



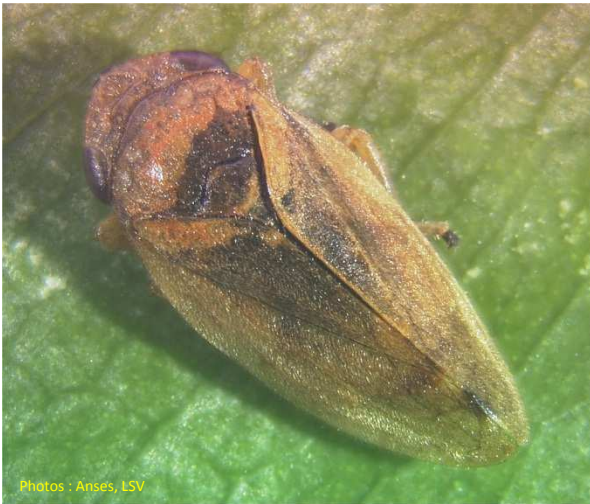
Philaenus spumarius (Linnaeus, 1758) Meadow froghopper / Meadow spittlebug



DIAGNOSTIC FEATURES

The meadow spittlebug belongs to family Aphrophoridae

Observation on dry specimens



Photos : Anses, LSV

Adults size : 5.3 to 6.0 mm for males/ 5.4 to 6.9 mm for females

Eliminate specimens smaller than 5 mm and bigger than 7 mm



Photos : Anses, LSV

Larvae : 5 larval instars

Difficult to identify

COLOR POLYMORPHISM



Photos : G. Kunz

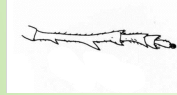
Large color **variation** from light grey to blackish. Most typical form : yellow-green with indistinct dark lines

Visual key

Philaenus spumarius

Other related species

Hind Tibia with two lateral spurs **1**



Cercopidae and APHROPHORIDAE

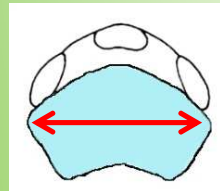


Fore wings never with red colouring



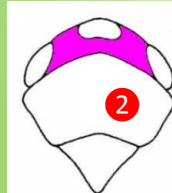
Photos : G. Kunz

Pronotum as wide as the head \longleftrightarrow



APHROPHORIDAE

Pronotum and vertex without median keel **2**



Other APHROPHORIDAE

Hind tibia with row of bristles



Cicadellidae

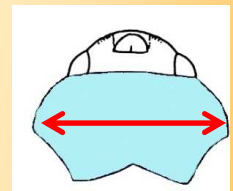
Fore wings with red colouring



Cercopis

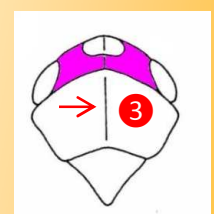
Photos : G. Kunz

Pronotum wider than the head \longleftrightarrow



Cercopidae

Pronotum and vertex with median keel **3**



Photos : G. Kunz

Aphrophora spp.

POSSIBLE CONFUSIONS

Could be confused with related genus of the family as:
Aphrophora spp., *Neophilaenus* spp. and *Lepyronia coleoptrata*

HOST PLANTS AND SYMPTOMS

Abundant on a large number of trees, shrubs and low plants. Secondary pest on lavender (*Lavandula*) and on a wide variety of ornamental plants: *Aster*, *Berberis*, *Campanula*, *Chrysanthemum*, *Coreopsis*, *Lychnis*, *Mahonia*, *Phlox*, *Rosa*, *Rudbeckia*, *Solidago*. Common on ruderal plants (country lanes and roadside flora)

Damage:

Deformations and wilting of young shoots of host plants, sometimes malformations of flowers. Adults do not cause direct damage. In ornamental production, there may be depreciation of the plant by the presence of foam nest.

Known as vector of *Xylella fastidiosa*



GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

In temperate regions of Europe, Asia, North America.

LIFE CYCLE

Adults are present as early as April. They are easily observable resting on plants. They are not very active and exhibit a jumping behavior when they are disturbed. The eggs are laid in the stems of the plants at the end of summer. Hatching occurs in the following spring. The larvae, not very mobile, feed on the sap present in the xylem by sticking their stylets into the plant. Larval development has five instars. During its development the larvae is covered with secretion (foam nest).

HOW TO CAPTURE OT? WHERE TO FIND IT ?

Adults are easy to catch by net, even by hand, despite their jumping behavior, on country lanes and roadside plants. Foam nest is easily spotted (this secretion is not specific to *P. spumarius*).

Body shape compact. Fore wings rounded 4

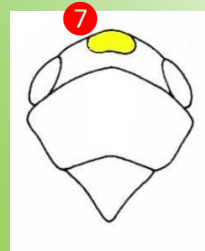


Lepyronia coleoptrata

Outer margin of fore wing 5
convex

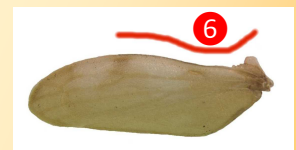


Frons plate without 7
median keel

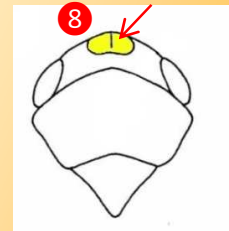


Philaenus spumarius

Outer margin of 6
forewing with the first
third concave



Frons plate with median 8
keel



***Neophilaenus* spp.**