

**THE FIRST RECORD OF *GONOCERUS JUNIPERI* (HERRICH-SCHÄFFER, 1839)
(INSECTA: HETEROPTERA) IN THE LOWER SILESIA**

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ABSTRACT: The first locality in Lower Silesia of terrestrial true-bug *Gonocerus juniperi* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1839) is reported.

KEY WORDS: Insecta, *Heteroptera*, *Gonocerus juniperi*, first locality, Lower Silesia

Introduction

The genus *Gonocerus* is represented in Poland by two species: *Gonocerus acuteangulatus* (Goeze, 1788) and *Gonocerus juniperi* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1839). *Gonocerus juniperi* is a rare species of terrestrial bugs (*Heteroptera*) in Poland. It has not been recorded yet from Lower Silesia. One specimen of male of *Gonocerus juniperi* was collected (leg. A. Nowak) in the Opole city: Kolonia Gosławicka district in October 2006.

Morphology and biology of Gonocerus juniperi

Gonocerus juniperi belongs to the family of *Coreidae*. The species is distinguished from other representatives of this family by: nearly square head, clypeus slightly protruding outside the cheeks, an elongated and quite thin, green abdomen, membranes with numerous, almost parallel veins. The antennae consist of four segments: II – the longest, II and III – partly darker, IV – darker. The body length 11 – 14 mm, general colour brown and orange with numerous black spots. The host-plants for this species are *Juniperus sp.*, and less often *Taxus baccata* L. or *Buxus sempervirens* L. (Wagner 1966, Stroński 2001).

Distribution in Poland

The first reference of this species in Poland comes from the vicinity of Cracow (Cracow-Wieluń Upland) (Łomnicki 1882). So far, the species has been found in a few dozen sites throughout Poland, apart from south-western and north parts of country (Nowicki

1868, Łomnicki 1882, 1884, Kotula 1890, Smreczyński, 1907, Hedicke and Michalk 1934, Engel and Hedicke 1935, Engel 1938, Strawiński 1956, 1959a, 1959b, 1964, Cmoluchowa 1965, 1971, Stroński 2001). From the territory of Upper Silesia it has been reported only from one locality (Smreczyński 1954). Finding in the Opole city is the first in Lower Silesia. (Fig.1)

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Fig. 1. Distribution of *Gonocerus juniperi* (Herrich-Schäffer, 1839) in Poland (circles – localities from literature, triangle – new locality)

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