

## Some characteristics of the Plecoptera fauna in Slovenia

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The first record on the Slovenian stonefly fauna was presented by Scopoli in *Entomologia Carniolica* published in 1763, however, our fauna was hardly known until recently.

Intensive investigations on this order of insects have been made during the last 6 years, contributing to the perfection of our knowledge on the fauna of this part of the Balcan Peninsula.

The specimens were taken in a large number from streams of very different types: small spring streams, karst rheocrenes, as well as larger streams and rivers in mountains and also foothills. Contrary to most of other entomological groups, the southern parts of Yugoslavia are much more abundant in the variety and the number of species than its northern part, which does not apply to the stonefly fauna of Slovenia.

The present catalogue of the Slovenia Plecoptera contains 94 species. These belong to 16 genera and all of the 7 European families of Plecoptera are present.

According to Illies Limnofauna, the territory of Slovenia belongs to 5 «limnogeographical» regions. The contact of the Alpine influence on one side with the Central European, Mediterranean, Dinaric and even Carpathian, on the other has made our stonely fauna one of richest not only within Yugoslavia but also in Europe as whole.