

TWO SPECIES OF ANTHOCORIDAE ON *PINUS NIGRA* NEW TO CROATIA

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The presence of two Anthocoridae (Insecta: Heteroptera) species new to Croatia is recorded: *Elatophilus (Euhadrocerus) crassicornis* and *Cardiastethus nazarenus*. Both were captured on the island of Cres on *Pinus nigra*.

Key Words: Heteroptera, Anthocoridae, *Pinus nigra*, Croatia

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Dokumentira se prisutnost dviju novih vrsta iz porodice Anthocoridae (Insecta: Heteroptera) za Hrvatsku: *Elatophilus (Euhadrocerus) crassicornis* i *Cardiastethus nazarenus*. Obje vrste su uhvaćene na otoku Cresu na crnom boru *Pinus nigra*.

Ključne riječi: Heteroptera, Anthocoridae, *Pinus nigra*, Hrvatska

INTRODUCTION

During research carried out in the *Pinus nigra* Arnold stands of the islands of Croatia, particularly Cres, I found some Anthocoridae (Hemiptera-Heteroptera) species that have not to date been reported from Croatia. The capture of a considerable number of *Elatophilus (Euhadrocerus) crassicornis* (Reuter, 1875) (Fig. 1), a species typical of the western part of the Mediterranean basin, was particularly interesting. The presence of *Cardiastethus nazarenus* Reuter, 1884, was reported by STICHEL (1959), but only in general terms and with no geographical or collection reference.

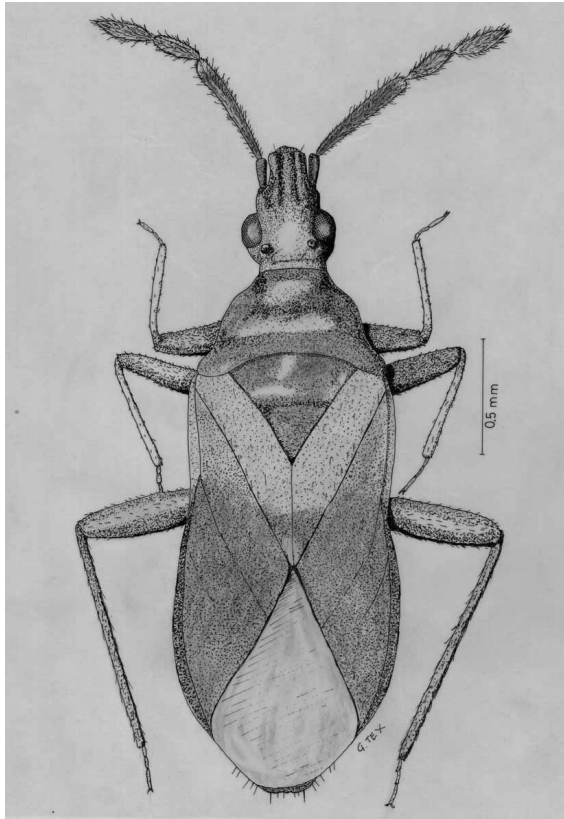


Fig. 1. *Elatophilus (Euhadrocerus) crassicornis* (Reuter, 1875)

ELATOPHILUS (EUHADROCERUS) CRASSICORNIS

Eight female specimens were collected on the Cres (Stivan, 27.06.2002; Martinšćica, 02.07.2003, 01.09.2005, 03.09.2005, 01.09.2006 (4 ex.)).

Due to its antenna structure (with the second element strongly compressed at the elliptic section) this taxon is placed in the subgenus *Euhadrocerus* Reuter 1884, neither species nor capture of which have been reported in the Adriatic or Balkans (PÉRICART, 1972; PROTIĆ, 1998). Moreover, the total dimensions and the length of the rostrum identify the specimens collected as the species *E. crassicornis*.

However, it has to be mentioned that some biometrical differences exist between the measurements of the specimens from Croatia and the published values (PÉRICART, 1968; 1972), confirmed by an examination of a female in the Natural History Museum of Genoa. In particular, the individuals examined have the following differences with respect to the others: third element of the rostrum shorter than the first; second element of the antennae five times longer than its maximum width

and never longer than 1.2 times the diatone, the scutellum always higher than the diatone. In any case, this series of morphological (biometrical) differences is part of the normal variance of this species (A. CARAPEZZA; J. PÉRICART, *pers. comm.*).

The importance of this report is in the widening of the distribution area of the species to the Adriatic area and in the relatively constant presence of this species, which has always been believed to be rather rare.

Collecting was carried out by sampling the foliage of the *Pinus nigra* trees or by collecting specimens that had fallen from it.

CARDIASTETHUS NAZARENUS

The *C. nazarenus* individuals were captured together with the aforementioned *E. crassicornis* individuals on *Pinus nigra* foliage. The individuals were two males of 1.95 and 1.80 mm. (Martinšćica, 01.09.2005; 01.09.2006). Some branches of the *Pinus* sampled showed the discrete presence of lichens typical of the bark.

The *C. nazarenus* was presumed to be present in the territory of Croatia: STICHEL (1959) had indicated the presence of this anthocorid in a generic manner without, however, indicating precise related data (»Jugoslawien«). PÉRICART (1972) himself reports this same situation; PROTIC (1998), in her catalogue, does not mention the taxon in the territory of ex-Yugoslavia. Finally, GOGALA (2004) reports its presence in Slovenia, the first confirmation for the upper Eastern Adriatic area.

Therefore, this new record corroborates the Northern Mediterranean distribution of this interesting and localized anthocorid.

The analysis (still partial) of the Heteroptera fauna that populates the *Pinus nigra* stands of Cres has led to the identification of very interesting taxa, both from the distributional and the ecological point of view. After the first report in Croatia (TESCARI, 2004) of *Leptoglossus occidentalis* Heidemann, a nearctic coreid in a full phase of expansion in Europe, I was able to identify it on Cres seven times more during 2006, always on *Pinus nigra*.

Elatophilus (Euhadrocerus) crassicornis, *Cardiastethus nazarenus* and *Leptoglossus occidentalis*, therefore, represent entities well established in the studied territory even though they are reported as rare or as a first sighting. The faunistic richness of an insular territory is well highlighted by these first results, obtained through research aimed at only one arboreal species.

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