

# First results of behavioural studies on the attraction of *Cameraria ohridella* to host plant kairomones

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Pheromones and biocontrol agents are currently investigated within the EU - Project CONTROCAM as alternative strategies for the reduction of horse chestnut leafminer (*C. ohridella*) populations on *A. hippocastanum*. Besides, plant volatiles which exhibit attractive, repellent or deterrent effects on *C. ohridella* females are considered another possible means of environmentally friendly and sustainable control.

In the present study the total extract of fresh and uninfested *A. hippocastanum* leaves was tested for attractiveness in behavioural studies. A Y- olfactometer was used to test attraction properties of volatile components to *C. ohridella* females. Effects on oviposition behaviour were examined on extract-treated artificial surfaces. Additionally antennal response of *C. ohridella* females to the total leaf extract was tested in EAG studies.

Volatiles of the total leaf extract were highly attractive for female *C. ohridella* in the olfactometer tests. Oviposition was stimulated on artificial surfaces treated with the extract in contrast to untreated surfaces. EAG tests also revealed a strong reaction of the test organism towards the total leaf extract.

The obtained results and their implications for an implementation into a control strategy for *C. ohridella* are discussed.