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Heteroptera: Tingidae

Stephanitis* (*Stephanitis*) *rhododendri Horváth, 1905. Bohemia centr., Průhonice (6053), castle park, on *Rhododendron* sp., 12.ix.1986, 1 ♂, D. Král lgt., P. Kment det. et coll.; dtto, 18.ix.1986, mass occurrence (37 spec. collected), Z. Jindra lgt., det. et coll. Bohemia or., Žehušice (6058), 15.vi.1996, 1 spec., O. Kubík lgt., P. Kment det., coll. Moravian Museum, Brno. Moravia bor., Velké Losiny (5968), castle park, on *Rhododendron* sp., 5.viii.2005, mass occurrence (15 ♂♂, 16 ♀♀ collected), Z. Jindra observ., lgt. et det., coll. Z. Jindra et coll. National Museum, Praha. *Stephanitis rhododendri* is native in the USA and Canada, where it inhabits two disjoint areas – along the Atlantic coast from New Foundland to Florida and along the Pacific coast from British Columbia to Oregon (Drake & Ruhoff 1956, Froeschner 1988). It was introduced into the Netherlands around 1890 and described from there (Horváth 1905). Subsequently it was found in England, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, Poland, Scotland, Denmark and southern Sweden (Štusák 1981, Péricart 1983, Lis 1996, Péricart & Golub 1996). In Finland it was introduced into greenhouses (Péricart & Golub 1996). It was also introduced into South Africa and New Zealand (Drake & Ruhoff 1956, Péricart 1983, Péricart & Golub 1996). However, Péricart & Golub (1996) mentioned that this species is currently disappearing from many European localities. In the Czech Republic, this species has so far been found only three times in Bohemia and always on *Rhododendron* spp. It was collected in Průhonice already in 1941 but the record remained long unpublished (Štusák 1981). Stehlík (1995) added another record from Malešov (6057) near Kutná Hora, and Rus (2005) reported specimens collected by O. Kubík in Žehušice. *Stephanitis rhododendri* is trophically bound to shrubs from the family Ericaceae, especially *Rhododendron* spp., but it was also found on *Kalmia angustifolia*, *K. latifolia*, *Pieris floribunda* and *P. japonica* (Drake & Ruhoff 1956, Štusák 1981, Péricart 1983). It is listed among plant pests in the Czech Republic (Kocourek et al. 2002). New species for Moravia, occurrence in Bohemia confirmed.

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