Arthropod communities occurring on small mammals from non-wooded areas of urban agglomeration of Wrocław

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Abstract — HAITLINGER R. 1989. Arthropod communities occurring on small mammals from non-wooded areas of urban agglomeration of Wrocław. *Acta* Parasitologica Polonica, 34, 1, 45–66

Examination of 552 mammals belonging to 13 species revealed as many as 8560 arthropods 115 species. The structure of biological groups within arthropod communities is described as well as the pattern of dominance and mean intensity of infestation of mammalian hosts. The most diverse fauna of arthropods was observed on mammals inhabiting meadows. The richest fauna of arthropods (number of species) was noted on Apodemus agrarius and Microtus arvalis, while the highest mean intensity occurred on Clethrionomys glareolus.

In traditionally built urban agglomeration, non-wooded areas occupy most part of the territory; this is also the case of Wrocław. Tight building-up of the city centre gives the possibility to live to only 3 species of synantropic mammals. Only some fragments of the city centre, such as non-exploited or areas of ruins, allotment gardens, the borders of canals and railway embankments give living conditions to more species. These animals find fairly good conditions also in parks and cemeteries, in wasted gardens and zooparks. They may find almost natural conditions at the peripheries of dispersed buildings, in urban woods, meadows and fields as well as in shrubs along roads and canals.

In the present paper arthropod communities occurring on small mammals in non-wooded urban areas, such as near buildings, allotment gardens, municipal and house gardens, meadows and areas covered with herbaceous plants and railway embankments are described. Such an investigation has not yet been carried out in Poland except arthropod parasites of rats in ports of Gdynia and Gdańsk (Wegner and Kruminis-Łozowska 1984), fleas in urban agglomeration of Wrocław and arthropods on small mammals in areas of ruins (Haitlinger 1971, 1986 c). The present paper is a part of the continuing study on arthropods occurring on small mammals in various biotopes of urban agglomeration of Wrocław.

Material and methods

Trapping of mammals was carried out with variable intensity throughout the year depending on the possibility of accomplishment. The most difficult areas in which to collect were those on factory premises and in house gardens — the material collected there was very scarce. More



Fig. 1. Map of Wrocław urban area showing the position of investigation sites. 1, 4 — buildings; 3 — railway embankment; 5, 6, 8 — municipal and house gardens; 10 — allotment gardens; 2, 7, 9, 11, 12 — meadows

abundant material was collected in allotment gardens, city gardens and railway embankments, the richest in meadows and other areas of herbaceous plants (Fig. 1).

Buildings. The mammals were caught in the city centre (Cybulski street) and in the periphery (Wrocław-Złotniki).

Railway embankments. This biotope was not very characteristic, in many cases it showed a mosaic character. Parts of the embankment used in the present investigation were overgrown by grass, herbaceous plants and single shrubs being the most similar to sites of ruins. Trapping of mammals was performed in the city centre, near Wrocław-Mikołajów station. Embankments were treated separately due to the role they may play in displacement of small mammals.

Municipal and house gardens. These were highly productive areas in close vicinity of buildings, characterized by the almost permanent presence of man. Wild mammals find the best conditions in Zoological Gardens situated in the city centre but in contact with meadows along the river and with the municipal park. The Botanic Gardens are also situated in the centre. Trapping in house gardens was performed only twice, in Wrocław-Biskupin.

Allotment gardens. These were highly productive areas. Those situated at the periphery of the city have a diverse fauna of mammals but this fauna is only temporarily connected with this environment. Trapping was performed in Wrocław-Swojczyce at the periphery of the city.

Meadows and areas of herbaceous plants occupy a great part of the city. Trapping was performed in Popowice near the river Odra, on islets and at the borders of flood and navigation

Table 1. Numbers of annucleous (A) and mannings (12) concord in the month of the concord in the	armopous	(Y)	ווושווו) crain	mos (m)									
** A.A.	Mea	Meadow	Allotment	nent	Municipal		Railway	/ay	Buildings		Area of ruins (Hairlinger 1986c)	ruins 1986c)	Total no.	ō.
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ruymys subterruneus (de octys-Longen., 1900)		. 14					52	٧.			96	16	513	62
Sorex araneus L., 1/36	Š	;					1)					∞	7
Sorex minutus L., 1/00	v	1 (17	7			1030	36	1072	45
Crociaura suaveoiens (Fall., 1011)	ָ ר	1					,						77	-
Talpa europaea L., 1758	5 4												ţ	-
Total no. of arthropods	7300	•	2 4		437		443		36		3238		11843	
Total no. of mammals		331		34		99		87		14		271		793

Arthropod communities on small mammals in Wrocław

canals in Sepolno, at flood banks and along canals in Swojczyce, on boggy meadows in Kowale and on meadows of the water supply system in Świątniki. The word "meadow" here means the area covered with grass, other herbaceous plants, reeds and single shrubs.

The investigation was carried out in 1980-1985. Mammals were caught into snap-traps in all the seasons of the year, from February to December. The animals caught were kept in linen sacks. After anesthetization with chloroform the arthropods were combed out from their fur; those attached to the skin were taken out under the binocular microscope.

In total 522 mammals belonging to 13 species were examined and 8560 arthropods, representing at least 115 species, collected from them (Table I with the data concerning ruin biotope after HAITLINGER 1986c added).

Results

Meadows and herbaceous plant areas

As many as 331 mammals belonging to 11 species were caught in meadows but only *Apodemus agrarius* and *Microtus arvalis* were fairly abundant and *Sorex araneus* frequent. Another species, *Talpa europaea*, also occurred frequently but due to difficulty of trapping only one specimen was examined.

Arthropod communities on Apodemus agrarius

A total of 135 A. agrarius were caught during the whole year except February and August in monthly samples of 2-35 specimens. The furnished 1185 arthropods belonging to at least 57 species (Tables II-IV). The group of host-dwelling parasites was the most frequent (67%) while the nest-dwelling species were the rarest (7%). The latter were represented by the greatest number of species (23) but usually by single specimens. The host-nest-dwelling group comprised also numerous species (22). The host-dwelling group was represented by 12 species, four of which were permanently attached to their host species. Within this community 2 eudominants were noted (more than 15% of the collection): Listrophorus brevipes and Hoplopleura affinis, 3 dominants (5.1-15): Laelaps pavlovskyi, Polyplax serrata, Glycyphagus hypuadei, 2 subdominants (2.1-5), 6 recedents (1.1-2.0), and 44 subrecedents (below 1.1%). Five dominant species formed as many as 70% of the community. The most numerous species, L. brevipes, was rarely recorded from A. agrarius. In the case described here the prevalence of this parasite was low. Among species characteristic of field mice, Myobia agraria (subrecedent) and Trichoecius widawaensis, were very rare. For the first time in Poland a coleopteran Leptinus testaceus was noted on A. agrarius.

Arthropod communities on Microtus arvalis

As many as 3305 arthropods representing 42 species (Tables II–IV) were found on 122 *M. arvalis* examined. The mammals were caught in all months of the year except February and August, in monthly samples of 3–44 specimens. The species representing the host-dwelling group had the greatest part in the community (63.6), those of the host-nest-dwelling group were less numerous

Table II. List of arthropods of host-dwelling group collected on mammals from meadows

Species	A. agrarius	A. tauricus	M. minutus	C. glareolus	M. arvalis	P. subterraneus	S. araneus	S. minutus	C. suaveolens	T. europaea	Total
Anoplura											
Polyplax serrata (Burmeister, 1839) Hoplopleura affinis (Burmeister, 1839) Hoplopleura acanthopus (Burmeister, 1839) Hoplopleura edentula Fahrenholz, 1916	120 233			17	420		1 1 1				121 233 421 18
Prostigmata											
Myobia agraria Gorissen et Lukoschus, 1982 Myobia micromydis Lukoschus et Driessen, 1970 Protomyobia onoi Jameson et Dusbabek, 1971 Protomyobia claparedei (Poppe, 1896) Eadiea brevihamata Haller, 1882 Amorphacarus elongatus (Poppe, 1896) Radfordia lemnina (Koch, 1841) Psorergates polonicus Haitlinger, 1986 Psorergates olawaensis Haitlinger, 1987	1		1	27	12	1 12	32 3 44	1	1	5	6 1 33 3 5 45 41 12
Astigmata											
Listrophorus brevipes Dubinina, 1968 Myocoptes japonensis (Radford, 1959) Myocoptes sp. Trichoecius tenax (Michael, 1889) Trichoecius widawaensis Haitlinger, 1986	288 1 8 1		1	2018 20	16 7 32	19 7 3	27				2369 39 8 38 1
Mesostigmata						٠					
Hyperlaelaps microti (Ewing, 1933) Laelaps pavlovskyi Zachvatkin, 1948 Laelaps hilaris Koch, 1836 Laelaps agilis Koch, 1836	1 125 9	1		5 1 1	141 1546		1	1			150 126 1557 11
Total	794	12	3	2082	2174	42	114	2	1	5	5229

(29.9), and the nest-dwelling group was the rarest (4.5%). The nest- and host-nest-dwelling groups were the richest in species comprising 19 and 16 species respectively, while the host-dwelling group was represented by only 9 species. No foreign species was found in the host-dwelling group on *M. arvalis*.

One eudominant was noted: Laelaps hilaris, 2 dominants: G. hypuadei and Hoplopleura acanthopus, 3 subdominants: Hyperlaelaps microti, Xenoryctes krameri and Acarus sp., 4 recedents and 32 subrecedents. The eudominant was much more numerous than other species, forming 46.9% of the community.

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Table III. List of arthropods of host-nest group collected on mammals from meadows

Species	A. agrarius	A. tauricus	A. sylvaticus	M. minutus	C. glareolus	M. arvalis	P. subterraneus	S. araneus	S. minutus	C. suaveolens	T. europaea	Total
Siphonaptera												
Ctenophthalmus agyrtes (Heller, 1896) Ctenophthalmus assimilis (Taschenberg, 1880) Megabothris turbidus (Rothschild, 1909) Palaeopsylla soricis (Dale, 1878) Hystrichopsylla talpae (Curtis, 1826) Leptopsylla segnis (Schönherr, 1811)	59 2 20 1 1		1		13 1 7	51 42 18	1 2	1 2 1 34				126 49 46 35 2
Prostigmata												
Neotrombicula autumnalis (Shaw, 1790) Neotrombicula talmiensis (Schluger, 1955) Neotrombicula sp. Hirsutiella zachvatkini (Schluger, 1948) Miyatrombicula muris (Oudemans, 1910) Cheladonta costulata (Willmann, 1952)	8 1 1 16		4		5 2 44 2	16 30 2	4	1		1		35 1 3 94 2 2
Astigmata												
Xenoryctes krameri (Michael, 1886) Glycyphagus hypuadei (Koch, 1841) Orycteroxenus soricis (Oudemans, 1915) Acarus nidicolous Griffiths, 1970 Labidophorus talpae Kramer, 1877	21 70 8 3	2	2 1 1 1	1	6 39	108 475 4 36	5 19	27 48 84	2 1 3	2	29	174 656 100 40 29
Ixodida												
Ixodes ricinus (L., 1746)	4					21		24				49
Mesostigmata												
Echinonyssus sunci (Wang, 1962) Echinonyssus isabellinus (Oudemans, 1913) Echinonyssus carnifex (Koch, 1839)	41 9		2		2	59	1	2			19	43 73 19 7
Echinonyssus soricis (Turk, 1945) Haemogamasus nidi (Michael, 1892) Haemogamasus horridus Michael, 1892 Haemogamasus hirsutus Berlese, 1889	20 2 1		1		2	65 6		1				87 2 11
Androlaelaps fahrenholzi (Berlese, 1911) Eulaelaps stabularis (Koch, 1836)	10 6	_			3	38 11		1			1	48 21
Total	305		13	1	127	982	32	233	6	4	49	1755

Table IV. List of arthropods of nest-dwelling group collected on mammals from meadows

Species	A. agrarius	A. tauricus	M. minutus	C. glareolus	M. arvalis	P. subterraneus	S. araneus	Total
Prostigmata								
Pygmephorus stammeri Krczal, 1959 Pygmephorus spinosus (Kramer, 1877) Pygmephorus erlangensis Krczal, 1959 Bakerdania sp. Eucheyletia flabellifera (Michael, 1878) Anystis baccarum (L. 1758) Erythraeus dubiosus Schweizer, 1951	1 5 5		1	4	3 9 1 1	2	1 2 1	1 8 1 23 2 1
Astigmata								
Acarus farris (Oudemans, 1905) Acarus sp. Acaridae Glycyphagidae Prowichmannia spinifera (Michael, 1901) Anoetus sapromyzarum Dufour, 1839	1 3 5 15				90 2		1 2 1	1 93 1 9 16 1
Cryptostigmata								
Oribatida	5				6			11
Mesostigmata								
Vulgarogamasus remberti (Oudemans, 1912) Vulgarogamasus kraepelini (Berlese, 1905) Amblygamasus septentrionalis (Oudemans, 1902) Porrhostaspis lunulata (Müller, 1859) Poecilochirus carabi G. et R. Canestrini, 1882 Pergamasus brevicornis Berlese, 1903 Pergamasus sp. Parasitidae Ameroseius corbiculus (Sowerby, 1806) Lasioseius confusus Evans, 1958 Lasioseius berlesei (Oudemans, 1938) Lasioseius sp. Neojordensia levis (Oudemans et Voigts, 1904) Proctolaelaps pygmaeus (Müller, 1860) Macrocheles matrius (Hull, 1925) Macrocheles glaber (Müller, 1860) Macrocheles sp. Eviphis ostrinus (Koch, 1836) Euryparasitus emarginatus (Koch, 1839) Zercon peltatus peltatus (Koch, 1836) Uropodida	1 2 1 2 1 1 3 2 1 16	1		1 1 1 21	3 1 4 1 14 1 2 3 2 4 1 1	1 2 7	1 1 4 2 3 2 1	7 3 1 7 1 3 34 1 5 4 2 1 50 2 3 1 1 5 1 3 3 3 1 3 3 1 3 3 1 3 1 3 1 3
Coleoptera								
Leptinus testaceus Müller, 1817	1							1
Total	86	1	1	32	149	13	24	306

Beyond this only 2 species were numerous: *H. acanthopus* and *G. hypuadei*. The community comprised species regarded as rare in the fauna of Poland, e.g. *Erythraeus dubiosus* (Gabryś and Haitlinger 1986) or only occasionally occurring on mammals: *Zercon peltatus* and *Anystis baccarum* (Haitlinger 1983, 1985).

Arthropod communities on Clethrionomys glareolus

Clethrionomys glareolus occurs rarely in non-wooded areas. They were found among reeds and in areas covered by herbaceous plants and single shrubs in the proximity of woods. Migratory specimens were caught most frequently, rarely reproducing ones or those staying for a longer time in meadows.

Only 18 specimens were caught mainly in the autumn (September-November, 1-13 per month). They furnished 2251 arthropods representing 29 species (Tables II-IV). The host-dwelling group made up 92.9% of the community with one species, *L. brevipes* (89.6% of the whole collection) responsible. The host-nest-dwelling group comprised 9 species including 4 species foreign for *C. glareolus*; the host-nest-dwelling group comprised 13 species and the nest-dwelling group 7 species. These atypical relations between numbers of species in particular groups indicated that *C. glareolus* was an unstable element in the biocenose examined.

One eudominant, L. brevipes was found, 3 recedents and 25 subrecedents. Great number of Hirsutiella zachvatkini collected (Tab. III) suggest that C. glareolus had frequent contacts with woods or shrubs. Among rare species Lasioseius confusus ought to be mentioned.

Arthropod communities on Sorex araneus

Forty one S. araneus examined from April to November (4–7 in various months) furnished as many as 371 arthropods belonging to 38 species (Tables II–IV). The most numerous were host-nest-dwelling species making up 60.9% of the collection. Those of the host-dwelling group formed 30.7, and the nest-dwelling species only 8.4%. The greatest number of species was noted in the nest-dwelling group — 15, the host-nest-dwelling group comprised 13, and the host-dwelling group — 10 species.

One eudominant, Orycteroxenus soricis (22.7%) was detected, 7 dominants: Glycyphagus hypuadei, Amorphacarus elongatus, Palaeopsylla soricis, Protomyobia onoi, Xenoryctes krameri, Listrophorus brevipes and Ixodes ricinus. Moreover, 1 recedent and 29 subrecedents were noted.

The great diversity of the arthropod fauna occurring on S. araneus is a result of great mobility of this host species but in most cases the collected arthropods were only occasional parasites of this mammal. In the host-dwelling group only 2 species out of 10 were typical parasites of S. araneus (A. elongatus and P. onoi). The frequent occurrence of I. ricinus and the greater number of these ticks harboured by S. araneus out of all mammals examined is worth noting.

Arthropod communities on other species of mammals

Nine more species of small mammals were caught in meadows (Tables II-IV). In this number Apodemus tauricus, A. sylvaticus and Crocidura suaveolens were foreign species in the biocenosis, Talpa europaea was common while Pitymys subterraneus and Sorex minutus were rare. Micromys minutus was rare and difficult to catch. Arvicola terrestris and Ondatra zibethicus were also present in meadows but no specimens were examined.

Pitymys subterraneus was the most numerous in the present investigation: 6 specimens caught in May (2), June (3) and November (2) furnished 87 arthropods representing 16 species. The most numerous, L. brevipes, G. hypuadei and Psorergates polonicus, participated in 57.5% of the community. Except monoxenic P. polonicus no other species was characteristic of P. subterraneus.

The arthropod fauna of small mammals in meadows was enriched by Laelaps agilis from Apodemus tauricus; Myobia micromydis from Micromys minutus; Psorergates olawaensis from Crocidura suaveolens; and Eadiea brevihamata, Echinonyssus carnifex and Labidophorus talpae from Talpa europaea. The arthropod fauna of the mole was the most diverse out of all mammals mentioned in this chapter.

General remarks on arthropod communities on mammals occurring in meadows

The meadow biocenose in urban agglomeration is inhibited by the richest fauna of small mammals (in both quantitative and qualitative meanings). This is also manifested by the arthropod communities represented by at least 85 species (7300 specimens collected). In this biocenose A. agrarius and M. arvalis are especially numerous; S. araneus and T. europaea common; other species less frequent. These less common hosts may be separated into 2 groups: (1) stable components of the biocenose such as M. minutus and P. subterraneus, and (2) temporary components and wandering individuals such as A. tauricus, A. sylvaticus and C. glareolus. Penetration of meadows by these mammals may be especially frequent at the line bordering on other types of biocenoses. Under favourable conditions some individuals may stay for longer time and even reproduce. In consequence they may have a bearing on the structure of arthropod communities occurring on other mammals in meadows. The richest fauna of arthropods was found on A. agrarius: the species collected from this host formed 67.1, those from M. arvalis -49.4, from S. araneus -44.7 and from C. glareolus - 34.1% of all the species collected.

The arthropod fauna of mammals occurring in meadows of low productivity or not exploited is rich, e.g. 48 species of arthropods were recorded from *M. arvalis* from the meadow-type railway embankment in Błotnica near Niemcza (HAITLINGER 1981). This number is only slightly higher than that found in meadows of the water supply area in Wrocław. The arthropod fauna on *S. araneus* in Błotnica was richer (58 species) than that found on this host in

Wrocław (38 species), however, this result may be skewed due to the greater number of *S. araneus* examined from Błotnica (HAITLINGER 1984).

The mean intensity of infestation of *C. glareolus* by arthropods — 125.1 (due to massive incidence of *L. brevipes*) is surprisingly high and shows no correspondence with data in the literature. The same index for *M. arvalis* (27.1) is relatively high, even higher than that noted in fields and pasture, but almost two times lower than in Błotnica (Haitlinger 1981) and higher than that in areas of ruins in Wrocław (19.1 — after Haitlinger 1986c). The above enumeration shows that arthropods occurring on *M. arvalis* and in its nests find good conditions for life in humid meadows of the Wrocław agglomeration. The mean intensity of infestation of *S. araneus* (9.0) and *A. agrarius* (8.8) are also high.

Table V. List of arthropods of host-dwelling group collected on mammals from allotment gardens

Species	A. agrarius	A. sylvaticus	M. musculus	M. arvalis	C. glareolus	Total
Anoplura						
Polyplax serrata (Burmeister, 1839)	11					11
Hoplopleura acanthopus (Burmeister, 1839) Hoplopleura edentula Fahrenholz, 1916		1			3	1 3
Hoplopleura affinis (Burmeister, 1839)	1				7	1
Prostigmata						
Myobia agraria Gorissen et Lukoschus, 1982	1					1
Myobia multivaga Poppe, 1909		2 1				2 1
Radfordia lancearia (Poppe, 1909) Radfordia lemnina (Koch, 1841)		1		1		1
Psorergates muricola Fain, 1961			30	-		30
Astigmata						
Trichoecius widawaensis Haitlinger, 1986	2					2
Trichoecius tenax (Michael, 1889)	3	1		5		9
Myocoptes japonensis (Radford, 1955)				4	1	5
Myocoptes muscalinus (Koch, 1844)			1			1
Mesostigmata						
Laelaps pavlovskyi Zachvatkin, 1948	4					4
Laelaps agilis Koch, 1836		24		1		25
Laelaps hilaris Koch, 1836		•		13		13 3
Hyperlaelaps microti (Ewing, 1933)				. 3		• 3
Total	22	29	. 31	27	4	113

Table VI. List of arthropods of host-nest- and nest-dwelling groups collected on mammals from allotment gardens

Species	A. agrarius	4. sylvaticus	M. musculus	M. arvalis	C. glareolus	Total
Host-nest-dwelling group	`			7		
Siphonaptera				,		
Ctenophthalmus agyrtes (Heller, 1896)	4	4		1	1	10
Ctenophthalmus assimilis (Taschenberg, 1880) Megabothris turbidus (Rothschild, 1909)	1	2		1 2	•	1 5
Prostigmata						
Hirsutiella zachvatkini (Schluger, 1948) Neotrombicula autumnalis (Shaw, 1790)	1	3		10	1	14 1
Astigmata						
Glycyphagus hypuadei (Koch, 1841) Xenoryctes krameri (Michael, 1886)	3 1			1		3 2
Mesostigmata						
Echinonyssus sunci (Wang, 1962) Echinonyssus isabellinus (Oudemans, 1913) Haemogamasus nidi (Michael, 1892) Haemogamasus hirsutus Berlese, 1889	101 1 3	2 15		5		103 21 3
Ealaelaps stabularis (Koch, 1836) Androlaelaps fahrenholzi (Berlese, 1911)	2	1 3		3	3	7
Nest-dwelling group					•	
Prostigmata						
Bakerdania sp. Pygmephorus spinosus (Kramer, 1877) Prowichmannia spinifera (Michael, 1901)	1	1		1		2 1 1
Astigmata						
Glycyphagidae Acaridae Anoetidae	2 2 1	1		3		6 2 1
Mesostigmata						
Proctolaelaps pygmaeus (Müller, 1860) Typhlodromus sp.	12	5 2		7		24 2
Vulgarogamasus remberti (Oudemans, 1912) Eugamasus berlesei Willmann, 1935 Parasitidae	1 1 1	1				2 1 1
Macrocheles glaber (Müller, 1860) Alliphis siculus (Oudemans, 1905)		1 4	1	4		1
Total	139	46	1	41	5	232

Allotment gardens

Allotment gardens occupy a large area in the Wrocław agglomeration. Living conditions of small mammals depend on the location of these gardens. These situated in the centre and separated from other green areas have probably a poor fauna, however, the investigation has not been carried out in such territories. In the present investigation only the material from gardens situated at the periphery of the city, in close contact with fields, meadows and shrubs, was examined. Roadside shrubs especially allow penetration of gardens by small mammals in spring and autumn and give them refuge in winter. In late spring and autumn, sometimes in winter, small mammals are stable residents in gardens. However, possibilities of trapping were limited and the material collected was very small. The most numerous in this collection were A. agrarius, M. arvalis and A. sylvaticus.

Arthropod communities on A. agrarius

Twelve A. agrarius examined in April (1), September (10) and October (1) harboured as many as 161 arthropods representing 24 species (Tables V-VI). Only one eudominant, Echinonyssus sunci, was noted and 2 dominants, Polyplax serrata and Proctolaelaps pygmaeus. Other species were represented by single individuals. The dominant species are not typical parasites of A. agrarius, especially P. pygmaeus. The number of 101 E. sunci collected from gardens is higher than the whole collection of this species from other biotopes. The high number of arthropod species occurring on A. agrarius indicates great mobility of field mice and frequent contacts with shrubs. Among rare species Trichoecius widawaensis was noted and Eugamasus berlesei, rarely recorded from mammals.

Arthropod communities on M. arvalis

From 12 M. arvalis examined in September (10) and October (2) 68 arthropods belonging to 18 species were collected (Tables V-VI). The most numerous were Laelaps hilaris and Hirsutiella zachvatkini. The small number of arthropod species found on M. arvalis is a result of the rare penetration of adjacent areas by this rodent. Sometimes, however, these mammals wander to areas covered by shrubs as is shown by presence of H. zachvatkini on them. Among rare species Alliphis siculus ought to be noted.

Arthropod communities on A. sylvaticus

At present the species is rare in the territory of Wrocław. Most specimens were caught in gardens. Seven specimens examined in June (1), September (2) and October (4) furnished 74 arthropods representing 20 species (Tables V-VI). Dominant species: Laelaps agilis and Echinonyssus isabellinus, rare: Myobia multivaga and Radfordia lancearia.

A small number of arthropods was also collected from 2 *C. glareolus* and 1 *M. musculus* (Tab. VI). *Psorergates muricola* found on *M. musculus* is a new species record in the fauna of Poland (HAITLINGER 1987).

Despite the poor material collected from allotment gardens it may be stated that mammals inhabiting these areas at least during some time bear a fairly diverse fauna of arthropods. It is supposed that the species composition of this fauna depends on the character of neighbouring areas — the more diverse are neighbouring territories the richer the fauna of arthropods which occurs on small mammals. The group of nest-dwelling arthropods comprises species occurring usually in compost, dunghills etc. and from these habitats these arthropods wander to mammals, e.g. A. siculus.

Municipal and house gardens

House gardens in urban agglomeration occupy great area but are difficult to investigate. Only two trappings were performed in Wrocław-Biskupin. Municipal gardens, corresponding to house gardens (especially the Botanic Gardens), are much easier to investigate. The ZOO gardens, although maintained in less good order due to great number of buildings and many people walking here and there correspond to conditions found in house gardens. The present material was collected mainly in ZOO. Only one species, A. agrarius, was frequent (in ZOO and house gardens) while R. norvegicus (in ZOO) and M. musculus (in Botanic Gardens) were less numerous. All gardens investigated are situated in the city centre or near to it.

Arthropod communities A. agrarius

Thirty four A. agrarius examined in April (6), May (7), June (1) and November (17) furnished 162 arthropods representing 30 species (Tables VII–VIII). The material comprised 2 eudominants: H. affinis and L. pavlovskyi, and 4 subdominants. The most numerous P. serrata participated only in 19.1% of the collection. Among species rarely noted on mammals, Pygmephorus stammeri, Hypoaspis sardoa, H. aculeifer and Geholaspis longispinosus are recorded.

Arthropod communities on R. norvegicus

The rat is very common in the whole city but difficult to catch. For this reason all 12 rats examined were obtained only from ZOO in May (2) and December (10). They furnished 103 arthropods representing 12 species (Tables VII-VIII). The most numerous, *Polyplax spinulosa* participated in 60.2% of the community. *Hypoaspis lubrica*, rarely recorded from mammals, was also numerous (11.7%) as well as *Notoedres muris* (10.7%). For the first time *H. lubrica*, *Macrocheles glaber* and *P. pygmaeus* were noted on *R. norvegicus* in Poland. In qualitative and quantitative senses the collection of arthropods from *R. norvegicus* was poor.

Table VII. List of arthropods of host- and host-nest-dwelling groups collected on mammals from municipal gardens

municipal garde	ns					
Species	A. agrarius	A. tauricus	M. musculus	R. norvegicus	C. glareolus	Total
Host-dwelling group						
Anoplura						
Polyplax serrata (Burmeister, 1839) Polyplax spinulosa (Burmeister, 1839) Hoplopleura affinis (Burmeister, 1839)	31 24			62		31 62 24
Prostigmata						
Myobia agraria Gorissen et Lukoschus, 1982 Myobia musculi (Schrank, 1781) Psorergates apodemi Fain, Lukoschus et Hallmann,1966 Radfordia ensifera (Poppe, 1896)	4	20	1 6	2		5 6 20 2
Astigmata						
Myocoptes musculinus (Koch, 1844) Notoedres muris (Megnin, 1880)			95	11		95 11
Mesostigmata						
Laelaps pavlovskyi Zachvatkin, 1948	14		1			15
Host-nest-dwelling group						
Siphonaptera	*5					
Ctenophthalmus agyrtes (Heller, 1896) Megabothris turbidus (Rothschild, 1909) Nosopsyllus fasciatus (Bosc, 1800) Doratopsylla dasycnema (Rothschild, 1897)	25 2 1	1	1	1		27 2 1 1
Astigmata						
Xenoryctes krameri (Michael, 1886) Labidophorus talpae Kramer, 1877	3		2			3 2
Mesostigmata						
Echinonyssus sunci (Wang, 1962) Echinonyssus latiscutatus (de Meillon et Lavoipierre, 1944)	4	2	3			6
Androlaelaps fahrenholzi (Berlese, 1911) Eulaelaps stabularis (Koch, 1836) Haemogamasus nidi (Michael, 1892) Haemogamasus hirsutus Berlese, 1889	1 1 3 2	- 3	1 1		1	3 1 2 8 2
Ixodida						
Ixodes ricinus (L., 1746)			1			1
Total	115	26	112	76	1	330

Table VIII. List of arthropods of nest-dwelling group collected on mammals from municipal gardens

Species	A. agrarius	A. tauricus	M. musculus	R. norvegicus	C. glareolus	Total
Prostigmata						
Pygmephorus stammeri Krczal, 1959 Pygmephorus spinosus (Kramer, 1877) Bakerdania sp. Cheyletus sp.	1 1 4			1	1	1 2 4 1
Astigmata						
Prowichmannia spinifera (Michael, 1901) Glycyphagidae Acarus sp.	3		1	3		1 7 3
Cryptostigmata						
Oribatida	8					8
Mesostigmata						
Pergamasus crassipes (L. 1758) Pergamasus sp. Porrhostaspis lunulata (Müller, 1859) Parasitidae Geholaspis longispinosus (Kramer, 1876)	1 3 2 11 2	3	4		1	1 6 2 17 3
Macrocheles glaber (Müller, 1860) Macrocheles sp. Hypoaspis sardoa (Berlese, 1911) Hypoaspis aculeifer (Canestrini, 1884)	1 1 2			4		4 1 1 2
Hypoaspis claviger (Berlese, 1883) Hypoaspis lubrica Oudemans et Voigts, 1904 Androlaelaps fenilis (Megnin, 1876) Proctolaelaps pygmaeus (Müller, 1860)			4 2 12	12	•	4 12 2 14
Typhlodromus sp. Amblyseius sp. Cyrtolaelaps mucronatus (G. et R. Canestrini, 1881)	1			_	1 1	1 1 2
Ameroseius sp. Uropodida Euryparasitus emarginatus (Koch, 1839)	2 3			1		1 3 3
Total	47	4	25	27	4	107

Arthropod communities on M. musculus

From 8 mice examined in May (2), June (2) and August (4) 137 arthropods belonging to 17 species were collected (Tables VII – VIII). Myocoptes musculinus was dominant in the community (69.3%), while Echinonyssus latiscutatus and Hypoaspis claviger rare. Finding of Labidophorus talpae indicates frequent contacts of mice with moles. Geholaspis longispinosus, Myobia agraria, L. pavlovskyi, Androlaelaps fenilis and Prowichmannia spinifera are for the first time recorded on mice. Relatively great number of arthropod species occurring on M. musculus shows that this host species is frequently in contacts with other habitats.

The fauna of arthropods occurring on small mammals inhabiting house and city gardens is poor in comparison with that from meadows. Synantropic mice and rats (M. musculus and R. norvegicus) commonly inhabit these biotopes while other species can persist there for only a short time — their nests and burrows are destroyed during cultivation of the soil.

Railway embankments

Railway embankments occupy a great area in Wrocław agglomeration being situated at the periphery as well as in the centre. Most frequently they are inhabited by mammals permanently living in this biotope, or embankments may serve as migratory routes for some individuals. In many places the embankments are in contact with allotment gardens, areas of ruins, meadows and etc. that allow the exchange of mammals and frequent contacts between inhabitants of various biotopes. Due to these facts the arthropod fauna of small mammals living on the embankments was treated distinctly in the present investigation.

The research was carried out on the embankment covered with grass, other plants and blackberry shrubs. This part of the embankment was in contact with a factory the territory of which ressembled a ruin biotope. Mammals, represented by 7 species, furnished 443 arthropods belonging to at least 48 species. The most frequent was A. agrarius while M. musculus and M. arvalis were common. Beside areas of ruins the embankment was the only biotope in which C. suaveolens occurred permanently (it was only an occasional visitor in meadows).

Arthropod communities on A. agrarius

As many as 193 arthropods representing 31 species were collected from 39 A. agrarius examined from April to November in monthly samples of 2–7 individuals (Tables IX–X). Proportionally the greatest part of the collection constituted arthropods representing the host-nest-dwelling group (53.9), less numerous were those of the host-dwelling group (25.3) and the nest-dwelling group (20.8%). One eudominant, E. sunci, was noted (17.1%), 5 dominants: C. agyrtes, P. serrata, A. fahrenholzi, H. affinis and P. pygmaeus, and 4 subdominants.

Two facts are worth mentioning: dominance of *H. sunci* (but not so high as in allotment gardens) and presence of a non-parasitic species, *P. pygmaeus*. Among rare species the following ones were noted: *Criniscansor apodemi* (new record in the fauna of Poland — HAITLINGER 1987), *Hypoaspis karawaiewi* (first record from mammals) and *Neotrombicula japonica*.

Arthropod communities on M. arvalis

Out of 18 M. arvalis examined in May (4), July (1) and September to November (1-4) as many as 112 arthropods belonging to 21 species were collected (Tables IX-X). The most numerous were arthropods of the host-nest-dwelling group (52.7) and the host-dwelling group (40.2%). One eudominant was distinguished: L. hilaris, and 4 dominants: Haemogamasus nidi, Ctenophthalmus assimilis, A. fahrenholzi and Radfordia lemnina. The occurrence of a mallophagan species Myrsidella consimilis* (Myrsidea) (first record from mammals), as well as the rather surprising finding of N. japonica and H. zachvatkini in an urban agglomeration are noted.

Arthropod communities on M. musculus

Mice commonly occurred on the embankment, probably they wandered from the neighbouring factory premises. Fifteen mice examined in May-June and September-November (2–5 specimens per-month) gave only 40 arthropods belonging to 13 species (Tables IX-X). M. musculinus was the only species numerous in the collection.

Arthropod communities on other species of mammals

Seven C. suaveolens examined in June (3), July (2) and November (2) gave 40 arthropods belonging to 12 species including numerous representatives of Acaridae (non identified) and X. krameri.

Five S. araneus examined in April (2) and August (3) furnished 52 arthropods representing 13 species with the most numerous Echinonyssus soricis, Palaeopsylla soricis and Orycteroxenus soricis were fairly frequent.

Very poor fauna of arthropods was noted on 1 A. sylvaticus and 2 C. glareolus examined (Tables IX-X).

In various parts of embankments the fauna of arthropods occurring on mammals is different depending on the character of the ground and plants growing there. Parts of the embankment under investigation ressembled ruin environment (HAITLINGER 1986c). Differences in the arthropod fauna of the most common A. agrarius in both these biotopes were not great. However in mice from ruin areas 40 species of arthropods were recorded while only 3 on the embankment, similarly as in municipal and allotment gardens. Only in meadows the number of arthropod species was higher. This suggests that the embankments enable transfer and exchange of arthropods between mammals from various biotopes being in contact with them.

^{*} Determined by J. Złotorzycka.

Table IX. List of host- and host-nest-dwelling groups collected on mammals from railway embankment

Species	A. agrarius	A. sylvaticus	M. musculus	M. arvalis	C. glareolus	S. araneus	C. suaveolens	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Host-dwelling group								
Anoplura								
Polyplax serrata (Burmeister, 1839) Hoplopleura affinis (Burmeister, 1839)	20 16		2					22 16
Prostigmata								
Myobia agraria Gorissen et Lukoschus, 1982 Myobia musculi (Schrank, 1781) Radfordia lemnina (Koch, 1841)	1		9	7				1 10 7
Astigmata								
Criniscansor apodemi Fain, Munting et Lukoschus, 1969 Myocoptes japonensis Radford, 1955 Myocoptes musculinus (Koch, 1844) Trichoecius tenax (Michael, 1889) Listrophorus sp.	2		15	5			3 2	2 5 15 8 2
Mesostigmata								
Laelaps pavlovskyi Zachvatkin, 1948 Laelaps hilaris Koch, 1836 Hyperlaelaps microti (Ewing, 1933)	9		1	25 2				9 26 2
Mallophaga								
Myrsidea (Myrsidella) consimilis (Piaget, 1880)				1				1
Host-nest-dwelling group								
Siphonaptera								
Ctenophthalmus agyrtes (Heller, 1896) Ctenophthalmus assimilis (Taschenberg, 1880) Megabothris turbidus (Rothschild, 1909) Hystrichopsylla talpae (Curtis, 1826) Palaeopsylla soricis (Dale, 1878)	27 5 3 1	1	2 1 2	5 10 3	1 1 1	1 1	1	38 19 9 1 12
Prostigmata								
Neotrombicula japonica (Tanaka, Kaiwa, Teramura et Kagaya, 1930) Hirsutiella zachvatkini (Schluger, 1948)	2			1				3 1
Astigmata								
Glycyphagus hypuadei (Koch, 1841)	2			4		1		7

Anthropod communities on small mammals in Wrocław

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Xenoryctes krameri (Michael, 1886)	1		1	3			9	14
Orycteroxenus soricis (Oudemans, 1915)						9		. 9
Mesostigmata								
Echinonyssus sunci (Wang, 1962)	33							33
Echinonyssus isabellinus (Oudemans, 1913)				5	2			7
Echinonyssus soricis (Turk, 1945)						17	1	18
Haemogamasus nidi (Michael, 1892)	8			16		1		25
Androlaelaps fahrenholzi (Berlese, 1911)	19		1	8				28
Eulaelaps stabularis (Koch, 1836)	3			3		1	1	8
Total	153	1	34	104	5	43	18	358

Table X. List of arthropods of nest-dwelling group collected on mammals from railway embankment

Species	A. agrarius	M. musculus	M. arvalis	C. glareolus	S. araneus	C. suaveolens	Total
Prostigmata							
Pygmephorus spinosus Kramer, 1877	4						10
Bakerdania sp.	6	2	1			1	10
Astigmata							
Prowichmannia spinifera (Michael, 1901)	2			1	5		8
Acarus sp.	1				1		2
Acaridae					100	15	15
Glycyphagidae	2				1		3
Cryptostigmata							
Oribatida	3			1		1	5
Mesostigmata							
Hypoaspis sardoa (Berlese, 1911)	1						1
Hypoaspis karawaiewi (Berlese, 1903)	1						1
Hypoaspis claviger (Berlese, 1883)	3						3
Porrhostaspis lunulata Müller, 1859	1	1				1	3
Vulgarogamasus remberti (Oudemans, 1912)	2		4				6
Pergamasus sp.	•			1			4
Parasitidae	2	1			1		4
Geholaspis longispinosus (Kramer, 1876)		•	•		1	1	16
Proctolaelaps pygmaeus (Müller, 1859)	11	2	2			1	10
Alliphis siculus (Oudemans, 1905)	1		1				1
Cyrtolaelaps mucronatus (G. et R. Canestrini, 1881)			1				
Total	40	6	8	3	9	19	85

Buildings

Trapping was performed at two sites: in garrets and cellars of houses in the city centre and in a warehouse at the periphery (Wrocław–Złotniki). Fourteen mice examined from July to December (1–5 per month) gave 36 arthropods representing 5 species. The most numerous M. musculi (18 specimens) participated in 50% of the community. Undetermined adult representatives of Glycyphagidae were also numerous (15 specimens). Single Echinonyssus latiscutatus, M. musculinus and Cheyletus eruditus were also collected. The last mentioned species has been only occasionally recorded from mammals (HAITLINGER 1983).

Domestice mice, living in buildings in the city centre and having no contacts with other biotopes favouring accession of arthropods of the nest-dwelling and host-nest-dwelling and host-nest-dwelling groups, show a very poor fauna of arthropods limited to host-dwelling and non parasitic species occasionally occurring on mammals. The last mentioned arthropods are especially frequent on mice living in were- and farmhouses. Some mice living in buildings are free of parasites in contrast to those from laboratory breeds which may be abundantly infested. E.g. mass appearance of M. musculinus was recorded by Klausa and Złotorzycka 1979.

Conclusions

The above described results of investigation as well as earlier publications (HAITLINGER 1986, 1987) gave the basis for the following conclusions:

- 1. The most diverse fauna of mammals in an urban agglomeration, comparable to that from outside the city, occurs in meadows. The arthropod communities found on them may be regarded as representative for the zone of meadows in the valley of Odra and its tributaries (Lower Silesia, Opole distr.).
- 2. The mammals inhabiting meadows bore the highest number of arthropods 85 species, similarly to these from Babia Góra National Park (83 species HAITLINGER in press). This is 42 species more than in alloment gardens, 35 more than in municipal gardens, 37 more than in railway embankments and 16 species more than in areas of ruins. The wide range of the number of mammals examined in particular biotopes made statistical verification of the differences observed impossible. It seems that these differences result from (1) various degrees of human interference in the environment (e.g. nests and burrows in meadows not destroyed), (2) a different quantity of mammalian hosts living in a particular biotope, and (3) the size of the area of each biotope examined and the degree of its differentiation (floristic, aquatic and soil conditions).
- 3. The highest number of nest-dwelling species was observed on mammals inhabiting meadows (36 species) and on those from areas of ruins (32 species HAITLINGER 1986 c), municipal gardens (27) and railway embankments (18). The lowest number of species of this group occurred on mammals from allotment gardens (13).

- 4. Arthropods of epidemiological importance, such as *I. ricinus* and to lower degree *N. autumnalis* and *H. zachvatkini*, are concentrated mainly in meadows at the periphery of the city, but occasionally they migrate to the city centre, e.g. single specimens of *I. ricinus* were noted in ZOO and in areas of ruins. *I. ricinus* and *N. autumnalis* were observed in great numbers in avenues in the centre of Praha (ČERNY and DANIEL 1980, 1985).
- 5. The richest fauna of arthropods in non-wooded areas (together with areas of ruins HAITLINGER 1986c) occurs on A. agrarius (77 species) and M. arvalis (60 species). Forty five species were recorded from S. araneus, 36 from C. glareolus, 35 from M. musculus, 31 from C. suaveolens and 12 from R. norvegicus. These data indicate also that the fauna of arthropods depends on the numbers of mammalian hosts, diversity of their biotopes and size of the inhabited area. The rat, living mainly in buildings, has a poor fauna of arthropods. Similarly the fauna of arthropods on mammals leading a specific mode on life (e.g. C. suaveolens) is also poor.
- 6. The highest mean intensity of infestation was noted on *C. glareolus* (77.5 counted together with the data from areas of ruins), a lower intensity was observed on *C. suaveolens* (23.8) and *M. arvalis* (19.6). The lowest indices were noted on *A. agrarius* (8.9), *R. norvegicus* (8.4), *S. araneus* (8.3) and *M. musculus* (7.2). High infestation of *C. glareolus* and *C. suaveolens* was a result of massive incidence of *L brevipes* and *P. reclinata* (in areas of ruins HAITLINGER 1986c) of the host-dwelling group. Such phenomena have been rarely recorded.
- 7. Arthropod communities on individual hosts of the same species inhabiting various biotopes differ in quantitative and qualitative character, e.g. 37 species were noted an A. agrarius from meadows while 39 from areas of ruins, 31 from embankments, 30 from municipal gardens and 24 from allotment gardens.
- 8. The arthropod fauna of small mammals in an urban agglomeration is very rich; it comprises many common but also rare species. Criniscansor apodemi, Myobia multivaga, Psorergates muricola (HAITLINGER 1987) and Erythraeus dubiosus (Gabryś and HAITLINGER 1986) are new records in Poland while Trichoecius widawaensis, Psorergates polonicus and P. olawaensis (HAITLINGER 1986a,b. 1987b) are new to science.

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Zgrupowania stawonogów występujące na drobnych ssakach obszarów bezleśnych aglomeracji miejskiej Wrocławia

Streszczenie

Na obszarach bezleśnych aglomeracji Wrocławia stwierdzono obecność 13 gatunków ssaków. Z 522 złowionych osobników uzyskano 8 560 stawonogów należących do 115 gatunków. Najbogatszą faunę stawonogów (85 gatunków) stwierdzono na miejskich łąkach, najuboższą w zabudowaniach. Na peryferiach oraz nielicznie w śródmieściu przebywają gatunki mające znaczenie sanitarno-epidemiologiczne: Ixodes ricinus (ZOO i obszary ruderalne), Hirsutiella zachvatkini i Neotrombicula autumnalis.

Najbogatszą faunę stawonogów na obszarach bezleśnych posiadają Apodemus agrarius – 77 gatunków (1701 stawonogów), Microtus arvalis – 60 (3485 stawonogów) i Sorex araneus 45 gatunków (423 stawonogi). Fauna stawonogów ssaków synantropijnych oraz o bardzo określonych wymaganiach ekologicznych jest uboga (Rattus norvegicus, Crocidura suaveolens).

Najwyższą średnią intensywność zarażenia stwierdzono u Clethrionomys glareolus — 77,5 (łącznie z obszarem ruderalnym — HAITLINGER 1986), najmniejszą u Mus musculus — 7,2 i S. araneus — 8,3.

Zgrupowania stawonogów u osobników tego samego gatunku zamieszkujących różne środowiska różnią się ilościowo i jakościowo. Np. u *A. agrarius* z łąk stwierdzono 57 gatunków (1185 stawonogów), na terenie ruderalnym 39 (741 stawonogi) a w ogródkach działkowych 24 gatunki stawonogów (161 stawonogów).

Fauna stawonogów drobnych ssaków aglomeracji Wrocławia jest bardzo bogata. Wchodzą w jej skład gatunki bardzo rzadkie. W trakcie badań stwierdzono 4 gatunki nowe dla fauny Polski: Criniscansor apodemi, Myobia multivaga, Psorera ates muricola i Erythraeus dubiosus oraz 3 nowe dla wiedzy: Trichoecius widawaensis, Psorergates polonicus i P. olawaensis.