FIRST RECORD OF *APROCEROS LEUCOPODA* TAKEUCHI, 1939 (HYMENOPTERA: ARGIDAE) IN LITHUANIA

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Introduction

Invasive alien species pose a significant threat to biodiversity (McGeoch *et al.*, 2010). Compelling evidence exists based on global trade and movement patterns that the magnitude of this threat is increasing globally (Hulme, 2009). Due to the intensification of the penetration of invasive arthropods, there is a serious impact of some species on green stands and agricultural plantings (Kenis & Branco, 2010). Elm zigzag sawfly (*Aproceros leucopoda* Takeuchi, 1939) is common in a native range in East Asia (Naito, 2004; Wu, 2006; Blank *et al*., 2010). In Europe *A. leucopoda* was first recorded in 2003 (Blank *et al*., 2010) and this invasive sawfly continued its expansion in the secondary area.

Material and Methods

Photos of the damage to the leaf blades of *Ulmus* sp. were made by K. Vaicekauskaitė in Pelėdnagiai (Kėdainiai district municipality, Kaunas County) on 05 08 2020 (55.24081N, 23.95487E) and 20 10 2020 (55.24047N, 23.95490E). The species was identified by the damage it has done (Blank *et al*., 2010; Doychev, 2015; Martynov & Nikulina, 2017).

Results and Discussion

Aproceros leucopoda was first recorded in Europe in 2003 from Hungary and Poland (Blank *et al*., 2010). At present, elm zigzag sawfly is also found in Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Moldova, Netherlands, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom (Blank *et al*., 2010; Vétek *et al*., 2021; EPPO, 2021).

A. leucopoda larvae feed on various species of *Ulmus* (Blank *et al*., 2010; Vétek *et al*., 2021), which became the necessary condition for the spread of the pest.

There is a sufficiently high frequency of occurrence of *Ulmus*: *Ulmus glabra*, *Ulmus minor*, *Ulmus laevis* (Caudullo & de Rigo, 2016), which are the food plants for elm zigzag sawfly larvae in Lithuania (Blank *et al*., 2010; EPPO, 2021).

As a result of an inspection of green stands in the vicinity of Pelėdnagiai *Aproceros leucopoda* larval damage was detected on *Ulmus* sp. (*minor?*) (Fig. 1: A, B).

A B

Fig. 1. *Aproceros leucopoda* Takeuchi, 1939 larva on damaged leaves: (A) with larva – 05 08 2020; (B) without larva – 20 10 2020 (Photo: K. Vaicekauskaitė), Pelėdnagiai, Lithuania

Due to the high occurrence of elms in green stands, we should expect a sufficiently rapid spread of the pest across the territory of Lithuania. The high harmfulness of the pest is currently not noted.

This article states for the first time a new invasive species in Lithuania – *Aproceros leucopoda*, which may be noted in other regions of the country and spread over a significant part of the territory in the coming years.

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Pirmas pranešimas apie *Aproceros leucopoda* Takeuchi, 1939 (Hymenoptera: Argidae) Lietuvoje

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Straipsnyje pateikiami duomenys apie pirmą kartą Lietuvoje 2020 metais Kėdainių rajone stebėtą invazinių pjūklelių rūšį *Aproceros leucopoda*. Užfiksuotas tipiškas pjūklelio lervų daromas pažeidimas *Ulmus* genties augalų lapams. Ši rūšis Europoje aptikta 2003, jau žinoma aplinkinėse valstybėse ir galima tikėtis jos spartaus plitimo Lietuvoje.

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