

flatternden Tagfaltern ist die Körperoberfläche im Vergleich zur umgesetzten Leistung wesentlich größer und die Kühlung daher viel wirkungsvoller, sie können sich auch noch bei höherer Lufttemperatur bewegen.

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### FIRST RECORD OF *Leptoglossus occidentalis* (HETEROPTERA: COREIDAE) IN CROATIA.

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This is to notify that a specimen of *Leptoglossus occidentalis* Heidemann, 1910 (Heteroptera: Coreidae), which has in recent years been expanding rapidly from Northern Italy to neighbouring countries, has been found on the island of Cres in Croatia.

#### Heteroptera, Coreidae, *Leptoglossus*, range, Cres, Croatia.

TESCARI, G., Primo ricordo di *Leptoglossus occidentalis* Heidemann, 1910 (Heteroptera, Coreidae), a Croazia. CESAB Centro Studi Area Berica, Via S.Bernardino 38, 30657 Arcugnano (VI), Italy E-mail giutesca@tin.it – *Entomol. Croat.* 2004. Vol. 8. Num. 1-2: 73-75.

Viene reso noto il ritrovamento nell'Isola di Cres (Croazia) di un esemplare di *Leptoglossus occidentalis* Heidemann, 1910 (Heteroptera: Coreidae), taxon da alcuni anni in piena espansione dall'Italia settentrionale ai territori contigui.

#### Heteroptera, Coreidae, *Leptoglossus*, area, Cres, Croatia

TESCARI, G., Prvi nalaz stjenice *Leptoglossus occidentalis* (Heteroptera: Coreidae) u Hrvatskoj. CESAB Centro Studi Area Berica, Via S.Bernardino 38, 30657 Arcugnano (VI), Italy E-mail giutesca@tin.it – *Entomol. Croat.* 2004. Vol.8. Num. 1-2: 73-75.

Autor je prvi put našao jedan primjerak biljne stjenice *Leptoglossus occidentalis* Heidemann, 1910 (Heteroptera, Coreidae) na otoku Cresu u Hrvatskoj. Ta se vrsta zadnjih godina brzo širi iz sjeverne Italije na susjedne zemlje.

#### Heteroptera, Coreidae, *Leptoglossus*, areal, Cres, Hrvatska.

### Introduction

The first sighting in Europe of *Leptoglossus occidentalis* (Fig.1), which is generally known to reside in conifers, was reported in Northern Italy in 1999 (TESCARI, 2001; VILLA et al., 2001). After a brief stabilisation period in the Padana Plain (BERNARDINELLI & ZANDIGIACOMO, 2002), the species soon started colonising neighbouring areas. In 2002 the species was reported from Southern Switzerland whereas it had already been seen in Teramo (Central Italy) in 2001 and some time later also in Sicily. In the autumn 2003 many specimens were collected in W. Slovenia (GOGALA,



Fig. 1 - *Leptoglossus occidentalis* - Photo Giancarlo Tescari

A, 2003 and GOGALA, M., 2003). Now, in confirmation of this rapid expansion, the specimen has been sighted on the island of Cres in Croatia.

### Material

The specimen that was collected and preserved by the author is a male and not yet fully developed (nymph in its final stage), and was discovered by the author on 21/06/2004 at the foot of *Pinus nigra* Arnold in Martinšćica to the west of the island of Cres in Croatia.

### Discussion

The biological traits of this species are already sufficiently known, thanks to citations and observations published by VILLA et al. (2001).

What is rather more interesting, and what justifies the issue of this paper, is the fact that this new sighting occurred on Cres. It decidedly widens the distribution range of this *Leptoglossus occidentalis* to include the Balkans and the east Adriatic coast, posing some questions about the way in which it is spreading. The species in question has poor flying capabilities and is definitely not capable of crossing the stretch of sea that separates the island from its neighbouring islands and Istria.

One must also emphasise that the presence of this taxon has not yet been reported in adjacent areas and in the above locations, whereby it is impossible to assume that this expansion has occurred naturally.

Further, garden areas recently planted with trees from the continent were not noticed in either the discovery location or other parts of the island. In fact, one possibility could have been that eggs or individuals are being transported passively on conifers used as ornamental trees.

The only plausible explanation is that the specimen was unknowingly brought over by a tourist hailing from an area where the species abounds. In fact, the specimen was discovered on a campsite generally frequented by persons from Northern Italy and Slovenia.

Naturally, other *Pinus nigra* (more than a hundred) growing in the area were also kept under observation but without positive results.

Seeing that all successive searches for similar individuals in the area proved futile, one may readily assume that this was an isolated case born of pure chance.

Nevertheless, seeing the rapid and constant expansion presently underway, considering that the natural environment of the island of Cres does not differ much from that in which the Slovenian specimens were found, and considering the immense adaptability and versatility of this species, it is worth recording this new presence in the Croatian fauna, until a possible future confirmation arrives.

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