

***Tephritis cometa* (Diptera: Tephritidae): first record for Flanders and Belgium**

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Samenvatting. *Tephritis cometa* (Diptera: Tephritidae): eerste vermelding voor Vlaanderen en België

Op 20.V.1999 werden 3 mannetjes van *Tephritis cometa* (Loew, 1840) gesleept op bloemhoofdjes van *Cirsium palustre* (Kale jonker) in een grasland nabij een bos te Tessenderlo (Limburg). Dit betreft de eerste vangst van deze soort in Vlaanderen en België.

Résumé. *Tephritis cometa* (Diptera: Tephritidae): première mention pour la Flandre et la Belgique

Le 20.V.1999 3 mâles de *Tephritis cometa* (Loew, 1840) furent capturés sur les fleurs de *Cirsium palustre* dans une prairie proche d'une forêt dans le village de Tessenderlo (Limbourg). Il s'agit de la première capture en Flandre et pour toute la Belgique.

Key words: *Tephritis cometa* – Belgium – Flanders – faunistics.

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On 20.V.1999 3 males of *Tephritis cometa* (Loew, 1840) were caught by sweeping the capitulum of *Cirsium palustre* in a grassland near a forest at Tessenderlo (prov. of Limburg) (UTM: FS513590).

T. cometa is distributed throughout the Palaearctic region. Larvae are found in the capitulum of *Cirsium arvense* and *Cirsium palustre* (cf. White 1988).

The "Catalogue of the Diptera of Belgium" (Grootaert, De Bruyn & De Meyer 1991) does not mention this species for Belgium. B. van Aartsen noticed that in the "Atlas provisoire des Insectes de Belgique" (Leclercq 1971), the distribution map shows a spot near Bergen (?) (prov. of Henegouwen), and according to the text, there were no captures mentioned before. The capture or observation probably dates from before 1950 and the origin could not be traced.

Approximately 8 records of *T. cometa* are known from the South and Central part of The Netherlands (B. van Aartsen, pers. comm.). Séguy (1934) mentions 6 localities of *T. cometa* in France. *T. cometa* is also known from South-East England and East Anglia (White 1988).

Acknowledgements

Dr. P. Grootaert (K.B.I.N., dept. entomologie) and B. van Aartsen (Universiteit van Amsterdam, Zoölogisch Museum) kindly provided some information. The latter also confirmed the identification and read the manuscript.

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verantw. uitg.: W. De Prins, Diksmuidelaan 176, B-2600 Antwerpen (Belgium) - Tel: +32-3-322.02.35

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