



## Review of the bee genus *Lasioglossum* Curtis, 1833 (Hymenoptera: Halictidae) fauna of the Ciscaucasia region

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### Abstract

Available information about bees of the genus *Lasioglossum* in the Ciscaucasia region is summarised. Ninety-one species are currently known from this territory. *Lasioglossum ekaterinae* **sp. nov.** is described as new to science from Russia (Dagestan and Kalmyk Republics) and Azerbaijan. Seven species are newly recorded from the Caucasus region and additional twenty species are newly recorded from Ciscaucasia. Six species are excluded from the list of the Ciscaucasia fauna. Including the new data, Russia's fauna now includes 163 *Lasioglossum* species.

**Key words:** Anthophila, Apiformes, fauna, new records, the Caucasus region

### Introduction

The global genus *Lasioglossum* Curtis, 1833 currently includes 1,841 described species (Ascher & Pickering 2024), with the highest known diversity in the Holarctic region (Michener 2007). A total of 450 species are known from the Palaearctic region (Astafurova & Proshchalykin 2017a), of which 182 species occur in Europe (Astafurova & Proshchalykin 2023, 2024; Ghisbain *et al.* 2023), 168 species from Turkey, 106 species from Azerbaijan (Astafurova *et al.* 2024b), and 145 species from Iran (Ascher & Pickering 2024).

The Caucasus region is a mountainous area between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, considered part of the natural border between Europe and Asia. Geographically, it is usually considered part of western Asia, bordering north-eastern Turkey and north-western Iran. The northern edge of the Caucasus is known as the Ciscaucasia (or North Caucasus) and the southern part as the Transcaucasia. The Ciscaucasia contains most of the Greater Caucasus mountain range, also known as the Great Caucasus. The North Caucasus, or Ciscaucasia, is a part of Russia and includes nine sub-regions: Krasnodar Territory, Stavropol Territory, Adygei Republic, Karachayevo-Cherkessk Republic, Ingush Republic, Kabardino-Balkarian Republic, North Ossetian Republic, Chechen Republic, and Dagestan Republic. The Transcaucasia is bordered by Russia to the north, the Black Sea and Turkey to the west, the Caspian Sea to the east and Iran to the south. It includes the Caucasus Mountains and the surrounding lowlands. All of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia are part of the South Caucasus (Kuhlmann & Proshchalykin 2016; Proshchalykin & Dathe 2021; Lelej *et al.* 2022; Astafurova *et al.* 2024a).

The present paper is a part of the ongoing research of the genus *Lasioglossum* of the territory of the Caucasus and neighbouring regions (Astafurova & Proshchalykin 2023, 2024; Astafurova *et al.* 2024a, b).

So far 134 *Lasioglossum* species have been recorded from the Caucasus (Ciscaucasus–92; Transcaucasus–121) (Astafurova *et al.* 2024a, b; Ascher & Pickering 2024). Some *Lasioglossum* records from Stavropol Territory [*L. equestre* (Morawitz, 1878), *L. laeve* (Kirby, 1802), *L. laterale* (Brullé, 1832), *L. majus* (Nylander, 1852), *L. pauperatum* (Brullé, 1832) and *L. tarsatum* (Schenck, 1869)] published by Chenikalova (2005) are problematic, and these data are not included in the inventory list of Caucasian *Lasioglossum* (Table 1). The purpose of the present contribution is to publish the complete list of all *Lasioglossum* species known from the Ciscaucasia region to date.

**TABLE 2.** (Continued)

N	<i>Lasioglossum</i> species	Ciscaucasia regions								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
77	<i>L. rhynchites</i> (Morawitz, 1876)				●					
78	<i>L. rufitarse</i> (Zetterstedt, 1838)	*		●	*					
79	<i>L. scirpaceum</i> (Warncke, 1975)				*					
80	<i>L. semilucens</i> (Alfken, 1914)				*					
81	<i>L. setulosum</i> (Strand, 1909)		●							
82	<i>L. sexnotatum</i> (Kirby, 1802)		○		*					●
83	<i>L. sexstrigatum</i> (Schenck, 1868)		●							
84	<i>L. subaenescens</i> (Pérez, 1895)	●								●
85	<i>L. subfasciatum</i> (Imhoff, 1832)									●
86	<i>L. subfulvicorne</i> (Blüthgen, 1934)	*			○					
87	<i>L. tauricum</i> Ebmer, 1972				*					
88	<i>L. truncaticolle</i> (Morawitz, 1877)	●	●	●			●			●
89	<i>L. tungusicum</i> Ebmer, 1978									●
90	<i>L. villosulum</i> (Kirby, 1802)	●	○	●	○				●	●
91	<i>L. xanthopus</i> (Kirby, 1802)	●	○							○
92	<i>L. zonulum</i> (Smith, 1848)	○	○	●	●		●			●
<b>Total:</b>		<b>41</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>72</b>

1—Krasnodar Territory, 2—Stavropol Territory, 3—Adygei Republic, 4—Karachayevo-Cherkessk Republic, 5—Ingush Republic, 6—Kabardino-Balkarian Republic, 7—North Ossetian Republic, 8—Chechen Republic 9— Dagestan Republic.

\*—known only from literary sources; ●—new records; ○—known from literary sources and examined specimens.

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