Fauna of Auchenorrhyncha of Belarus. Preliminary results

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Auchenorrhyncha was for a long time one of the least studied groups of insects in Belarus. In particular, Nast (1972, 1987) listed only 7 species for the territory of Belarus that comprises a very insignificant percent of possible species.

The first studies on Auchenorrhyncha of Belarus were published in 1925-1926 (Yazentkovskij, 1925; Bryanzev, 1926; Solowiew, 1926). These works and some further studies carried out in Belorussian Agricultural Academy (Dubrovskaya, 1970; Kovaleva, 1970) and Institute of Plant Protection have applied character and include only a few species important for agriculture, mainly associated with cultivated crops. Only some works contain information on Auchenorrhyncha of particular plant associations (Yakimovich, 1982; Chumakov, 1986). Several species are recorded for Belarus by foreign colleagues: Cicadella lasiocarpae Oss. from Gomelskaya Province by Dmitriev (1998) and Coryphaelus gyllenhalii (Fall.) from Belorussian part of Bialowieza National Park by Nast (1976).

I study the fauna of Auchenorrhyncha of Belarus since 1998. Main collecting was carried out in the western and central part of Belarus. In addition, specimens received from colleagues and collections of Zoological Museum of the Belorussian State University and of the Zoological Institute in Minsk were examined. Currently, the list of Auchenorrhyncha of Belarus comprises 336 species in 10 families.

Cicadellidae are represented by 254 species in 10 subfamilies: Megophthalminae (1 species), Aphrodinae (12), Dorycephalinae (1), Cicadellinae (4), Agallinae (4), Deltocephalinae (109), Typhlocybinae (88), Iassinae (3), Macropsinae (17), Idiocerinae (15). Two common species of Ulopidae [Ulopa reticulata (F.) and Utecha trivia (Germ.)] and 2 species of Membracidae [Centrotus cornutus (L.) and Gargara genistae (F.)] are recorded. Of the only one and very rare, at least in NW Belarus, species of Ledridae, Ledra aurita (L.), there are 1 female and 1 larva in our collection. Spittlebugs are represented by 9 species of Aphrophoridae. The Delphacidae include 55 species from 8 subfamilies: Asiracinae (1), Delphacinae (2), Kelisiinae (6), Criomorphinae (34), Stirominae (3), Achorotilinae (1), Chlorioninae (5), Stenocraninae (3). Of the 7 recorded species of Cixiidae,

Myndus musivus (Germ.), Cixius nervosus (L.), C. similis Kbm. and Pentastiridius leporinus (L.) are common in Belarus, while C. cunicularius (L.), C. distinguendus Kbm. and C. simplex (H.-S.) are known from occasional finds. Tettigometridae are rare, only 2 males of Tettigometra atra Hag. and 1 female of Brachyceps laetus (H.-S.) were collected. Of the Dictyopharidae, only Dictyophara europaea (L.) is registered; it was found recently in SE Belarus. Also only one but rather more frequent species, Ommatidiotus dissimilis (Fall.), represents the Caliscelidae.

Auchenorrhyncha of Belarus show distribution by ecological groups typical of the woodlands of Central and Eastern Europe. Mesophilous species prevail in the fauna structure (over 85%). Auchenorrhyncha associated with herbs account for about 65% of species, most of them are associated with Gramineae and Cyperaceae. About 30% of species are associated with trees and bushes, mainly of Salicaceae, Fagaceae, Betulaceae and shrub forms of Rosaceae. The largest species diversity is recorded from late July to early August.

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ABSTRACTS



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ABSTRACTS



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