

The Auchenorrhyncha of Central Europe

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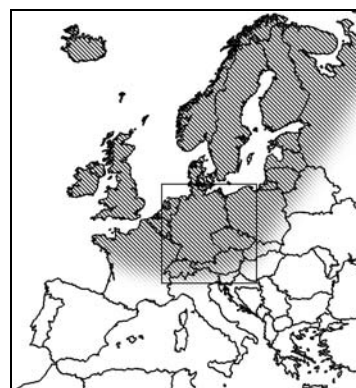
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Concerning the insect fauna, central Europe is one of the best-studied regions of the world. This is also true in Auchenorrhyncha. However, no modern comprehensive book on species identification, chorology and ecology is available. For determination, one has to use a combination of outdated keys (Melichar 1896, Haupt 1935, Dlabola 1954), comprehensive books covering adjacent parts of Europe (Great Britain, France, Scandinavia, Russia, Ukraine) and several other papers dealing with single genera and species. In 1994, we began to work on a new "Fauna of Central Europe", and as a first step, a preliminary checklist of the relevant species was published (Holzinger et al. 1997).

Now the first volume of the book is finished and will be printed in autumn 2002 by Brill Academic Publishers, Zeist, Netherlands. It is a bilingual book (English/German) and covers the Fulgoromorpha and Cicadomorpha excluding Cicadellidae. The following volumes 2 and 3 will deal with the Cicadellidae.

Fig 1.: The new book "Auchenorrhyncha of Central Europe" deals with all leafhoppers, plant-hoppers and cicadas known to occur in the hatched area. Detailed information on distribution (species distribution maps) and biology (phenology, habitats, host plants) is provided for all species known from the area within the central rectangle.



Volume 1 covers about 250 species (Cixiidae: ca. 34 spp., Delphacidae: 133 spp., Achilidae: 5 spp., Dictyopharidae: 3 spp., Tettigometridae: ca. 11 spp., Caliscelidae: 7 spp., Issidae: 14 spp., Flatidae: 1 sp., Tropiduchidae: 2 spp., Cicadidae: 12 spp., Cercopidae: 5 spp., Aphrophoridae: 17 spp. Membracidae: 3 spp.), and contains 284 b/w plates with drawings mainly of genitalic structures and more than 700 colour photos of almost all species, sexes and colour morphs. All species known from central Europe, Scandinavia and the British Isles are included (Fig. 1).

Dichotomous keys to families, genera and species are provided. Data on habitat preferences, host plants, overwintering stage and phenology, mainly based on own field data, are given for each species. In addition, we figure their distribution within central Europe and outline their overall range. In some genera (e. g. *Tettigometra*) and species (-groups), we had to face taxonomic problems exceeding the scope of this book by far. In these cases, we tried to discuss the problems and to establish a basic, preliminary framework, that allows to deal with these taxa (for instance in faunistic papers), but without providing final solutions.

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References

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