

## SUMMARY

### **Fruitfly *Terellia longicauda* (Diptera; Tephritidae) and other insects living in the flowerheads of *Cirsium decussatum***

*Cirsium decussatum* is included in the Polish Red Data Book of Plants, because in Poland it occurs only in a few localities in the Przemyśl Foothills (SE Poland). Field observations showed that achenes of *C. decussatum* were damaged by larvae of flies.

The flowerheads of *Cirsium decussatum* were collected in Brylińce village in October and stratified during 4 month. Adult insects reared from flowerheads of *Cirsium decussatum* represented 5 species: *Terellia longicauda* (MEIGEN, 1830) (Diptera; Tephritidae), *Crataepus marbis* (WALKER, 1839) (Hymenoptera; Eulophidae), *Eucosma cana* (HAWORTH, 1811), *Cochylis posterana* (ZELLER, 1847) (Lepidoptera; Tortricidae) and indeterminate hymenopteran species belonging to *Platygastridae*. Numerous larvae belonging to family *Cecidomyiidae* and one specimens of *Tingis cardui* (Heteroptera; Tingidae) (probably overwintering) were also found. Altogether 126 specimens of adult insects were reared from 73 flowerheads of *C. decussatum*, including 70 specimens of *T. longicauda*. Among 3 species which larvae ate seeds of *C. decussatum* (two butterflies and a fly) only fruitfly *T. longicauda* may be of more serious significance. About 7 % achenes of *Cirsium decussatum* were damaged by its larvae. The highest number of fruit flies reared from one flowerhead was 13 specimens, and in the same flowerhead 202 seeds were not damaged (see table). The single larva damaged from 2.5 to 7.5 achenes, but number of seeds which were destroyed may be greater. The little pieces of seed skin were found in several capitulum suggest that the larvae have eaten whole achenes (together with skin).

*Cirsium decussatum* has not been recorded as the host plant of *Terellia longicauda* so far.