

Tertiary Avian Localities of Slovakia

J. MLÍKOVSKÝ

Institute of Geology and Paleontology, Charles University,
Albertov 6, 128 43 Praha 2, Czech Republic;
and Institute of Ecology, Czech Academy of Sciences,
Květná 8, 603 65 Brno, Czech Republic.

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Abstract: Tertiary birds were found only in one middle Miocene and five Pliocene localities of Slovakia thus far. None of them yielded significant numbers of avian bones.

Key-words: Aves, Tertiary, Miocene, Pliocene, Slovakia.

INTRODUCTION

First Tertiary birds from the territory of Slovakia were excavated in the 1940s by Austrian paleontologist Helmut Zapfe in the late Miocene locality Neudorf (now Děvínská Nová Ves) near Bratislava. During the last two decades, a few Pliocene localities were excavated by Czech paleontologists Oldřich Fejfar, Ivan Horáček, and the present writer, and the Zapfe's locality was further investigated by a crew from the Moravian Museum (see Švec 1986). Previous review of the Tertiary localities of Slovakia was given by Mlíkovský (1992).

The stratigraphy applied in the present paper follows Mein (1990). Museum acronyms used are as follows:

- FP: Oldřich Fejfar (private collection), Praha, Czech Republic
HP: J. Horáček (private collection), Praha, Czech Republic
MMB: Anthropos Institute, Moravian Museum, Brno, Czech Republic
MP: J. Mlíkovský (private collection), Praha, Czech Republic
NHMW: Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien, Austria
ZW: H. Zapfe (private collection), Wien, Austria.

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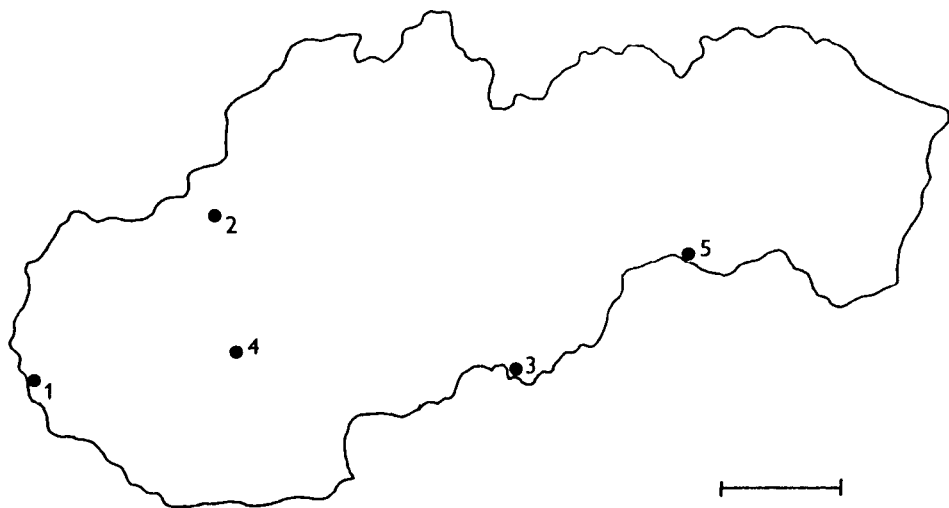


Fig. 1. Tertiary avian localities of Slovakia. The numbering of the localities corresponds with that in the text. Scale bar = 50 km.

LIST OF LOCALITIES

(1) DĚVÍNSKÁ NOVÁ VES – FISSURE (Neudorf, Neudorf an der March, Neudorf-Spalte)

Location: Bratislava County, West Slovakia. Middle Miocene, MN 6 (Kordos 1987, see also Zapfe 1949, Thenius 1952).

Avifauna: Bone fragments of the Phasianidae (*Miophasianus*), and unidentified passerines (Švec 1986, J. Mlíkovský, unpub. results). Deposited in FP, MMB, and ZW.

(2) IVANOVCE (Ivanócz, Ivánháza)

Location: Trenčín County, West Slovakia. Early Pliocene, MN 15 (Fejfar and Heinrich 1985).

Avifauna: Few bones of indeterminate passerines (P. Švec in Fejfar and Heinrich 1985, J. Mlíkovský, unpub. results). Deposited in FP.

(3) HOŠŤOVCE 2

Location: Košice-vidiek County, East Slovakia. Middle Pliocene, MN 15/16 (Ložek and Horáček 1992).

Avifauna: Unspecified bird bones (Ložek and Horáček 1992). Deposited in HP.

(4) HAJNÁČKA (Ajnácskő)

Location: Rimavská Sobota County, East Slovakia. Late Pliocene, MN 16 (Fejfar and Heinrich 1985).

Avifauna: A single bone of a merganser, *Mergus* (P. Švec in Fejfar and Heinrich 1985, J. Mlíkovský, unpub. results). Deposited in FP.

(5) KOLIŇANY 2

Location: Nitra County, West Slovakia. Late Pliocene, MN 17 (I. Horáček, pers. communication).

Avifauna: Few bird bones (Mlíkovský 1992, unpub. observations). Deposited in MP.

(6) VČELÁRE 3

Location: Košice-vidiek County, East Slovakia. Late Pliocene, MN 17 (Horáček 1985, Ložek and Horáček 1992).

Avifauna: Few bird bones (Horáček 1985). Deposited in MP.

DISCUSSION

Most of the Tertiary birds in Slovakia were excavated from Pliocene infillings of karst fissures. None of them, however, yielded significant numbers of bones. On the other hand, Děvínská Nová Ves brought an interesting distributional record for the genus *Miophasianus*.

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