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NOTE

Metrioptera roeseli (Hagenbach), a European Katydid Found for the First Time in Pennsylvania (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae: Decticinae)

Metrioptera roeseli (Hagenbach, 1822) is a European decticine katydid accidently introduced into Canada sometime between 1945 and 1951. It was first reported in the vicinity of Montreal and Ville St. Laurent (Urquhart and Beaudry. 1953. Can. Entomol. 85: 78–9). Kevan et al. (Ann. Entomol. Soc. Quebec 7: 70–86, 1963) documented its further spread through eastern Canada and reported capture of roeseli for the first time in the United States (New York: Harrigan's Corners and Meacham Lake). Vickery (Ann. Entomol. Soc. Quebec 9: 165–71, 1965) mapped its distribution in Canada and the United States, and suggested that although collected only in New York State, M. roeseli probably would extend its range into Vermont and Pennsylvania. To date, however, no specimens have been reported from those states. This note documents the first capture of a single short-winged female in Pennsylvania. The specimen was collected in Wayne Co., 1.5 mi. N. of Newfoundland on VII-17-1982 by Gary Hevel and is in the collection of the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.

Metrioptera roeseli is similar in form to Orchelimum species but is brown with black and green markings on the lateral lobe of the pronotum. It occurs in both macropterous and brachypterous forms (in which the tegmina are only half as long as the abdomen). It is graminivorous, feeding especially on both wild and cultivated timothy grass (Vickery et al. 1974. Lyman Entomol. Mus. Res. Lab. Memoir 1: 1–204.) but is unlikely to be economically important as a pest.

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