

GREEN SHIELD BUG (*PALOMENA PRASINA*) – THE INSECT OF THE YEAR 2010: CAMPAIGN REVIEW AND RESULTS

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Introduction

Lithuanian Entomological Society announced “The Insect of the Year” campaign since 2002. The main objectives of this campaign are to collect data about the selected insect’s prevalence in Lithuania, its population, the most common habitats, host plants, also to invite the society and the enthusiasts of entomology to this activity, to encourage the society to take interest in entomology, to spread the information about bugs.

In 2010, the green shield bug (*Palomena prasina*, Linnaeus, 1761) was chosen as the insect of the year. It is a quite large, 12–13.5 mm length green coloured shield bug, found from the end of April to the beginning of November in the woodland, the outskirts of forests, the bushes, on the groundlings, in the parks, gardens. The nymphs are found from June to September. There is one generation in a year, the adult bugs hibernate (Bantock & Botting, 2010; Eisenreich *et. al.*, 2007; Lešinskas & Pileckis, 1967).

Material and Methods

The data was collected remotely. The participants of this campaign who had found the green shield bug had to take a photo of the bug and to fill in the form, where they had to indicate the date of finding, the location (region, city, or village), the coordinates, the habitat, the plant, where the bug was found, the number of found individuals.

The information about this campaign was published in the newspaper “Valstiečių laikraštis”, in the magazine “Žurnalas apie gamtą”, in the web-pages www.entomologai.lt, www.macrogamta.lt, www.efoto.lt, also in the LCD monitors in the health centers and bus stops (video clip).

25 people have participated in this campaign. Overall, 59 filled forms were sent, from which 52 with the data of the year 2010, and 7 with the data of finding of the year 2009.

List of localities:

Akmenė district	Tupikai	56°14'04,45"N, 22°43'55,26"E
Alytus district	Punios šilas f.	54°33'06,18"N, 24°04'40,66"E
Alytus t.	Vidzgiris Bot. P.	54°22'44,73"N, 24°02'19,36"E
Anykščiai district	Dūdos	55°26'51,70"N, 25°02'19,20"E
	Kavarskas	55°25'49,55"N, 24°55'44,44"E
	Želtiškiei	55°23'52,09"N, 25°15'53,83"E
Jonava district	Būdu Miškas f.	54°59'39,24"N, 24°16'54,26"E
Kaišiadoriai district	Romatas	54°57'05,20"N, 24°22'15,50"E
	Rumšiškės	54°52'06,49"N, 24°11'51,14"E
Kaunas t. (1)		54°54'34,19"N, 23°53'59,01"E

Kaunas t. (2)		54°51'30,73"N, 23°52'48,21"E
	Kleboniščio Miškas f.	54°57'02,77"N, 23°56'29,30"E
Kaunas district	Karmėlava	54°58'23,22"N, 24°02'43,79"E
	Noreikiškės	54°53'21,40"N, 23°50'17,50"E
	Puskunigiai	54°57'29,00"N, 23°27'15,00"E
	Žiemkelio Miškas f.	54°50'22,23"N, 23°39'57,97"E
Kazlų Rūda mun.	Būda	54°48'11,85"N, 23°19'55,54"E
	Simokai	54°47'30,96"N, 23°22'21,60"E
Kelmė district	Dubysa Reg. P. (1)	55°33'40,85"N, 23°05'04,38"E
	Dubysa Reg. P. (2)	55°34'43,25"N, 23°03'49,28"E
	Dubysa Reg. P. (3)	55°33'42,51"N, 23°04'54,03"E
	Katežeris lake	55°37'20,39"N, 22°42'16,88"E
Klaipėda district	Kiškėnai	55°38'40,20"N, 21°15'30,31"E
Kupiškis district	Kiščio Miškas f, Vizgiūnai quarry	55°49'43,92"N, 24°53'45,66"E 55°50'10,52"N, 24°54'06,42"E
Marijampolė t.		54°34'18,99"N, 23°21'02,94"E
Mažeikiai district	Miliai	56°15'31,43"N, 22°26'08,38"E
Neringa mun.	Nida	55°19'13,04"N, 21°00'31,46"E
Radviliškis district	Arimaičiai lake	55°47'04,63"N, 23°39'42,06"E
Raseiniai district	Sargeliai	55°28'41,73"N, 23°27'26,42"E
Rokiškis district	Degeniai	55°58'41,13"N, 25°21'02,58"E
Širvintos district	Liuliškiai	54°56'07,02"N, 24°47'00,57"E
Švenčioniai district	Švenčionėliai	55°09'13,43"N, 25°59'22,11"E
Trakai district	Strėva lake	54°35'16,52"N, 24°42'04,53"E
	Vilūnų Miškas f.	54°34'17,11"N, 24°33'37,32"E
Ukmergė district	Šventoji river valley	55°10'55,49"N, 24°40'52,46"E
Utena district	Minčia, Aukštaitija Nat. P.	55°28'33,87"N, 25°58'56,30"E
Varėna district	Glūkas	54°17'01,13"N, 24°32'37,42"E
Vilnius district	Kena	54°38'18,93"N, 25°37'57,05"E
Vilnius t. (1)		54°43'30,06"N, 25°14'04,75"E
Vilnius t. (2)		54°40'56,16"N, 25°16'54,31"E
Zarasai t.		55°44'40,14"N, 26°13'36,69"E
Zarasai district	Degsnė	55°49'42,55"N, 26°10'46,32"E
	Ditkūnai	55°44'04,94"N, 26°12'27,34"E
	Maniuliškės	55°50'19,63"N, 25°59'54,07"E

PENTATOMIDAE

***Palomena prasina* (Linnaeus, 1761)**

Arimaičiai lake, 25 07 2010, 1 spec. (D. Baužys); Būda, 12–14 07 2010, 17 spec. (E. Černevičiūtė); Būdu Miškas f., 08 05 2010, 1 spec. (M. Ružauskas); Degeniai, 21 07 2010, 3 spec. (V. Stumbrys); Degsnė, 21 08 2010, 1 spec. (I. Semionovas); Ditkūnai, 11–20 08 2010, 2 spec. (I. Semionovas); Dubysa Reg. P. (1), 03 07 2010, 1 spec. (E. Živatkauskas); Dubysa Reg. P. (2), 03 07 2010, 1 spec. (E. Živatkauskas); Dubysa Reg. P. (3), 10 10 2010, 1 spec. (E. Živatkauskas); Dūdos, 18 08 2010, 11 spec. (B. Gudelevičienė); Glūkas, 07 09 2010, 2 spec. (R. Miliūnas); Karmėlava, 06 05 2010, 4 spec. (M. Ružauskas); Katežeris lake, 22 05 2010, 1 spec. (D. Baužys); Kaunas t. (1), 17 07 2010, 1 spec. (G. Riaubaitė);

Kaunas t. (2), 28 08 2010, 1 spec. (V. Brazauskas); Kavarskas, 07 05 2010, 1 spec. (G. Auglytė); Kena, 05 09 2010, 2 spec. (D. Baužys); Kiškėnai, 27 06 2010, 1 spec. (G. Gražulevičius); Kiškio Miškas f., 29 08 2010, 5 spec. (D. Babelis); Kleboniščio Miškas f., 06 08 2010, 1 spec. (M. Ružauskas); Liuliškiai, 31 07 2010, 1 spec. (E. Kazlauskis); Maniuliškės, 29 05 2010, 1 spec. (M. Gasparavičius); Marijampolė t., 31 08 2010, 1 spec. (I. Tamulynienė); Miliai, 30 05 2010, 1 spec. (A. Vilkas); Minčia, Aukštaitija Nat. P., 06 08 2010, 2 spec. (B. Šablevičius); Nida, 23 08 2010, 3 spec. (R. Gražulevičiūtė); Noreikiškės, 19 09 2010, 1 spec. (V. Brazauskas); Punios šilas f., 21 08 2010, 7 spec. (D. Baužys); Puskunigiai, 15 05 2010, 1 spec. (G. Steiblys); Romatas, 26 04 2010, 1 spec. (V. Bačianskas); Rumšiškės, 27 06 2010, 1 spec. (G. Riaubaitė); Sargeliai, 21 05 2010, 1 spec. (B. Gliwa); Simokai, 06 08 2010, 2 spec. (E. Černevičiūtė); Strėva lake, 21 08 2010, spec. (D. Baužys); Švenčionėliai, 16 08 2010, 3 spec. (V. Sipavičius); Šventoji river valley, 16 04 2010, 1 spec. (G. Švitra); Tupikai, 24 08 2010, 2 spec. (D. Baužys); Vidzgiris Bot. P., 16 05 2010, 1 spec. (M. Ružauskas); Vilnius t. (1), 05 07 2010, 2 spec. (D. Baužys); Vilnius t. (2), 12 08 2010, 1 spec. (D. Baužys); Vilūnų Miškas f., 22 08 2010, 1 spec. (D. Baužys); Vizgiūnai quarry, 26 09 2010, 2 spec. (D. Babelis); Zarasai, 23 08 2010, 1 spec. (I. Semionovas); Želtiškiai, 25 04 2010, 2 spec. (A. Eismantas); Žiemkelio Miškas f., 09 05 2010, 1 spec. (M. Ružauskas).

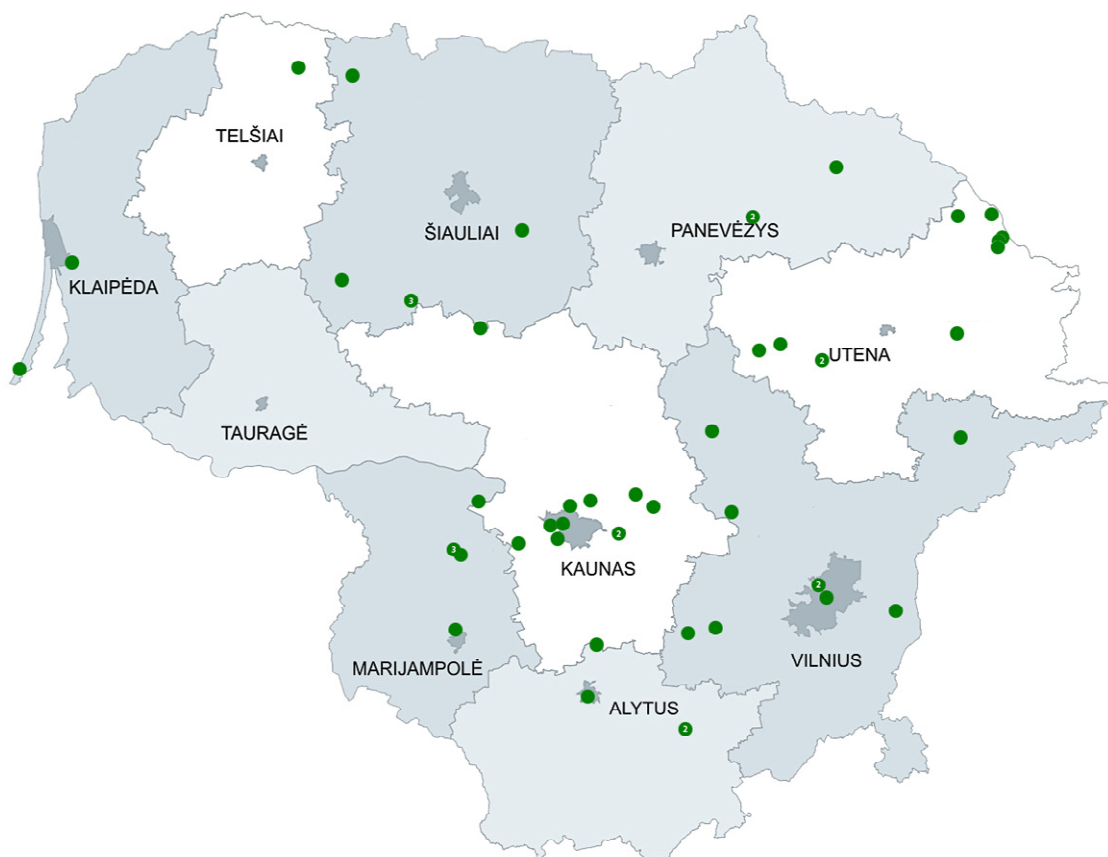


Figure 1. Findings of *Palomena prasina* in 2009–2010

Discussion

In conformity with the collected data it is possible to state that the green shield bug (*Palomena prasina*) is spread over the whole territory of Lithuania.

The first green shield bug was registered on April 16, 2010. The last one was registered on October 10, 2010. The nymphs of the green shield bug were found and registered from the 6th of July to the 26th of September.

Most often this shield bug was found on the raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*) – 10 times, and single time on the coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara*), the aster (*Aster* sp.), the oats (*Avena* sp.), the birch (*Betula* sp.), the nettle (*Urtica* sp.), the aspen (*Populus tremula*), willow (*Salix* sp.), wormwood (*Artemisia* sp.), yarrow (*Achillea* sp.), the common hazel (*Corylus avellana*), the sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), the pelargonium (*Pelargonium* sp.), the downy birch (*Betula pubescens*), the northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*), the wild cherry (*Prunus avium*), the soapwort (*Saponaria officinalis*), the grapevine (*Vitis* sp.), the wild strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*). The plant was not indicated in 23 forms.

Acknowledgements

I sincerely thank all who participated in the campaign, especially those, who sent more than one completed form.

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Akcijos „Metų vabzdys 2010 – medinė skydblakė (*Palomena prasina*)“ apžvalga ir rezultatai

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Santrauka

Straipsnyje pateikiami Lietuvos entomologų draugijos vykdytos akcijos „Metų vabzdys 2010 – medinė skydblakė (*Palomena prasina*)“ rezultatai. Apžvelgiami duomenys apie akcijos metu aptiktas medinės skydblakes, jų paplitimą, mitybinius augalus.

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