

**Area expansion of the imported Nearctic cicadelline leafhopper  
Graphocephala fennahi Young 1977 in Western Europe  
(Homoptera: Auchenorrhyncha)**

by  
R. Sergel

**Abstract**

New collecting records of *G. fennahi* show this Nearctic leafhopper species imported to the Old World having expanded its colonizing area in Europe. Given food plant data indicate the species in Europe not feeding exclusively on *Rhododendron* spp.

**Introduction**

The *Auchenorrhyncha* species *Graphocephala fennahi* Young 1977 was imported from the Nearctic region to Europe (England) probably about 1930 (**Morcos** 1953). In 1971, it was recorded for Switzerland (**Günthart** 1971), and 1986 for Northern Germany (**Olthoff** 1986, **Niedringhaus & Olthoff** 1986). These data let expect the species to occur more widely distributed in Western Europe.

**New collection records and ecological notes**

By this, the following new collecting records are given. The data of the plant species *G. fennahi* was collected on indicate that *G. fennahi* is not feeding exclusively on *Rhododendron* spp. in Europe as recorded for N. America (**Hamilton** 1985):

Kiel: 2 ♂♂, leg. K. **Brennan** 30.7.1984, *Tilia* spp.; Hannover: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, leg. K. **Brennan** 2.8.1985, *Rhododendron* spp.; Braunschweig: 1 ♀, leg. K. **Brennan** 4.8.1985, *Azalea* spp.; Osnabrück: 4 ♂♂, 1 ♀, leg. G. **Freund** 8/1983, *Robinia pseudoacacia*; Münster: 1 ♂, leg. G. **Freund** 8/1983, without plant record; Düsseldorf: 1 ♀, leg. G. **Freund** 4.8.1985, *Rhododendron* spp.; Koblenz: 1 ♂, leg. J. **Reis** 8/1985, *Forsythia*; Saarbrücken: 1 ♀, leg. J. **Reis** 6.8.1985, *Tilia* spp.; Würzburg: 2 ♀♀, 1 ♂, leg. R. **Sergel** 4.8.1986, *Viburnum rhytidophyllum*; München: 1 ♀, leg. J. **Reis** 28.8.1985, *Rhododendron* spp.; Brüssel: 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, leg. G. **Freund** 9/1984, without plant record; near Arnhem: 1 ♀, leg. G. **Freund** 9/1984, unidentifed shrub; Paris: 1 ♀, leg. G. **Freund** 8/1985, *Rhododendron* spp.; Wien: 1 ♂, leg. J. **Reis** 8/1986, *Pieris japonica*; Kopenhagen: 1 ♂, leg. T. **Hemmer** 25.8.1986, without plant record.

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