

The Western Conifer Seed Bug (*Leptoglossus occidentalis* Heidemann, 1910) (Hemiptera, Coreidae) found in SW Norway

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Leptoglossus occidentalis Heidemann, 1910 (Hemiptera, Coreidae) was introduced to Europe from North America, probably in 1999. Later it has spread rapidly northwards, and in October and November 2009 it was recorded for the first time in Norway and Denmark. *L. occidentalis* can be a pest on about 40 conifer species.

Key words: Hemiptera, Coreidae, *Leptoglossus occidentalis*, Norway.

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Introduction

Leptoglossus occidentalis Heidemann, 1910 (Hemiptera, Coreidae) is originally a Nearctic species, native to the western areas of North America, from Mexico in the south through California and Utah to British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan in the north. After World War II the species spread eastwards: in the 1950s and 1960s it reached America's Midwest, and later it has been found in all the eastern states (McPherson et al. 1990, Gall 1992, Kment & Banar 2008).

L. occidentalis was accidentally introduced to Europe. The insect was first discovered near Vicenza in northern Italy in autumn 1999, and soon spread to other parts of Italy (Taylor et al. 2001, Bernardinelli & Zandigiacom 2001). Recently it was found in additional South and Central European countries (Baranek 2007, Földessy 2006, Kment & Banar 2008), and in 2008–2009

an influx of *L. occidentalis* to the south coast of England was reported on various websites.

The records

RY Klepp: Reve (EIS 7) 10 October 2009, on grass lawn, UTM 6518523 N, 297911 E, sone 32, leg. Alf Tore Mjøs, in coll. Stavanger Museum. **VAY** Lindesnes: Jørgenstad near Stusvik (EIS 1) 22 November 2009 indoor at window, leg. Inger M. Nielsen, in coll. T.R. Nielsen.

Remarks

The first records from Scandinavia are from 2009; in Denmark a specimen was found indoor at Lemvig, NW Jylland on 20 October, and one was beaten down from *Pinus* on Langø, Hindsholm, Falster on 30 October (Buhl & Stephensen 2009). Also the Norwegian records are also from that period (see above), which indicates a migration