Contribution to the Icelandic fauna of Auchenorrhyncha (Hemiptera, Fulgoromorpha & Cicadomorpha)

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This paper reviews the Icelandic fauna of Auchenorrhyncha and reports on an investigation from 2009 where a total number of 567 individuals of Auchenorrhyncha were collected in the southwestern part of Iceland. Specimens were collected from 22 different localities and the material consisted of five species, with one being new to the Icelandic fauna, namely Edwardsiana rosae (Linnaeus, 1958). All the 10 Auchenorrhyncha species reported from Iceland are commented on; Toya propinqua (Fieber, 1866), Javesella pellucida (Fabricius, 1794), Philaenus spumarius (Linnaeus, 1758), Evacanthus interruptus (Linnaeus, 1758), Edwardsiana rosae (Linnaeus, 1958), Ribautiana ulmi (Linnaeus, 1958), Cicadula quadrinotata (Fabricius, 1794), Macrosteles laevis (Ribaut, 1927), Macrosteles sexnotatus (Fallen, 1826), Jassargus pseudocellaris (Flor, 1861), all except T. propinqua and M. sexnotatus being regarded as established. Some aspects of the apparently poor Icelandic fauna of Auchenorrhyncha are discussed.

Key words: Iceland, Hemiptera, Auchenorrhyncha, Edwardsiana rosae, species introductions.

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Introduction

The first records of Auchenorrhyncha (hoppers) from Iceland was probably made by Staudinger (1857) and later e.g. Manson (1890), but the Icelandic fauna of arthropods in general was poorly known until Carl H. Lindroth started his pioneer studies there in the 1920s (Lindroth 1931, Bengtson 2007). He also collected Auchenorrhyncha among other groups, and his material was later re-examined by Frej Ossiannilsson (1947). In Lindroth’s material only four species of hoppers were found, namely Jassargus pseudocellaris (Flor, 1861), Cicadula quadrinotata (Fabricius, 1794), Macrosteles laevis (Ribaut, 1927) and Javesella pellucida (Fabricius, 1794). Again, in 1948, Ossiannilsson re-examined Icelandic specimen from the collection at the Natural History Museum of Denmark (NHMD), which consisted of the same four species as in Lindroth’s material (Ossiannilsson 1947, 1948). Since Ossiannilssons re-examination of the material at NHMD, little new material of Icelandic Auchenorrhynchas has entered their collection. An exception is a material of the three species Javesella pellucida, Cicadula quadrinotata and Jassargus pseudocellaris collected by Jens Böcher at Skaftafell in July–August 1961 (N.P. Kristensen pers. comm.).

Lindroth et al. (1973) investigated the fauna of the Surtsey island between 1963 and 1970, an island appearing south of Iceland in 1963 due to a volcanic eruption. Lindroth et al. (1973) also lists records of invertebrates found on the mainland, including the four species of Auchenorrhyncha mentioned above, but none of these were reported from Surtsey. Ólafsson (1978, 1982) followed up investigations on Surtsey, still with no records of Auchenorrhyncha from the island. Interestingly, investigations conducted on Surtsey between 2002 and 2006, concluded e.g. that both Macrosteles...