

Short scientific news
Novinky**CUSCUTA LUPULIFORMIS (KROCKER) HADAČ ET CHRTEK, (CUSCUTACEAE) –
– A NEW HOST FOR BEAN APHID, APHIS FABAE SCOPOLI
(HOMOPTERA, APHIDIDAE)****CUSCUTA LUPULIFORMIS (KROCKER) HADAČ ET CHRTEK, (CUSCUTACEAE) –
NOVÝ HOSTITEL VOŠKY MAKOVEJ, APHIS FABAE SCOPOLI
(HOMOPTERA, APHIDIDAE)**

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Cuscuta is a cosmopolitan genus with a world-wide distribution (Watson, Dallwitz, 1992). In Slovakia, the most important species from the family Cuscutaceae are *Cuscuta campestris* Yuncker, *C. epithymum* (L.) Murr, *C. europea* L., and *C. lupuliformis* (Krocker) Hadač & Chrtek (Bertová et al., 1988). In total, a low diversity of phytophagous insects has been reported on parasitic plants from the genus *Cuscuta*. Larvae of *Cerastrina agriolus* (Del'Orza) destroyed the fruits, *Smicronyx* spp., and *S. coecus* (Reich) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) caused stem galls. Larvae of the first generation of *Melanagromyza cuscuteae* Hering (Diptera: Agromyzidae) mined in stems and those of the second generation destroyed the seeds (Volkov, 1989). *S. roridus* (Marshall) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) fed on growing points and formed galls on the young *Cuscuta* shoots (Parsons & Cuthbertson, 1992). *C. reflexa* was a host for *Aphis craccivora* (Koch) (Homoptera: Aphididae) (Cheema et al., 1976). During 2001, plants from the family Cuscutaceae (*C. campestris*, *C. epithymum*, *C. europea* and *C. lupuliformis*) were examined for the presence of insects at 52 localities of Slovakia. Aphid colonies were found on *C. lupuliformis* at the locality of Čoltovo (7588*, 227 m a. s. l.). Together 12 winged females, 14 apterous females and 112 nymphs were collected. Leg. et coll. L. Cagáň, P. Tóth, E. Komáromyová; det. M. Barta. The aphids were collected from infested plants and preserved in 70 % ethylalcohol for determination. The species was identified as *Aphis fabae* Scopoli (Homoptera: Aphididae). Bean aphid, *A. fabae* is a polyphagous aphid species feeding on more than 200 plant species (Heie, 1986; Stoetzel, 1990; Douglas, 1997). *C. lupuliformis* has not been mentioned as a host of *A. fabae* (Douglas, 1997; Godfrey, Chaney, 1995; Heie, 1986; 1995; Taubert, 1985). Until now, plant species from the family Cuscutaceae have not been referred to as a host of *A. fabae*. This is the first record of *C. lupuliformis* as a host of *A. fabae*.

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* Grid reference number of the Databank of the fauna of Slovakia