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Two more findings of *Bohemannia auriciliella* from The Netherlands (Lepidoptera: Nepticulidae)

Altogether only seven specimens of *Bohemannia auriciliella* (De Joannis) are known thus far: two from England, one from France and four from The Netherlands. Accordingly, this species still has to be considered as one of the rarest European Lepidoptera. In an earlier paper we paid attention to this nepticulid species because of the finding of the third and fourth Dutch specimens (Kuchlein et al., 2000). *Bohemannia auriciliella* is rather well recognizable (fig. 1); we refer to the just mentioned paper for details on its distinguishing characters.

Three years after the capture of an adult at Twello (province of Gelderland) by the first author, he and his wife succeeded in collecting two more specimens of *B. auriciliella* near Gietelo (also province of Gelderland) on 11 and 16 June 2000, respectively. The latter site is situated less than seven kilometer from the former one. Both specimens were swept from low vegetation, and not, as in earlier findings, from trees or shrubs. Consequently, these new findings do not get us any further with regard to the foodplant of *B. auriciliella*, which is still not known with certainty (see Kuchlein et al., 2000).

Because of its obscure bionomics and the

scarce data on its occurrence it is nearly impossible to make significant remarks on the distribution of *B. auriciliella*. However, the fact that six of the nine known specimens originate from The Netherlands may be an indication that our country is situated somewhere centrally in its distributional range. Moreover, all known localities are situated in the neighbourhood of the lower course of large rivers (Thames, Loire, Meuse, Rhine, and IJssel), which suggests that the species is an inhabitant of the river-delta region of Northwest-Europe (or what is left of it). This is all the more reason to pay special attention to the search for its immature stages and its real habitat, especially in The Netherlands.

Acknowledgement

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Reference

KUCHLEIN, J. H., L. E. J. BOT & J. B. WOLSCHRIJN, 2000. Two additional records of *Bohemannia auriciliella* from The Netherlands (Lepidoptera: Nepticulidae). – *Entomologische Berichten, Amsterdam* 60: 36-38.

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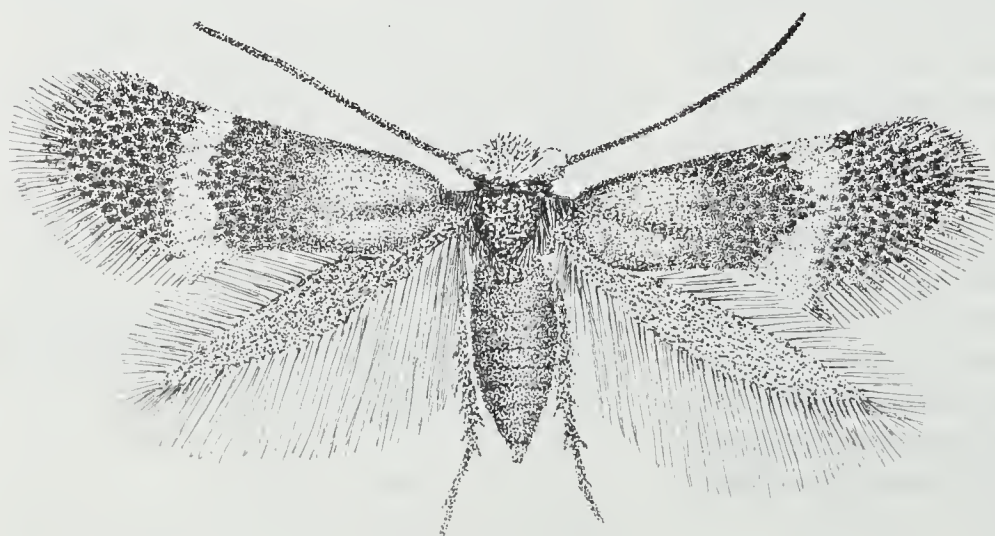


Fig. 1. Female of *Bohemannia auriciliella*.