

## NEW AND UNUSUALLY REPORTS

### **The First Record of *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) from the Czech Republic**

OTMAR VAHALA<sup>1</sup> and JAN BEZDĚK<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>State Phytosanitary Administration – Regional Division Brno; <sup>2</sup>Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry, Brno, Czech Republic

*Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* Le Conte 1868 is an important pest of maize (*Zea mays* L.). It was introduced to Europe from the USA in the early 1990's. Until now it had been reported from twelve European countries: Austria, Serbia, Hungary, Croatia, Romania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Italy, Slovakia, Switzerland and Ukraine.

Monitoring of the occurrence and distribution of *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* Le Conte 1868 (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Galerucinae) by pheromone traps in South Moravia has been carried out by inspectors of the State Phytosanitary Administration (SPA) in the districts of Brno, Břeclav, Hodonín, Uherské Hradiště and Znojmo since 1999. These districts are adjacent to the state borders with Austria and Slovakia which are, from the

pest distribution point of view, risk countries indeed. The pheromone traps are set up at observation points each month from 1 July to 30 September, especially in the cadastres with higher concentration of maize cultivation. Since 2001 the monitoring was also established at the next risk locality – Brno-Tuřany Airport. The traps are checked every 1–2 weeks.

*Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* was first found in the Czech Republic in the pheromone trap in Čejč (Hodonín District, 48°51' N 17° 08' E, faunistic quadrat 7067) on 10 July 2002 (1 male) and 11 July 2002 (1 male). These beetles were identified at the Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry in Brno (by J. Bezdek) and then sent to the Department of Diagnostics of State Phytosanitary Administration, Olomouc.

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Corresponding author:

Ing. Otmar VAHALA, Státní rostlinolékařská správa, Regionální divize Brno, Hroznová 2, 658 48 Brno, Česká republika  
Tel.: + 420 543 212 109, fax: + 420 543 212 109, e-mail: obo.brno@srs.cz

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