



FAVNISTIČNI ZAPISKI / FAUNISTICAL NOTES

**THREE NEW RECORDS OF HETEROPTERA IN SLOVENIA**Andrej GOGALA<sup>1</sup>, Janez KAMIN<sup>2</sup> & Marko ZDEŠAR<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Prirodoslovni muzej Slovenije, Prešernova 20, p.p. 290, SI - 1001 Ljubljana;  
agogala@pms-lj.si

<sup>2</sup> Gradnikove brigade 47, 5000 Nova Gorica

<sup>3</sup> Brezje pri Dobrovi 32, 1356 Dobrova

**Abstract** – Three species of Heteroptera are reported for Slovenia. *Belonochilus numenius* is an introduced Nearctic species. *Phytocoris confusus* was found in the vicinity of one of its syntype localities. *Ochetostethus balcanicus* is a north Mediterranean species found at the northern edge of its distribution.

KEY WORDS: Hemiptera, Heteroptera, fauna, Slovenia.

**Izvleček** – TRI NOVE NAJDBE STENIC (HETEROPTERA) V SLOVENIJI

Poročamo o najdbah treh vrst stenic v Sloveniji. *Belonochilus numenius* je vnesena nearktična vrsta. *Phytocoris confusus* je bila najdena v bližini enega od sintipskih najdišč. *Ochetostethus balcanicus* je severnomediterska vrsta, najdena na severnem robu njene razširjenosti.

KLJUČNE BESEDE: Hemiptera, Heteroptera, favna, Slovenija.

**Introduction**

The number of alien Heteroptera species introduced into Europe increases. One of them, *Belonochilus numenius*, was expected to be found in Slovenia as it is already widely distributed in Europe (Werner 2014). Like *Corythucha ciliata* decades before, it colonized plane trees in urban parks and streets. Finds of two other additional species in the Slovenian fauna are also reported. *Ochetostethus balcanicus* is a



**Fig. 1:** *Phytocoris confusus* female from Korada. Photo J. Kamin.

southern species at the northern edge of distribution in Slovenian Istria. *Phytocoris confusus* is a European species and probably not found in Slovenia for the first time. One of the syntype localities was attributed to Italy, but could as well be to Slovenia. All three species were found in the sub-Mediterranean region. With these additions, 745 species of Heteroptera are known from the territory of Slovenia.

### List of species

#### Miridae

##### *Phytocoris confusus* Reuter, 1896

Goriška Brda, Korada, UM80, 46° 2'41.55"N 13°33'50.11"E, 8. 10. 2015, 1♀, J. Kamin leg., coll. PMSL

Probably not the first record from Slovenia as one of the syntypes was collected in Illyria, Görz (= Gorica, Gorizia) by Dr. Hensch (Reuter 1896). Gorica (Gorizia) is a town on the border between Italy and Slovenia, so the exact finding place could be in any of the two countries. The new locality, Korada, is situated only 14 km north from Gorica. The specimen was lured to a light trap in a meadow. *Phytocoris confusus* is a European species living on deciduous trees (Wagner 1970).

#### Lygaeidae

##### *Belonochilus numenius* (Say, 1832)

Nova Gorica, UL99, 26. 10. 2015, 1♀, J. Kamin leg., coll. PMSL

The sycamore seed bug is a Nearctic species native to southern Canada, United States and Mexico (Gessé, Ribes & Goula 2009). Its main food source are spherical fruits of plane (sycamore) trees (*Platanus* spp.). Eggs overwinter in them and larvae develop in spring. Adults also suck seeds with their long rostrum. Four generations may develop in a year. It was first recorded in Europe in Corsica and Languedoc, France (Matocq 2008). Already in the same year, it was found also in Catalonia, Spain (Gessé et al. 2009). Later it became clear that the earliest European record is a photograph of a specimen, taken in Palma de Mallorca in July 2008 (Baena & Torres 2012). As plane trees are common ornamentals in urban areas, the species has a capacity to spread fast in Europe. In 2010 it was found in Italy, Austria, Portugal



**Fig. 2:** *Belonochilus numenius* female from Nova Gorica.

(Azores) and Monaco, in 2011 in Slovakia and the Czech Republic, in 2012 in Hungary, Germany and Switzerland (Werner 2014).

Cydnidae

***Ochetostethus balcanicus*** Wagner, 1940

Osp – Tinjan, 80 m, VL14, 11. 5. 2015, 1♂, M. Zdešar leg., coll. PMSL

The genus *Ochetostethus* includes several very similar species which are barely separable without examination of the genitalia (Magnien 2006). They were revised



**Fig. 3:** *Ochetostethus balcanicus* male from Osp – Tinjan. Figs. 2 & 3 photo A. Gogala.

by Kerzhner (1976) who listed a record of *O. opacus* from Topla, Slovenia. The only other published record of the genus from Slovenia or bordering region of Italy is by Montandon (1886), who listed *O. nanus* for Gorica (Gorizia). *O. nanus* is known now to be a western Mediterranean species, so Gogala (2008) listed this record as *O. opacus* with a question mark. With the discovery of *O. balcanicus* in the north Istria, the identity of the Montandon's record becomes even more dubious. *O. balcanicus* is smaller and more shiny than *O. opacus*. It is a north Mediterranean species, described from Greece. The Slovenian specimen is identical with *O. balcanicus* specimens from the Krk Island, Croatia, and Taygetos, Greece, used for comparison. It was caught with a net from undergrowth in the eastern slope of Tinjan above Osp.

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