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Preliminary key for the identification of the nymphs of North European Homoptera Cicadina.

I. Delphacidae.

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Hitherto, the nymphs of *Homoptera Cicadina* have been considered to be undeterminable, and very few descriptions of nymphs of different species have been published. As far the author is aware, the only investigation devoted to the determination of some European *Delphacidae* species is that published by HASSAN (1939) and even his key is mainly based on colour characters.

During his investigations on the Estonian *Cicadina* the author has collected nymphs as well. In the absence of any special keys for their identification, it was necessary to resort to indirect methods. Adults and nymphs occurring simultaneously in a sample were considered to belong to the same species. If the nymphs present with several different samples of a given species proved to be identical, the author concluded that his determinations were correct. To a certain extent, rearing experiments were also undertaken. A number of species were also received from the following colleagues: Dr. W. WAGNER (Hamburg), Dr. H. STRÜBING (Berlin), Dr. M. RAATIKAINEN (Helsinki) and Dr. J. DLABOLA (Prague). The author expresses his sincerest thanks to them all. The author is also very grateful to the Board of the Finnish Entomological Society for having included this article in their journal.

Although this key is somewhat incomplete (comprising only about 3/4 of the genera) and despite possible errors in it (due to the indirect method of identification) the author hopes that the present publication will serve to promote knowledge of this very unexplored field of homopterology.

Description of nymphs of Delphacidae.

As is well known, the nymphs of *Cicadina* (Fig. 1) mainly differ from the adults in the absence of wings, although their oriments (the so-called wing pads) appear as early as the second instar. The instars are distinguishable from each other by the stage of development of the wing-pads (Fig. 3). They are also distinguishable by the measurements of different parts of the body (total length, length of hind femur, breadth of head, etc., whereas their index of increase is usually 1.3—1.5), by the increasing number of teeth on the calcar, etc.



Figs. 1 – 2. — 1. A Delphacidae nymph (Struebingianella lugubrina), dorsal view: vt = vertex, pn = pronotum, ms = mesonotum, mt = metanotum, II-VIII = abdominal tergites. — 2. Face of a Struebingianella lugubrina nymph: if = interfrons, lf = laterofrontes, up = upper pits, mp = median pits, lp - lower pits. — Orig.

As indicated by various authors, e.g. ŠULC, 1928; LINDBERG, 1939; LINNA-VUORI, 1951; LIEBENBERG, 1956; LE QUESNE, 1960; WAGNER, 1962, etc., in almost

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all nymphs of *Fulgoromorpha* special organs — sensory pits — exist. These were investigated by Šulc (1928) and more recently by LIEBENBERG (1956). These pits consist of round or elliptical depressions in the cuticle, in one edge of which is inserted a hair-like structure, which lies horizontally across the depression. They occur in all the known species of *Delphacidae* and also in the adults of the genus *Achorotile* FB. (and the North American genus *Laccocera* VD.). These sensory pits are probably modified hairs, transformed to sense organs as an adaptation to life among dense vegetation.

LINDBERG (1939) was the first to show that the number and arrangement of these pits is constant up to the second nymphal instar. This observation has been confirmed by the author. It is the number and arrangement of the sensory pits that provide the most reliable characters for identification of *Delphacidae* nymphs.

H e a d. The nymphs of *Delphacidae* have keels like those that occur in the adults, except that on the frons there are always two median keels (cf. WAGNER, 1962). The hind part of the head (called hind cavities by various authors) comprises the vertex. The hind parts of the spaces between the median and lateral carinae also belong to the latter. In most species an oblique suture cuts off a small triangular sclerite. The fore part of the dorsal surface of the head anterior to these sclerites apparently belongs to the frons.

The frons always has two median carinae. These are usually situated quite near to one another, so that the space between them — the interfrons — is narrower than the lateral areas — laterofrontes. Only in a few genera is the interfrons of the same breadth in the middle as the laterofrons or even somewhat broader (*Stiroma* FB., *Stiromella* WG., *Struebingianella* WG., *Ditropis* FB., *Criomorphus* CT.). In *Chloriona* FB. the interfrons is considerably broader than the laterofrons. The interfrons is usually broadest in the middle and becomes narrower downwards, where the frontal keels can unite with one another. In one species (probably *Eurysula lurida* FB.) they have rather a long common stem. In South European *Asiraca* LT. they are situated quite close in the upper part of the frons and become continuously wider separated downwards.

On the laterofrons there are usually three pairs of sensory pits on both sides, named as the upper, median and lower pits respectively (Fig. 3). The upper and lower pits are situated beside the median keels, whereas the median pits lie near the lateral keels. On the fore part of the head there is one more pit at the lateral keel and already on the dorsal surface of the head two pits at the medial keel. As these latter pits do not show specific variability they are not named. In *Asiraca* the number of pits is somewhat greater and their arrangement is somewhat different.

The thorax in nymphs of *Delphacidae* is relatively uniform. The lateral keels of the pronotum usually appear only in the last two instars. They do not generally reach the hind margin. Only in *Stenocranus* FB., *Chloriona* FB. and *Megamelus* FB. are they turned towards the hind margin, finishing somewhat

before it. Behind the lateral keels there are usually 3 sensory pits. In genera with the lateral keels turned towards the hind margin, two of these pits are medial of the end of the keel, the third being lateral of it. In *Asiraca* there are only two pits, one of which lies medially, the other laterally. At some distance from this group



Fig. 3. Development of thorax in *Delphacidae* nymphs (schematically): instars I – V. (After LINDBERG, 1939).

there is one pit (behind the hind corner of the eye) and somewhat more laterally still 3—4 pits (in Asiraca only 2). Of these, usually only the median pit is visible from above, whereas the others lie on the side lobe of the pronotum. In the two younger instars the mesonotum, to which the steadily enlarging wing-pads are attached, has two sensory pits in the middle and two in the lateral parts (on the wing-pads), while in the three older instars one accessory pit exists in the fore corner (absent in Asiraca). The medial pits and pits on the wing-pads are separated by a somewhat oblique longitudinal keel. In the metanotum there is only one sensory pit lateral of the oblique longitudinal keel.

In the legs a steadily increasing number of spines and teeth are observed. As they are rather difficult to identify, they are not used in the key.

The a b d o m e n consists of 9 segments. The first three tergites are rather small and they appear from above as short \pm trapezoidal sclerites between the halves of the metanotum. The hind tergites are \pm quadrangular cross-plates. Only in Asiraca is there a sharp, strongly toothed ridge on the abdomen. The last 4-6 tergites also bear sensory pits and their number and arrangement is of systematic value. In most North European species tergite VIII bears 1 + 2 or $1 + 3^1$ pits on both sides. In certain more highly evolved species there appears a tendency for the pit number to increase. In Asiraca, on the contrary, there are two median pits and one lateral one (2 + 1), while in East Asiatic Saccharosydne procera (MM.) there are only 1 + 1 pits. Tergites VI-VII have 1 + 2 (in the more ancient forms), 1 + 3 or 1 + 4-5 (only in Stenocranus) pits on each side. Here, again, a tendency to increase the pit number is noted. But in all cases observed to the present day, this tendency is sporadic — it occurs only on one side, whereas on

1) In the formulae of abdominal pits the number of median pits is always given first and after + the number of lateral ones.



Fig. 4. Hind end of the body of a final instar nymph: A — male, B — female. (After LINDBERG, 1939).

the other side there is the normal number of pits. A decrease of number has not been observed yet. Tergites IV and V bear 0-3 pits each, depending on the species. The last segment (IX) usually bears 3 pits on each side. The median one is situated on the dorsal surface, whereas the two lateral ones are at the lower margin. Besides the sensory pits, very small, usually colourless pits also exist. In tergites VI-VIII they always lie between the median pit and the lateral group, in the front tergites usually near the side margin. The structure and function of these depressions is still obscure. The lower side of the body bears stigmata and trichobothria. The latter are also arranged in groups and their number increases steadily during development. They are not used in the keys.

Genital appendages mostly appear in the third instar of the nymph. In females they appear as two \pm prolonged structures (oriments of the gonapophyses of the ninth sternite — ovipositor) between two round lobes (Fig. 4 B). In males no oriments of the genital plates can be observed (Fig. 4 A).

Key to families of Fulgoromorpha.

 Body without sensory pits	r.
 B (A) Postclypeus distinct from frons. Median coxae long, their bases widely separate (except Tettigometridae). Body usually with sensory pits	ia
 (except Tettigometridae). Body usually with sensory pits	d.
 1 (2) Head without sharp keels. Body strongly flattened dorsoventrally Tettigometria 2 (1) Head with distinct keels and with sensory pits at least on frons. Body not do soventrally flattened 3 (4) Hind femora with foliaceous or awl-like calcar at apex (in young instars usual very small) 	'nα
 2 (1) Head with distinct keels and with sensory pits at least on frons. Body not do soventrally flattened 3 (4) Hind femora with foliaceous or awl-like calcar at apex (in young instars usual very small) 	ae
soventrally flattened 3 (4) Hind femora with foliaceous or awl-like calcar at apex (in young instars usual very small) Delphacid	r-
3 (4) Hind femora with foliaceous or awl-like calcar at apex (in young instars usual very small) Delphacid	
very small) Delphacia	ly
	ae
4 (3) Hind femora without calcar at apex	
5 (6) Second segment of hind tarsi with teeth only on sides Issid	ae
6 (5) Second segment of hind tarsi with a row of teeth	
7 (8) Tergites VI-VIII with »wax spots» (as white patches on a brownish ground).
In tergites IV-V the rows of sensory pits extend almost to the mid-line of t	ıe-
tergite. The edges of the vertex rounded, not bordered by keels. Ground colo	ir
brown. Nymphs live in the ground Cixiid	ae

8 (7) Tergites VI—VIII without »wax spots»; white spots, if present, situated on the sides of the tergites. Sensory pits on tergites IV—V are situated on the sides. Vertex bordered with keels. Ground colour whitish or greyish. Nymphs live in decaying trees, where they probably feed on pore fungi Achiliidae

Key to genera of Delphacidae.

In delimiting genera, the author has principally followed WAGNER (1962), FENNAH (1963), etc., with the following emendations: From the genus Eurysa FB. (t.g. Delphax lineata PR.) the species lurida is separated and a new genus E u r ys u l a n.gen. (t.g. Eurysa lurida FB. 1866) is created for it. From the genus Muirodelphax WG. the species albocarinata, distincta and probably also haglundi (unknown to the author) are separated and a new genus T y r p h o d e l p h a x n.gen. (t.g. Delphax distincta FL. 1861) is created for them. The subgenus Acanthodelphax LQ. 1964 is raised to generic rank. The very heterogeneous genus Struebingianella WG. (t.g. Delphax lugubrina BH.) is split up. For elegantula a new genus — H y l e d e lp h a x n.gen. (t.g. Delphax elegantula BH. 1847) — is created (to connect this species with the genus Laodelphax FNN. (LE QUESNE, 1964) is probably not correct either) and for the species leptosoma and paryphasma F l o r o d e l p h a x n.gen. (t.g. Delphax paryphasma FL. 1861) is created.

Most of these emendations are founded partly on the nymphal characters.

1	(2)	Abdominal tergite VIII with $2 + 1$ sensory pits. Fore legs laminately dilated
		Asiraca LT.
		[A. clavicornis (F.)]
2	(1)	Tergite VIII with $1 + 2$ or $1 + 3$ (4) pits. Fore legs not dilated
3	(34)	Tergites VI and VII usually with $1 + 2$ pits
4	(11)	Head considerably longer than width between the eyes
5	(6)	Interfrons much wider than laterofrons Chloriona FB.
6	(5)	Interfrons narrower than laterofrons
7	(8)	Keels delimiting vertex from the front ill-defined; vertex usually opens over the
		interfrons. Nymph unicoloured yellow or with wide dark bands on both sides ex-
		tending from the eyes to the hind end of the body
		a (b) Unicoloured yellow K. pallidula (BH.)
		b (a) Abdomen on sides with \pm dark longitudinal band (in very light specimens at
		least side parts of pro- or mesonotum darkened)
		c (d) The darkest part of this band lies on the sides of the pronotum. Tergite IV
		with one pit K. ribauti Wc.
-		(here apparently also belongs K. monoceros RB.)
		d (c) The darkest part of the lateral band lies on the sides of the mesonotum or it is
•		equally dark on both pro- and mesonotum. Tergite IV without pits
		e (f) Dark band equally dark in pro- and mesonotum K. rittipennis J. SB.
.1		f (e) Lareral band darkest on sides of mesonotum K. guttula (GRM.)
8	(7)	Vertex delimited from the front with \pm clear keels. Colour different

9	(10)	Tergite V with only 1 pit (lies ca 5 o ¹ from the lateral edge of the tergite). Abdomen
		darkly marbled Megamelus FB.
		[M. notula (GRM.)]
10	(9)	Tergite V with 2 pits. The dorsal surface with dark brown pattern, considerably darker
		on the fore part of the body
		[U. excisa (ML.)]
11	(4)	Head as long as width between the eyes or wider than long
12	(13)	Interfrons clearly wider than laterofrons. (Dorsal surface almost entirely dark brown)
	, .	Stiromella WG.
		[S. obliqua (WG.)]
13	(12)	Interfrons as wide as or narrower than laterofrons
14	(15)	Interfrons \pm as wide as laterofrons. Tergites IV and V without pits. Wholly ochreous
		yellow, including tips of katepisternites
		[X. flaveolus (FL.), X. stramineus (ST.)]
15	(14)	Interfrons clearly narrower than laterofrons. Tergites IV or V bear sensory pits. Not
		wholly ochreous yellow. Katepisternites with darkened tips.
16	(25)	Tergite V (sometimes also IV) usually with two pits
17	(18)	Frons very wide, about as wide as long. Lower of upper pits of frons lies \pm at the same
		level as the higher medial pit. Pits of tergites VI and VII are situated at \pm equal
		distances from one another. Fore and median legs \pm diffusely ringed Eurysa FB.
		[E. lineata (PR.)]
18	(17)	Frons clearly longer than wide. Lower of upper pits is always somewhat dorsal to the
		higher median pit. In tergites VI and VII the median pit is usually somewhat farther
		from the others. Legs unicoloured or with longitudinal bands
19	(20)	Keels of frons \pm straightly converging, almost uniting beneath. Abdomen dark brown,
		with \pm sharply delimited whitish patches
		[H. elegantula (BH.)]
20	(19)	Keels of frons \pm parallel, in the middle somewhat further apart from each other,
2		widely separated ventrally. Colour of abdomen different
21	(22)	Abdomen on the sides with a wide, dark brown band narrowing backward, with light
		pits. Side parts of thorax light brown, in pronotum dark brown. Lowest pit of frons
		very near clypeal suture (less than 1 o) Gravesteiniella WG. ²
22	(21)	Colour pattern different, composed of spots or indistinct. Lowest pit of frons situated
		at a distance of at least 1 ø from clypeal suture
23	(24)	Abdomen dark brown, with whitish and partly ochreous-yellow patches. Beside the
		light median line and light patches around the sensory pits there are black-brown
		dots. Thorax dark-striped, edges of sensory pits not darkened Ribautodelphax WG.
		a (b) Median pit of tergite V lies 1.5 ø from the lateral one and clearly median of
		the pit of tergite VI. Dorsal surface of abdomen with wide (ca 1/2 width of
		tergite) light band along its entire length R. albostriatus (FB.)
		b (a) Median pit of tergite V lies 1 ø from the lateral ones and at the same level as the
	· .	pits of tergite VI. Dorsal surface of abdomen with narrow median longitudinal
		stripe and with a row of light, posteriorly diminishing patches lateral of it
		R. collinus (BH.)
24	(23)	Dorsal surface of abdomen light, colour pattern diffuse, without dark dots. Edges of
		sensory pits of thorax darkened on one side
	din et	[K. exigua (Bn.)]

¹ The symbol σ = diameter(s).

² The description is made from the Asiatic subspecies (G. boldi tschikoica Ks.).

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25 26	(16) (31)	Tergite V with only one sensory pit Fore and middle tibiae ± darkly ringed
27	(28)	Dorsal surface of body and face transversely striated. Higher median pit of frons situated considerably beneath (1.s2 ø) the lower of the upper pits Delphax ST.
28	(27)	Dorsal surface and face without dark transverse bands. Higher median pit of frons lying at the same level as or only a little beneath the lower of the upper pits
29	(30)	Lowest pit of frons lies very near (under 10) the clypeal suture. The whole fore body and abdomen \pm unicoloured light brown; keels and median longitudinal line of ab- domen somewhat lighter
30	(29)	The lowest pit of the frons lies farther (1.5-2 ø) from the clypeal suture. Fore body marbled brown, Abdomen in addition to the light median line with a longitudinal row of light spots on both sides
31 32	(26) (33)	Fore and middle tibiae \pm unicoloured or longitudinally striated Lower of upper pits of the frons lies \pm at the same level as the higher median pit. Keels of the frons straight, \pm parallel. Body on sides with broad black-brown longitudi- nal bands, extending from eyes to tip of abdomen. Frons black in the upper part
33	(32)	Lower of upper pits of frons lies clearly higher than the higher middle pit. Keels of frons clearly arched. Thorax with dark patches; abdomen with dark margins of tergites. Frons with dark longitudinal lines between light keels Laodelphax FNN. [L. striatella (FN.)]
34 35	(3) (36)	Abdominal tergites VI and VII with $1 + 3$ or $1 + 4-5$ sensory pits Abdominal tergites VI, VII and also VIII with $1 + 4$ or $1 + 5$ sensory pits
36	(35)	Tergites VI and VII with $1 + 3$ sensory pits, tergite VIII with $1 + 2$ or $1 + 3$ sensory pits
37	(38)	Keels of frons united anteriorly of the lower third of the frons. At the site of the common stem only two lower sensory pits are present. Tergite V with $1 + 2$ pits, the lateralmost
38	(37)	of which is situated somewhat posterior to the others
	,	always present. In tergite V the median sensory pit is missing $(0 + 3)$, the others are situated in a transverse row or the lateral one is situated somewhat anterior to the others
39	(42)	Head much longer than width between the eyes. (Tergite IV without pits, tergite V with $1-3$ pits.)
40	(41)	Frontal keels almost united beneath, against clypeal suture. Lowest pit of frons lies not more than 3 ø from the clypeal suture. Higher median pit lies at the level of the
		 upper pits. Small species — V instar (N₅) up to 2.8 mm Tyrphodelphax n.gen. a (b) Abdomen with two wide, dark brown longitudinal bands from the thorax to the end of the abdomen. Light band between them not interrupted by dark foremargins of tergites
		medially of the pits T. distinctus (FL.)

41 (40)	Frontal keels clearly separated beneath. Lowest pit of frons lies about $4 \circ$ from the clypeal suture. Higher median pit lies clearly below the lower of the upper pits.
	Large species — N ₅ about 3.5 mm
42 (39)	Head as long as or shorter than width between the eyes. Abdominal tergite V always with 3 pits
43 (52)	Territe IV with pits (one or two) (see also Couplet 50)
44 (45)	Tergite IV usually with two nits (rarely one). Totally othreous vellow including
()	front parts of the head between the keels
	[S. bicarinata (HS.), S. affinis FB.]
45 (44)	Tergite IV usually with one pit (rarely absent — see Couplets 50 and 57). Colour dif-
	ferent; if ochreous vellow, then fore parts of the head darkened
46 (47)	Frontal keels usually unite beneath, sometimes with a short joint stalk. Almost totally
	ochreous yellow, only fore parts of head between keels darkened Delphacinus FB.
	[D. mesomelas (BH.)]
47 (46)	Frontal keels separated beneath. Usually with brown or black-brown colour pattern.
	Tips of katepisternites blackish
48 (49)	Higher median pit of the frons lies clearly below the lower of the upper pits. Tergite
	VIII with 1 + 2 pits. Ochreous yellow, with dark brown longitudinal bands. Abdomen
	on both sides with two bands Megadelphax WG.
	[M. sordidulus (ST.)]
49 (48)	Higher median pit of the frons lies at \pm the same level as the lower of the upper pits.
	Tergite VIII with $1 + 3$ pits. Abdomen transversely striated (with dark fore and hind
	margins of tergites)
50 (51)	Ochreous yellow with dark brown marbling. Interirons almost as wide as lateroirons.
	Frontal keels diverging \pm straightly to the clypeal suture. (Pit on sternite IV may be
	absent) $Criterion Criterio C$
51 /50)	[C. albomarginatus Cr., C. boreatis (J. 58.)]
51 (50)	from Frontal keels beneath the median dilatation almost narallal Acenthedilatar I.O.
	I fons. I fontal keels beneath the methan unatation almost parallel Adaptiondar [Bx.]
57 (43)	Territe IV usually without nits (see also Counlets 50 and 57)
53 (54)	Tergite V with $1 + 3$ nits. Median pit of the lateral groups in tergites V—VIII some
	what apart from the others (the distances increase in the fore territes). Abdomen on
	sides with dark longitudinal lines
	[M. aubei (PR.)]
54 (53)	Terigite V without median pit $(0+3, 0+2 \text{ or } 0+1)$. Lateral pits of tergites V–VII
\J	forming a + continuous row. Abdomen without pattern or with dark transverse lines
55 (56)	Tergite V with two pits, of which the lateral one is somewhat smaller. The lateral pits
	of tergites VI-VII are also smaller and lie somewhat anterior to the others
	Ditropis Wg.
	[D. pteridis (BH.)]
56 (55)	Tergite V with 1 or 3 (equal-sized) pits. Lateral pits of tergites VI-VII are not
	smaller and usually lie in one row
57 (58)	The higher median pit of the frons lies considerably below (about 1 ø) the
	lower of the upper pits. Ground colour ochreous yellow with brown lon-
	gitudinal bands on thorax and transverse bands on abdomen. Tergite IV some-
	times with one pit Struebingianella WG.
	[S. lugubrina (BH.)]

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58	(57)	The l	igher median pit of the frons lies at about the same level or only somewhat below
		the lo	wer of the upper pits (so that the upper edge of the former is at least at the same
		level a	as the lower edge of the latter). Colour different
59	(60)	Legs	with weak dark rings. Tergite VIII with $1 + 3$ pits, the lateral ones situated in a
		longit	udinal row. Tergite V with only one pit. Abdomen with dark spots between the
		pits .	Euides FB.
			[E. speciosa (BH.)]
60	(59)	Legs v	without rings. If in tergite VIII $1 + 3$ pits exist, they are situated in a triangle.
		Tergi	te V mostly with 3 pits (only in Javesella dubia — usually 1). Abdomen with in-
		distin	ct pattern
61	(62)	In ter	gites V-VII the median pit of the lateral group is apart from the lateral ones
		(their	distances increase in the fore-tergites). Totally ochreous yellow, only keels and
		longit	udinal midline of abdomen whitish. Surroundings of the pits \pm weakly dark-
		ened.	Tips of the katepisternites light Dicranotropis FB.
			[D. hamata (BH.)]
62	(61)	Latera	al pits of tergites V—VII form a continuous row. Ground colour greyish or dark
		brown	n. Tips of katepisternites always dark
		a (h)	Tergite V with 3 pits.
		b (c)	Tergite IV with one pit. Dorsal surface ochreous yellow, with brown marbling
		c (b)	Tergite IV without pits. Dorsal surface almost totally dark brown
		d (e)	Frons unicoloured, the keels not evidently lighter J. forcipata (BH.)
		e (d)	Keels of frons evidently lighter than frons between them
		f (g)	Tergite VIII with $1 + 2$ pits. Frontal keels united beneath \mathcal{J} . discolor (BH.)
		g (f)	Tergite VIII with $1 + 3$ pits. Frontal keels clearly separated beneath
		h (a)	Tergite V with one (or two) pit(s)
		i (j)	Ground colour whitish brown to blackish. Frons with dark bands between the
			keels J. pellucida (F.)
		j (i)	Ground colour brownish grey. Frons of ground colour, keels light. In the lower
			part of the frons there is a light patch

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