulosoides - Solenopsis - Lasius associations of the dam-sides and grasslands, and the weed cenoses with the constant species Tetramorium caespitum.

The ecological spectrum both of the Orthopteroidea and the Formicoidea faunas is displaced in the direction of the hygrophilious species as compared with the southern habitats. The climatological influence of the Northern Central Mountains on the Orthopteroidea fauna is demonstrated by the presence of the mountain species that are unknown in the more southern habitats of the Tisza (Poecilimon schmidti, Pholidoptera aptera aptera, Bicolorana bicolor, Pseudopodisma fieberi) while the Formicoidea fauna is reflecting the mountain influence with the larger total dominance of the hylophilous species.

Faunistically the predominance of the Euro-Siberian, East-European and Palearctic species is characteristic. The river valley has a double fauna-mediatory influence: promoting partly the spread of mountain species to the Plain, partly that of the Mediterranian and Ponto-Mediterranian species (Phaneroptera quadripunctata, Platycleis affinis,

Pezotettix giornae, Stenobothrus nigromaculatus, resp. Camponotus carvae fallax. Camponotus aethiops, etc.) in northern direction.

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Table I

Ecol. type	Type of area	Species 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Mes.	EuSzib.	Phaneroptera falcata Poda. + +
Mes.	Med.	Phaneroptera quadripunctata Br. +
Hyg.	Central-Eu.	Leptophyes albovittata Koll. $+ + + +$
Hyg.	Eastern-Eu.	Poecilimon schmidti Fieb. +
Hyg.	Palearc.	Conocephalus fuscus Fabr. +++
Mes.	Palearc.	Tettigonia viridissima L. +++ +
Hyg.	Central-Eu.	Tettigonia caudata Charp. +
Hyg.	Central-Eu.	Pholidoptera a. aptera Fabr. +
Hyg.	Eu,	Pholidoptera griseoaptera Deg. + +
Xer.	Ponto-Med.	Platycleis affinis Fieb. +
Xer.	EuSib.	Bicolorana bicolor Phil. + +
Hyg.	EuSib.	Roeseliana roeselii Hgb. + ++++
Mes.	EuSib.	Decticus verrucivorus L. + ++
Hyg.	Palearc.	Tetrix subulata L. +
Hyg.	Palearc.	Tetrix tenuicornis Sahlb. +
Xer.	Med.	Pezotettix giornae Rossi + +
Hyg.	Central-Eu.	Pseudopodisma fieberi Scudd. +++
Hyg.	EuSib.	Mecosthetus grossus L. +
Hyg.	Eu-Sib.	Pcrapleurus alliaceus Germ. +
Mes.	Eastern-Eu.	Stenobothrus crassipes Charp. ++++
Xer.	Ponto-Med.	Stenobothrus nigromaculatus H. S. +
Xer.	Palearc.	Omocestus ventralis Zett. ++
Mes.	EuSib.	Omocestus haemorrhoidalis Charp. ++++
Xer.	Palearc.	Glyphtobothrus brunneus Thunbg. +
Xer.	Palearc.	Glyphtobothrus biguttulus L. $++++$
Hyg.	Palearc.	Chortippus albomarginatus Beg. +++
Hyg.	Palearc.	Chortippus dorsatus Zett. $++++$
Mes.	EuSib.	Chortippus longicornis Latr. + + + + +
Mes.	Central-Eu.	Euchortippus declivus Bris. +

Ecological types:

Types of area:

Hyg: Hygrophilous, Mes: Mesophilous, Xer: Xerophilous. Eu.-Sib.: Europo-Sibirian, Med.: Mediterranean, Central-Eu.: Central European, Eastern-Eu.: Eastern European, Palearc.:

Palearctic, Eu.: European, Ponto-Med.: Ponto-Mediterranean.

Collecting stations: 1: "Bagiszeg", 2: "Bockerek", 3: dam-side in the inundation area, 4: Protected dam-side from the inundation area, 5: Protected canal bank in the inundation area, 6: Ruderal ecotone in the inundation area, 7: Protected humid meadow in the inundation area.

Table II

Ecol. type	Type of area	Species	1	2	3	4	5	6
EH	Eu,-Sib,	Myrmica laevinodis Nyl.	+					
EH	EuSib.	Myrmica ruginodis Nyl.	+					
ні	EuSib.	Myrmica scabrinodis Nyl.		+				
н	Eu.	Myrmica rugulosoides For.	į		+	+	+	
EE	Eu.	Myrmica lobicornis Nyl.					+	
ні	Palearc.	Solenopsis fugax Latr.			+	+	+	
EE	EuTur.	Leptothorax tuberum unifasciata La	. +					
EE	EuTur.	Leptothorax-nylanderi Latr.	1				•	
HI	Pal.	Tetramorium caespitum L.			+	+	+	+
EE	Ponto-Med.	Dolichoderus quadripunctatus L.	+					
EE	EuTur.	Tapinoma erraticum Latr.	1		+	+	+	
SE	EuMed.	Camponotus caryae fallax Latr.				+		
EE	Ponto-Med.	Camponotus aethiops Latr.				+		
ΕI	Palearc.	Lasius fuliginosus Latr.	+					
ні	Palearc.	Lasius niger L.	+	+	+	+	+	+
EE	Palearc.	Lasius alienus Foerst.	+					
EE	EuSib.	Lasius brunneus Latr.	+					
EE	EuTur.	Lasius emarginatus Ol.	+					
ΕI	EuSib.	Lasius flavus F.		+		+	+	
$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{E}$	EuSib.	Lasius mixtus Nyl.			+			
EH	Palearc.	Formica fusca L.			+			
EE	Palearc.	Formica funca glebaria Nyl.					+	
EE	EuSib.	Formica rufibarbis F.				+		+
EH	Palearc.	Formica rufa L.		+				
$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{E}$	EuSib.	Formica pratensis Retz.					+	
EE	EuSib.	Polyergus rufescens Latr.			+		+	

Collecting stations: 1: "Bagiszeg", 2: "Bockerek", 3: dam-side of W-exposition, 4: dam-side of E-exposition, 5: protected growland in the inundation area, 6: weed associations.