РОССИЙСКАЯ АКАДЕМИЯ НАУК
Южный научный центр

RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
Southern Scientific Centre

Кавказский Энтомологический Бюллетень

CAUCASIAN ENTOMOLOGICAL BULLETIN

Том 22. Вып. 2
Vol. 22. Iss. 2



Ростов-на-Дону
2026

The peacock fly *Callopistromyia annulipes* (Macquart, 1855) (Diptera: Ulidiidae) in Rostov Region – the first record in Russia

© R.V. Romanchuk, L.G. Shidlovskaya, V.G. Slyunkova

D.I. Ivanovsky Academy of Biology and Medicine of Southern Federal University, Stachki Avenue, 194/1, Rostov-on-Don 344090 Russia. E-mail: roma.romanchuk.95@bk.ru

Abstract. *Callopistromyia annulipes* (Macquart, 1855) (Diptera: Ulidiidae), an invasive North American fly species rapidly expanding its range in Europe, is recorded in Russia for the first time. A single specimen was observed and photographed on 31 July 2026 in Rostov-on-Don (a public garden on Gaydar Street) in its characteristic posture, with wings vertically raised and directed forward. The nearest confirmed locality of the species is in Kharkov Region in Ukraine (about 400 km in a straight line). Thus, this record significantly extends the known range of the species eastwards and confirms further spread of *C. annulipes* in Eastern Europe. The possible routes of invasion and prospects for regional expansion are discussed. It is noted that the species has no economic importance.

Key words: Diptera, Ulidiidae, *Callopistromyia annulipes*, first record, Rostov Region, Russia.

Муха-павлин *Callopistromyia annulipes* (Macquart, 1855) (Diptera: Ulidiidae) в Ростовской области – первая находка в России

© Р.В. Романчук, Л.Г. Шидловская, В.Г. Слюнькова

Академия биологии и медицины им. Д.И. Ивановского Южного федерального университета, пр. Стачки, 194/1, Ростов-на-Дону 344090 Россия. E-mail: roma.romanchuk.95@bk.ru

Резюме. Впервые для России приводится *Callopistromyia annulipes* (Macquart, 1855) (Diptera: Ulidiidae) – инвазивный североамериканский вид мух, ареал которого стремительно расширяется в Европе. Единственный экземпляр отмечен и сфотографирован 31.07.2026 в Ростове-на-Дону (сквер на улице Гайдара) в характерной позе: с вертикально поднятыми и направленными вперед крыльями. Ближайшее подтвержденное местонахождение вида находится в Харьковской области Украины (около 400 км по прямой). Таким образом, находка значительно расширяет известный ареал вида на восток и подтверждает дальнейшее расселение *C. annulipes* в Восточной Европе. Обсуждаются возможные пути инвазии и перспективы распространения в регионе. Вид не имеет хозяйственного значения.

Ключевые слова: Diptera, Ulidiidae, *Callopistromyia annulipes*, первая находка, Ростовская область, Россия.

Callopistromyia annulipes (Macquart, 1855) is a small ulidiid fly native to North America. In Europe, it represents an accidental introduction, with established records from the Netherlands, Germany, Poland, Belgium, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, France, Italy, San Marino, Slovenia, Croatia, Romania and Ukraine [Kasalo et al., 2021]. The nearest known locality to the Russian territory is Kharkov, Ukraine [*Callopistromyia*..., 2026].

Adults of both sexes exhibit a characteristic wing display, carrying the wings vertically and rostrally. The first specimen in Russia was registered and documented photographically while performing this display. Photographs were taken *in situ* without disturbing the insect. Species identification of the adult was performed following the diagnostic characters provided by Kasalo et al. [2021]. Voucher specimens were not collected; the record is based solely on photographic evidence.

Subfamily Otitinae Aldrich, 1932
Tribe Myennidini Kameneva et Korneyev, 2006
Genus *Callopistromyia* Hendel, 1907
Callopistromyia annulipes (Macquart, 1855)
(Fig. 1)

Registered specimen. 1 ex., Russia, Rostov-on-Don, Gaydar Street, small park, 47°13′50.87″N / 39°40′44.67″E,.07.2026 (photo by V.S. Anpilogov, det. R.V. Romanchuk).

Discussion. *Callopistromyia annulipes* is an invasive North American species that has been rapidly expanding its range in Europe since its first registration in Switzerland in 2007 [Merz, 2007]. Over the past few years, it has been recorded in most Central and Eastern European countries [Kasalo et al., 2021], making its appearance in Russia a predictable continuation of its eastward expansion.



Fig. 1. A specimen of *Callopistromyia annulipes* in its characteristic posture (photo by V.S. Anpilogov).

Рис. 1. Особь *Callopistromyia annulipes* в характерной позе (фото В.С. Анпилогова).

Short Communication / Краткое сообщение
DOI: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.24282412

Based on data from citizen science platforms iNaturalist [*Callopistromyia*..., 2026], the most likely donor region in this case is Kharkov Region, Ukraine. The straight-line distance between Kharkov and Rostov-on-Don is approximately 400 km, a distance that appears to be readily surmountable for a species that has successfully dispersed over similar distances across Europe within a few years. Moreover, the species could be introduced via vehicles or traded goods.

Given the nearest recorded localities and the observed dispersal dynamics, the spread of *C. annulipes* into the North Caucasus, Voronezh Region, and other areas of the Chernozem region appear to be the most plausible scenario. Further spread may affect the Central, Volga and Volga-Vyatka regions of European Russia. The occurrence of the species in Crimea and along the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus also seems highly probable. Note that the species is of no economic importance, since its larvae feed on the frass (wood dust) of xylophagous insects in living Robinia pseudoacacia L., 1753 trees [Steyskal, 1979].

Acknowledgements

The authors are grateful to V.S. Anpilogov (Rostov-on-Don, Russia) for his attentiveness, curiosity and the provided photograph of *Callopistromyia annulipes*. The authors are grateful to DSc O.G. Ovtshinnikova (Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St Petersburg, Russia) and anonymous reviewer for helpful comments and corrections.

References

Callopistromyia annulipes. 2026. iNaturalist. Available at: https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/377181586 (last updated 24 June 2026).

Kasalo N., Topić M., Tarandek A. 2021. The first record of the peacock fly *Callopistromyia annulipes* Macquart, 1855 (Diptera: Ulidiidae) in Croatia revealed by social media. *Natura Croatica*. 30(2): 523–528. DOI: 10.20302/NC.2021.30.36

Merz B. 2007. *Callopistromyia annulipes* (Macquart, 1855), a Nearctic species of Ulidiidae (Diptera), new for the Palaearctic Region. *Studia dipterologica*. 14(1): 161–165.

Steyskal G.C. 1979. Biological, anatomical, and distributional notes on the genus *Callopistromyia* Hendel (Diptera: Otitidae). *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington.* 81(3): 450–455.

Received / Поступила: 15.08.2026
Accepted / Принята: 23.10.2026
Published online / Опубликована онлайн: 17.11.2026