

**FIRST REPORT OF *CAMPYLONEURA VIRGULA*
(HEMIPTERA: MIRIDAE: BRYOCORINAE)
IN CONNECTICUT¹**

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The Old World dicyphine plant bug *Campyloneura virgula* (Herrich-Schaeffer) is known from most European countries, Algeria, Asia Minor and Turkestan (Kerzhner and Josifov, 1999). It was first reported as occurring in western North America (British Columbia) in 1949 (Downes, 1957). Collection records from British Columbia (1946, 1950), Oregon (1957-1979, 1982), California (1964, 1969), and western Washington (1975-1979, 2008) were published by Lattin and Stonedahl (1984) and Henry (2012). Recently, the species has been documented in the eastern United States in Maryland (from 2007-2011), and Virginia (2011); in addition, a specimen was identified from Yonkers, New York, from a collection made in 1995. These recent records suggest that *C. virgula* is well-established in the eastern United States (Henry, 2012).

Campyloneura virgula is a predator of aphids, mites, psocids, psyllids, and other small arthropods, and is known to bite humans. It has been found on a large variety of plants (Aceraceae, Anacardiaceae, Betulaceae, Ericaceae, Fabaceae, Fagaceae, Lauraceae, Oleaceae, Rhamnaceae, Rosaceae, Salicaceae, Tiliaceae, Ulmaceae and Urticaceae). The species is known to overwinter as eggs in England and as adults in Europe (Henry, 2012).

In June 2012, *Campyloneura virgula* was collected for the first time in Connecticut (New Haven Co., North Haven). Six specimens were found on the leaves of a 70-year-old copper beech tree (*Fagus sylvatica purpurea*), a species upon which the mirid had not been reported previously in North America, although it had been collected on *F. sylvatica* in Europe (Downes, 1957). One specimen was observed feeding on honeydew, a behavior previously noted (Wheeler, 2001). Previous collections of this species in North America were made from June to August. All specimens collected in Connecticut were female. This is consistent with most past collections, and the species is known to be parthenogenetic (Carayon, 1989; Henry, 2012).

The specimens were all collected by the author: 25 June 2012 – 1 female; 27 June 2012 – 1 female; 29 June 2012 – 4 females (one feeding on honeydew). The specimens from 27 June (1) and 29 June (3) have been deposited in the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, Division of Entomology.

Given its small size (length 3.80-4.20 mm) (Henry, 2012), this insect is not readily collected by hand (as was done for the current report), and recognition of species presence generally requires purposeful collection by beating or sweeping

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