3-3-5. Feeding Preference and Response of Agelastica coerulea Baly (Coleoptera: Galerucinae) to Host Plants Odors

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Feeding preference and response of Japanese alder leaf beetle, Agelastica coerulea Baly to host plants odors was investigated. In a no choice bioassay, nine plant species belonging to Betulaceae were tested. A. coerulea larvae accepted Alnus hirsuta, Alnus japonica, Corylus sieboldiana var. mandshurica, and Corylus heterophylla var. thunbergii easily. In a choice bioassay, feeding preference of eight plant species was compared to A. hirsuta. There is no difference in host preference between A. hirsuta and A. japonica. However, A. coerulea larvae showed strong preference for A. hirsuta leaves compared to other plant species. Response of A. coerulea adults to A. hirsuta, A. japonica and C. sieboldiana var. mandsburica odors was investigated by using olfactometer. Adults of A. coerulea were more attracted to A. hirsuta, A. japonica and C. sieboldiana var. mandsburica odors than clean air. Among three plant species, A. coerulea adult were more attracted to A. hirsuta than A. japonica and C. sieboldiana var. mandsburica odors. Volatile compounds of A. hirsuta, A. japonica and C. sieboldiana var. mandsburica were collected with steam distillation methods and compared with gas chromatography.

Key words: Feeding preference, Agelastica coerulea, Alnus hirsuta, volatile compounds, Betulaceae, Japanese alder leaf beetle, olfactometer, GC-MS