

## Non-European *Auchenorrhyncha* (Homoptera) and their geographical distribution in Slovenia

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In the last 40 years more than 40 new phytophagous species of insects which can be treated mainly as pests of agricultural and forest plants, have been introduced in Slovenia. The species of the *Auchenorrhyncha*, which are harmful directly or are known as vectors of phytoplasmatic plant diseases, gain on importance. In this period the following non-European species of *Auchenorrhyncha* diffused in Slovenia from the neighbouring states: the *Stictocephala bisonia* (Kopp. & Yonke), *Scaphoideus titanus* Ball, *Japananus hyalinus* (Osborn) and the *Metcalfa pruinosa* (Say). Not even one of the mentioned species entered in Slovenia directly from its original region.

The *Stictocephala bisonia* (Kopp. & Yonke) (Membracidae) was probably introduced in the fifties (Holzinger and Seljak, 2001) and is in Slovenia now commonly diffused. Detailed data of the distribution are known for the western part of Slovenia, elsewhere these data are only general (Seljak, 1993). Periodically this species provokes serious injuries on young fruit trees and the grapevine causing consequently also an economic damage.

The *Scaphoideus titanus* Ball (Cicadellidae) has been established in the west of Slovenia in the year 1983 (Seljak, 1985, 1987, 1993). The species is now commonly diffused in the vineyards in the western part of Slovenia, in the wine-growing regions of southern and eastern Slovenia, however, they are not present (Berčon, Seljak and Milevoj; 1997). A important economic significance is attributed to this species because it transmit phytoplasmatic grapevine diseases.

The *Japananus hyalinus* (Osborn) (Cicadellidae) is in Slovenia a new non-European species. In the year 1997 it was detected in some places in the west part of Slovenia. There are very few data regarding the distribution in the continental part of Slovenia. Most frequently it appears on the *Acer campestre*, the *A. monspessulanum*, and the *A. pseudoplatanus*.

The *Metcalfa pruinosa* (Say) has been present in the west of Slovenia since the year 1990 (Šivic, 1991; Seljak, 1993). At the moment it is widely diffused along the Slovene - Italian border, where it appears in very numerous populations. It is a very inconvenient pest in the agriculture and in the urban environment. In the year 2000 an isolated population was also discovered in the surroundings of Ljubljana. Recently, in order to limit their population, the predator and parasitoid *Neodryinus typhlocybae* (Ashmed) (Žežlina, 2000) has been introduced.

In the present article a more detailed data of distribution of the above mentioned species are presented.