

Nemapogon wolffiella (Lepidoptera: Tineidae), new species for the Belgian fauna

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Abstract. On 29 May 2010 a specimen of *Nemapogon wolffiella* Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976 was caught at Ploegsteert (Belgium, Prov. of Hainaut). The identification was confirmed by dissection of the genitalia. This is the first record of this species for the Belgian fauna. Details on its biology and distribution are presented.

Samenvatting. *Nemapogon wolffiella* (Lepidoptera: Tineidae), nieuw voor de Belgische fauna

Op 29 mei 2010 werd tijdens de 1000-soortendag met de Bladmijnenwerkgroep te Ploegsteert (Prov. Henegouwen) deelgenomen aan een grootschalige inventarisatie om zoveel mogelijk soorten te noteren. Overdag werd naar bladmijnen gezocht en 's nachts werden vlindervallen uitgezet waarin één exemplaar *Nemapogon* werd aangetroffen. Na genitaalcontrole is met zekerheid aangetoond dat het om *Nemapogon wolffiella* Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976 gaat. Deze soort wordt hier voor het eerst uit België vermeld. Details over de biologie en verspreiding worden meegedeeld.

Résumé. *Nemapogon wolffiella* (Lepidoptera: Tineidae), espèce nouvelle pour la faune belge

Le 29 mai 2010, un exemplaire de *Nemapogon wolffiella* Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976 a été trouvé dans un piège lumineux à Ploegsteert (Province du Hainaut). La détermination fut confirmée par une préparation des genitalia. C'est la première fois que cette espèce est mentionnée pour la faune belge. Des informations sur sa biologie et sa répartition sont données.

Key words: *Nemapogon wolffiella* – Faunistics – First record – Belgium.

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Introduction

On 29 May 2010 the leaf mining group participated in the 1000-species-day at Ploegsteert (province of Hainaut). Many naturalists searched for different trees, plants, birds, butterflies and other living species. All species were noted and listed in a central computer in the hope to reach 1000 species that day. Sunday 30 May the counter stopped at 744 species, but one of the recorded species turned out to be a new species for the Belgium fauna: *Nemapogon wolffiella* Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976, caught in one of the light-traps. This species has some resemblance with *Nemapogon cloacella* and *N. granella*, and it is advisable to check the genitalia in order to obtain a identification.

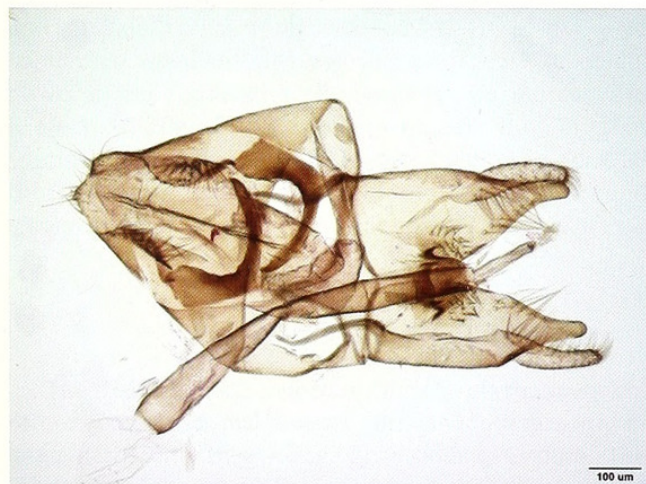


Fig. 1. *Nemapogon wolffiella* Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976, male genitalia, prep. & photo Jurate De Prins.

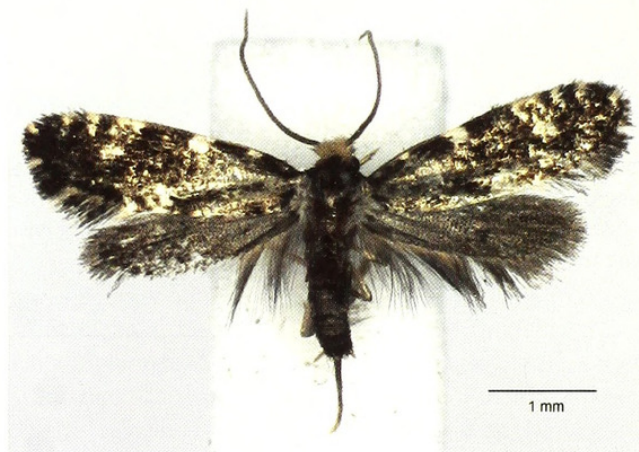


Fig. 2. *Nemapogon wolffiella* Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976. Ploegsteert, (Belgium, Hainaut), 29.v.2010, leg. S. Wullaert (Photo Jurate De Prins).



Fig. 3. *Nemapogon wolffiella* Karsholt & Nielsen, 1976. Ploegsteert, (Belgium, Hainaut), 29.v.2010, leg. & photo S. Wullaert .

Description

The species has a wingspan of 10 to 14mm. The head is pale ochreous and has some darker hairs at the sides and on the crown. The antenna of the male are slightly pubescent and subserrate. The forewing is dark brown with several prominent white spots which can vary in size and position. The fringe has five white bars between the costal cilia and tornus. The hindwing is dark fuscous. *Nemapogon cloacella* and *N. granella* are very similar to *N. wolffiella* but the ground colour of *N. wolffiella* is darkened to such an extent that the dark markings corresponding to those other species are scarcely visible. When the male genitalia are checked the shape of the gnathos arms distinguishes it from the other *Nemapogon* species (Heath 1985).

Biology

On the continent there are two generations flying in May and June and again in July and August. Heath writes that in Great Britain and Ireland the species occurs only in June and July and therefore it is presumably univoltine over there. The adults are active during late afternoon and at dusk. They come to light. The larva is undescribed

but moths were bred from bracket fungi and from rotten wood (Heath 1985).

Distribution

The butterflies can be found in Austria, British Isles, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Danish mainland, Estonia, Finland, French mainland, Germany, Hungary, Italian mainland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Norwegian mainland, Poland, Russia Northwest, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, and The Netherlands (Karsholt & van Nieukerken 2010). In The Netherlands the species was discovered in the year 1986 in the Province Limburg (Kuchlein 1993). From that year on *Nemapogon wolffiella* is being reported in about 13 different places in The Netherlands (microlepidoptera.nl 2010).

Acknowledgements

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