On the Host Plants of certain Trioza Species (Hom., Psyll.)

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W. Wagner (1955) precised the morphological characteristics of the "*Trioza femoralis* group", comprising the Central European species *femoralis* Frst. (=*acutipennis* auct., nec Zett.), *acutipennis* Zett. (=*saundersi* M.-D.), *bohemica* Šulc?, and *harrisoni* W. Wagner. These species have in common the presence of two black apical spines on the inner side of the hind tibiae, and the shape of the anal segment in the male. Another species belonging to the same group is *Trioza reuteri* Šulc, which has not so far been established as a Central European insect, apparently.

Trioza harrisoni has not been found in Sweden. On the other hand, *reuteri* is a member of the Swedish as well as the Finnish and Norwegian faunas, and so are *femoralis, acutipennis,* and *bohemica* (the latter being interpreted in the sense of Wagner, 1955).

The purpose of the present paper is to point out the fact that at least the four Swedish species of the *femoralis* group do seem to be closely related also in their choice of host plants. The host plant of *Trioza femoralis* has long been known to be *Alchemilla.* Wahlgren (1938) established *Comarum palustre* L. (*Potentilla palustris* Scop.) as the host plant of *Trioza acutipennis,* and on the basis of repeated personal observations concerning this common species I can confirm this statement. The host plants of our remaining species, *bohemica* and *reuteri,* have been unknown until recently. In the spring of 1950, however, I found the former species rather abundantly copulating and ovipositing on *Geum rivale* in a forest near Upsala. I do not hesitate to state that this is the host or one of the hosts of *bohemica.* Finally, in July, 1960, I found a few adult and immature specimens of *Trioza reuteri* on *Potentilla anserina* L. on the sandy beach a few miles south of Drammen in Norway. This plant must be considered as a host of *T. reuteri,* therefore.

It is obvious, of course, that the four plants mentioned, viz. *Alchemilla, Comarum, Potentilla anserina,* and *Geum,* do belong to the same subfamily, *Rosoideae,* of family *Rosaceae.* The conclusion that the *Trioza femoralis* group is a "natural" one does seem to be justified, notwithstanding the apparent limitations of the observation material here considered.

References

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