**COVER LETTER**

Dear Editor in Chief,

Please find enclosed our manuscript entitled “Dispersal and larval hosts of the zigzag sawfly *Aproceros leucopoda* in Slovakia” by M. Zúbrik et al., which we would like to submit for publication as a Research Paper in *Periodicum Biologorum*.

The zigzag sawfly *Aprocers leucopoda* Takeuschi (Hymenoptera: Argidae) is a dangerous invasive pest of elm trees. Recent investigations show that *A. leucopoda* is quickly spreading in Europe. It was recorded on elm trees in Slovakia for the first time in 2007 and in 2009. However, since that time its occurrence has not been reported in the country. Detailed monitoring of *A. leucopoda* was conducted in 2014 and 2015. The pest was observed at 31 plots (out of 101 investigated). Based on the results of the monitoring the pest can be considered as established in the country.

We believe that our finding will appeal to a broad audience, such as the readership of *Periodicum Biologorum*.

We confirm that this manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is not under consideration by another journal. All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with submission to *Periodicum Biologorum*.We have read and have abided by the statement of ethical standards for manuscript submitted to *Periodicum Biologorum*. The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

As potential reviewers of your manuscript we suggest:

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