Chemical communication of European cabbage flea beetles (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae, Halticinae): overview of research in Hungary

### Tóth, Miklós and Csonka, Éva

Plant Protection Institute HAS, Herman O. u. 15., H-1022 Budapest, Hungary, e-mail h2371tot@ella.hu

## Importance of flea beetles

Fotó: Dr. Pénzes Béla



### chewing damage on seedlings

- reduced growth
- uneven maturing





<u>Vectors</u>

- radish mosaic virus (RMV)
- turnip yellow mosaic virus (TYMV)
- brome mosaic virus (BMV), etc.

## Host plant - derived attractants of flea beetles



### **ISOTHIOCYANATES**

Allyl isothiocianate (allyl ITCN) as a described food attractant:

Phyllotreta

cruciferae

striolata pusilla bipustulata Reference

Görnitz, 1953, Feeny et al. 1970, Vincent & Stewart, 1984,

Pivnick et al. (1992)

Pivnick et al. (1992)

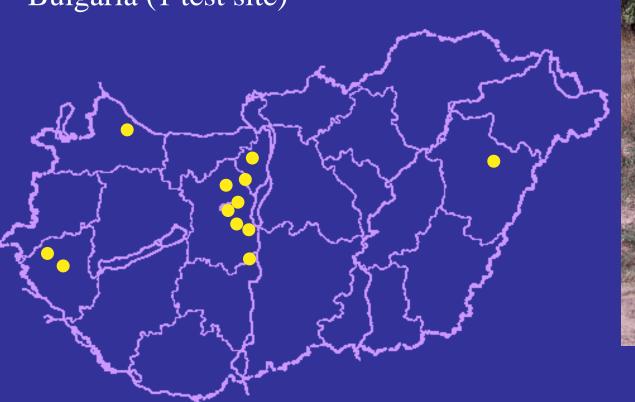
Vincent & Stewart, 1984

### **JUCOSINOLATES**

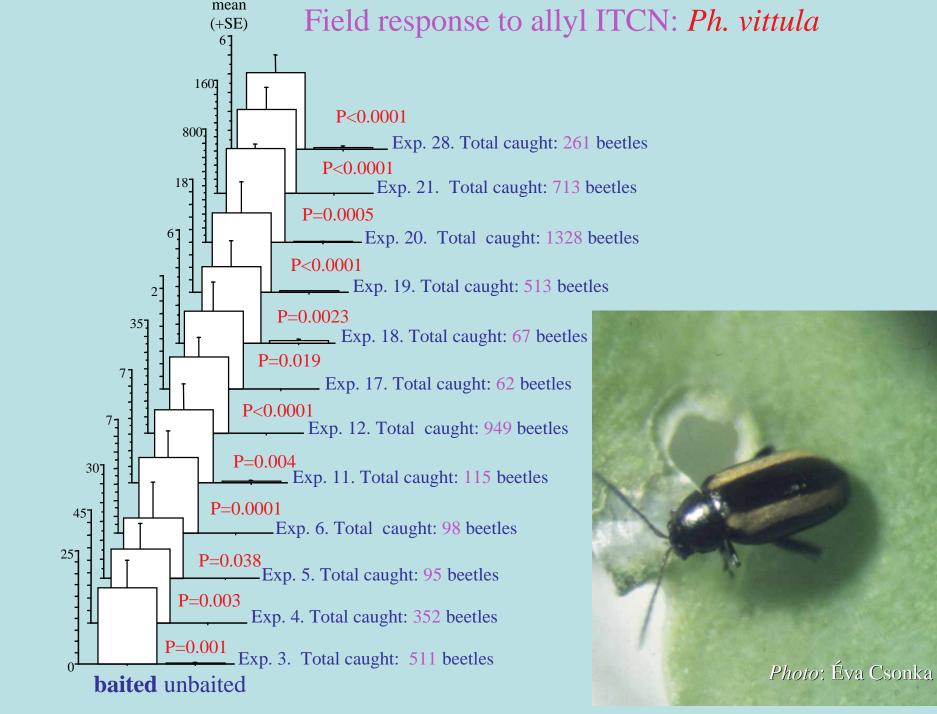
myrosmaser

## Field response to allyl ITCN

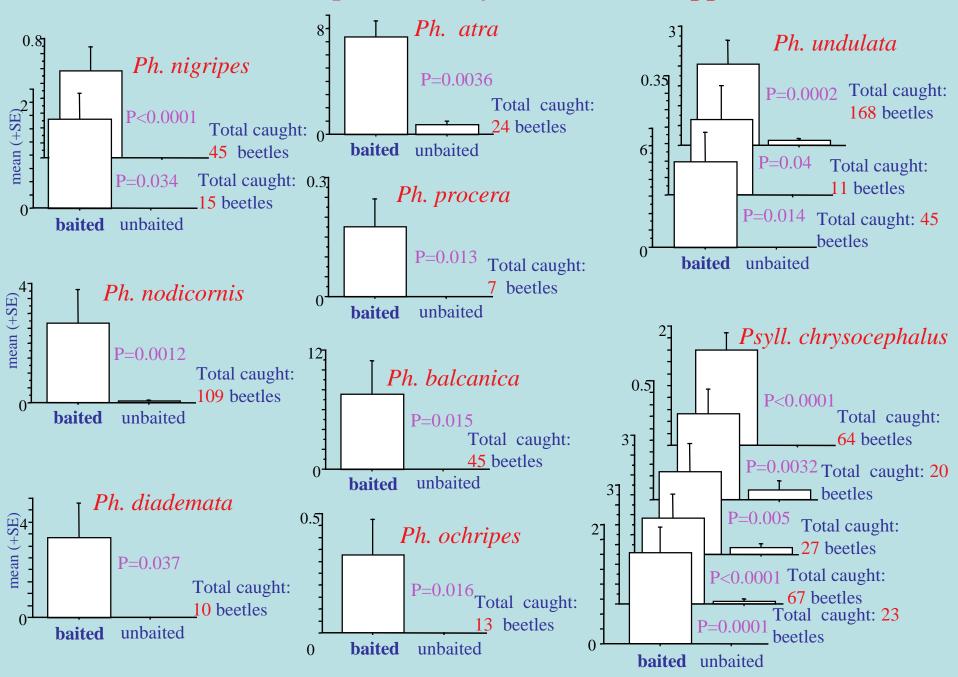
29 experiments conducted in: Hungary (12 test sites) Slovenia (1 test site) Bulgaria (1 test site)

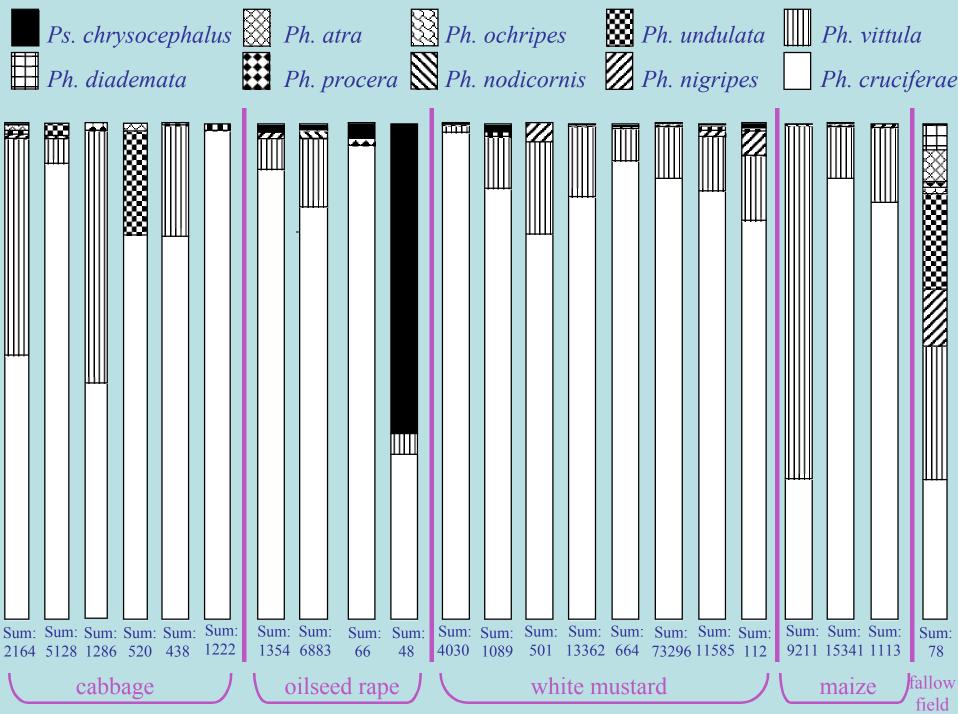




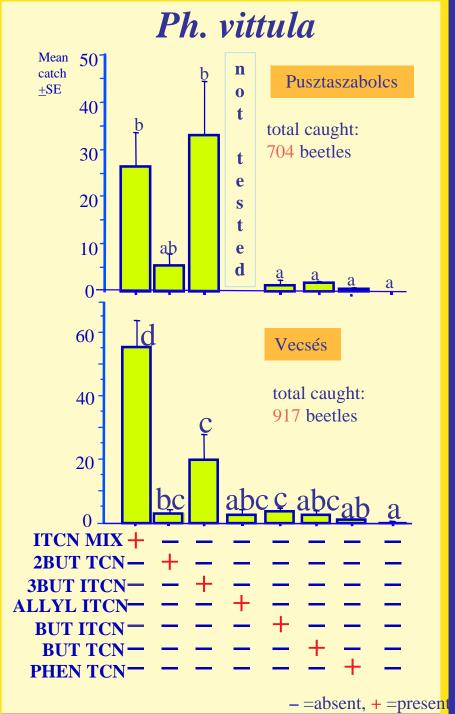


Field response to allyl ITCN: other spp.





Species captured:	Attractive activity of allyl ITCN:		
Ph. cruciferae	has been known from literature; confirmed in this study		
Ph. vittula	was discovered in this study		
Ph. procera	was discovered in this study		
Ph. nodicornis	was discovered in this study		
Ph. balcanica	was discovered in this study		
Ph. undulata	was discovered in this study;		
Ph. nigripes	was discovered in this study;		
Ph. atra	was discovered in this study;		
Ph. diademata	was discovered in this study;		
Ph. ochripes	was discovered in this study;		
Psylliodes chrysocephala	was discovered in this study; electrophysiological activity has been known before		



# Activity of other ITCN-s: preliminary tests

Nadap, Fejér county, Hungary, oilseed rape, SEP 14- OCT 8, 2002.

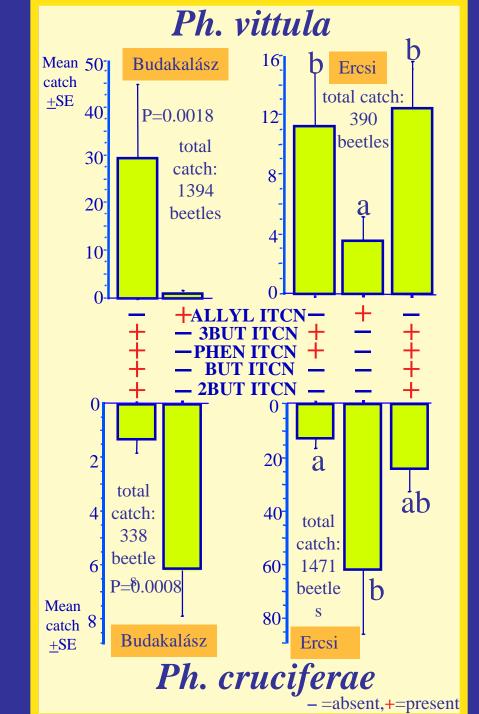
bait	total catch	
ITCN MIX	418	
<b>3BUT ITCN</b>	247	
ALLYL ITCN	2	
unbaited	2	

Composition of ITCN mix: 2butenyl-, phenethyl-, 3-butenyland butyl isothiocyanates

### Activity of other ITCN-s:

Since numerically most Ph. vittula were caught with the ITCN MIX in the preliminary continued with tests, we comparison trials between combinations of components of ITCN MIX and ALLYL **ITCN** which to see components of ITCN MIX were important.

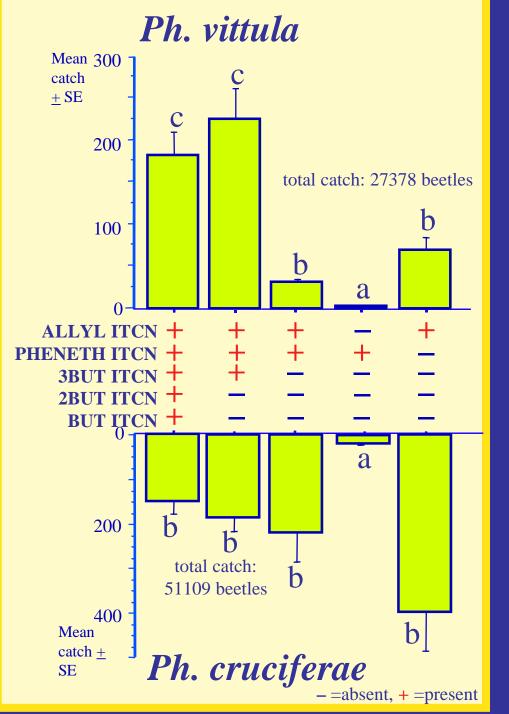
The omission of 2BUT ITCN and BUT ITCN was without effect.

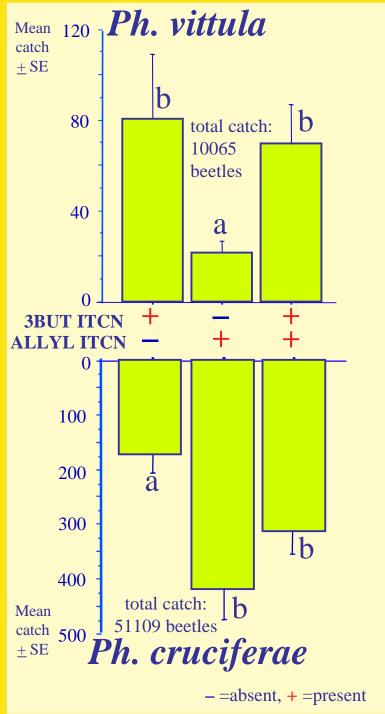


### Activity of other ITCN-s:

Best *Ph. vittula* catches were obtained with multicomponent mixtures which contained 3BUT ITCN.

This suggested that only this compound carried activity in the ITCN MIX



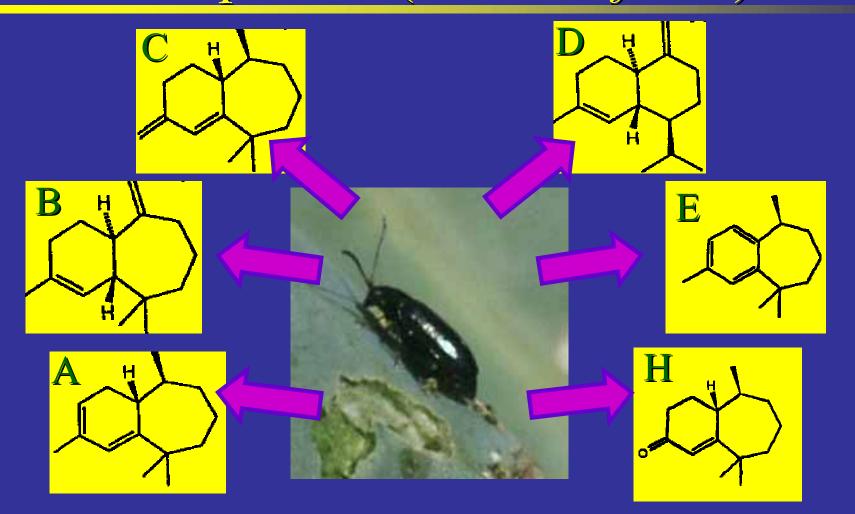


### Activity of other ITCN-s:

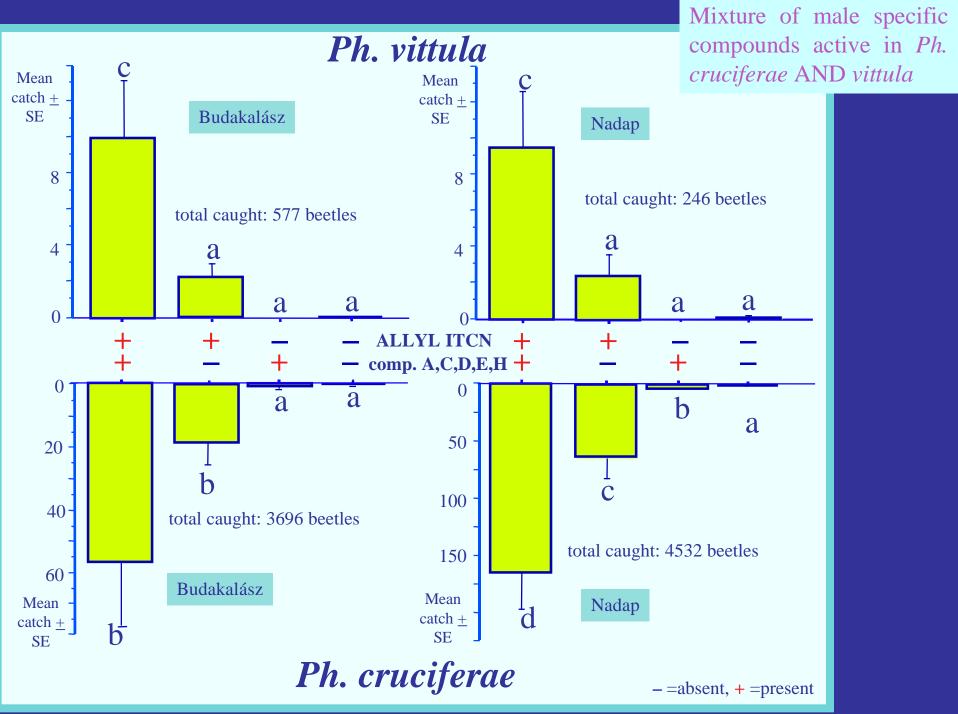
The importance of 3BUT ITCN was corroborated in a final test where again highest *Ph. vittula* catches were observed in traps with baits containing 3BUT ITCN, while *Ph. cruciferae* responded best to baits containing ALLYL ITCN.

The binary blend caught similar numbers as the respective single compounds in both species.

# Male-specific pheromone candidate compounds (*Ph. cruciferae*)



Bartelt et al., (2001)

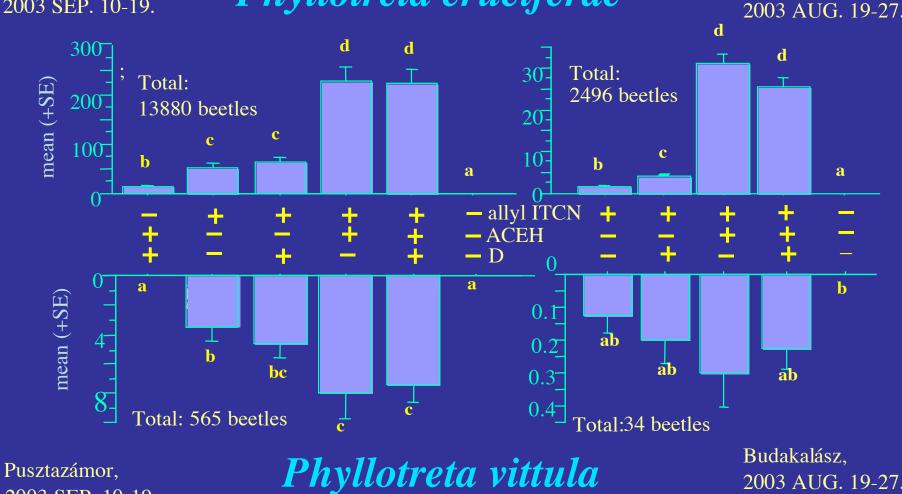


### **Compound D has no effect**

Pusztazámor, 2003 SEP. 10-19.

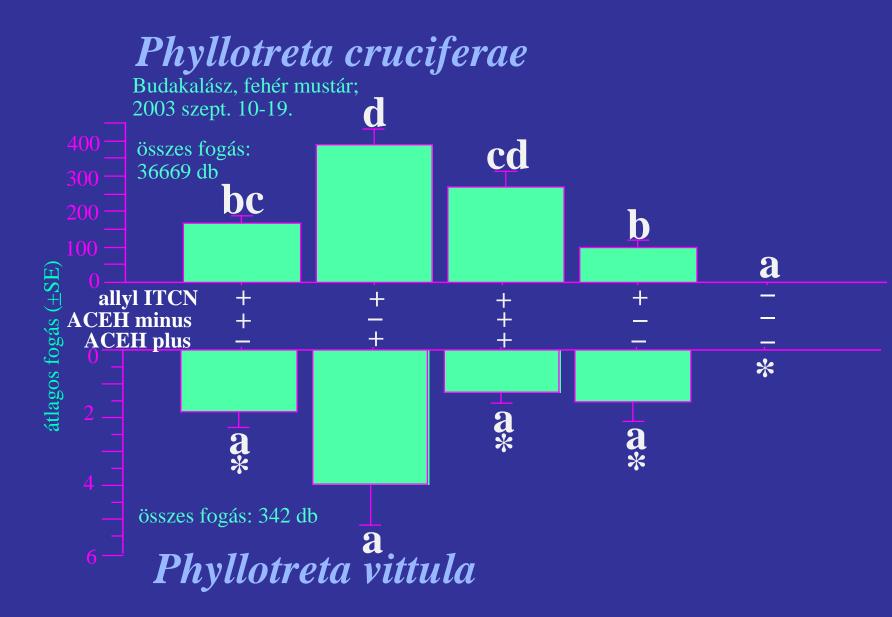
*Phyllotreta cruciferae* 

Budakalász,

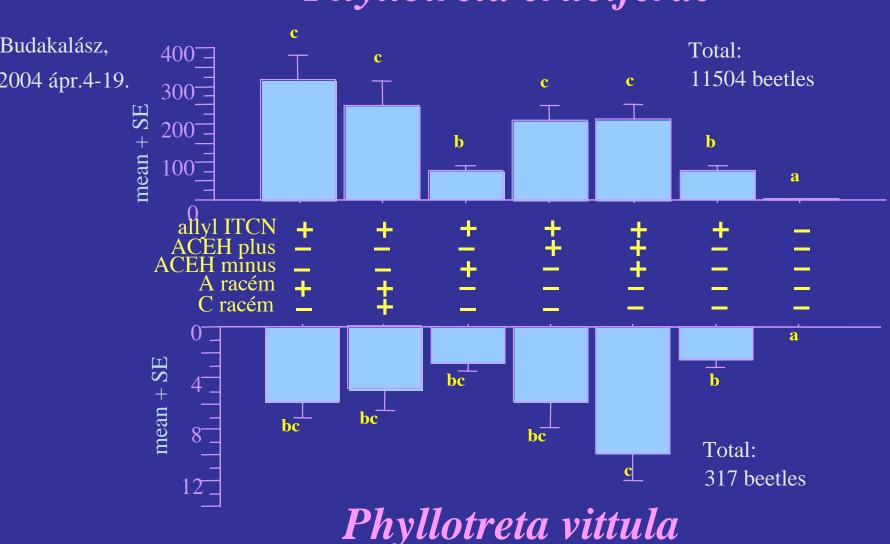


2003 SEP. 10-19.

### The PLUS (+) enantiomers are the active ones

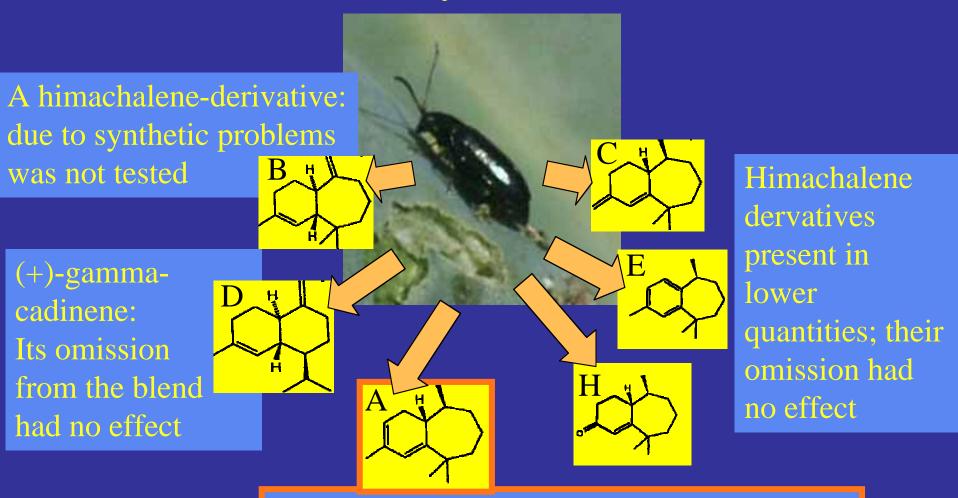


### The MINUS (–) enantiomers do not influence the activity; presence of comp. C, E, H not necessary

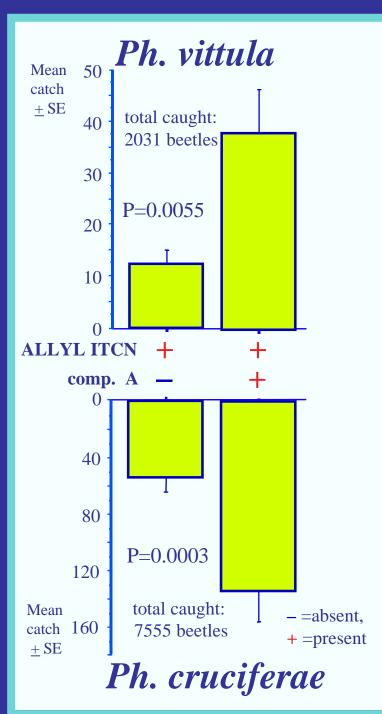


### Phyllotreta cruciferae

Relative importance of male specific compounds of *Ph. cruciferae* 

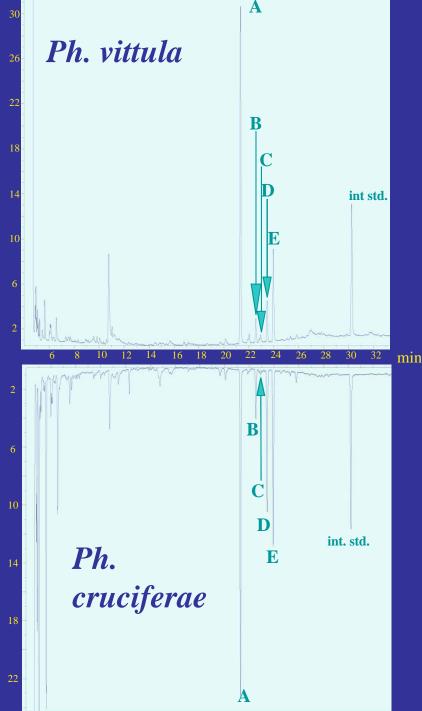


(10S,11S)-himachala-2,4-dién the compound carrying behavioral activity



# Compound A alone is active also in *Ph. vittula*,

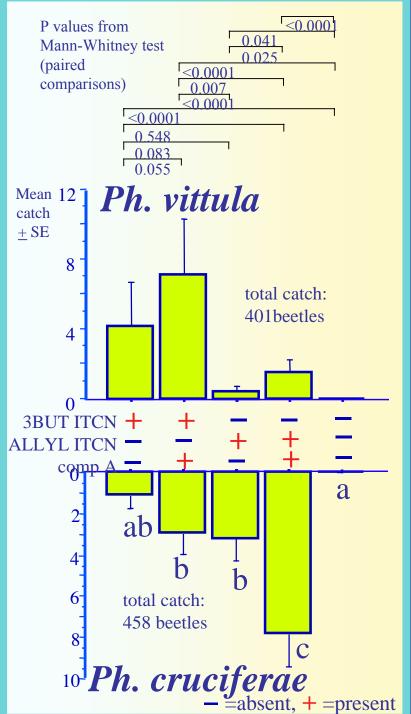
which suggested that Compound A may be the key pheromone component also in this species



Same pheromone components in volatile collections from *Ph. vittula* and *Ph. cruciferae* 

	Ratio in % of comp. A (Mean+SE)					
	comp. B	comp. C	comp. D	comp. E		
Ph. vittula	7.9 +0.48 (n=6)	2.57+0.3 (n=3)	14.43+1.3 (n=6)	30.6 +4.8 (n=6)		
Ph. cruciferae	21.9+3.9 (n=4)	1.87 (n=1)	61.03+7.5 (n=4)	46.3+8.1 (n=4)		
P-value	0.002	not available	<0.0001	0.12		

We recently identified these compounds also in volatiles from male *Ph. nigripes Ph. undulata Ph. nemorum* 



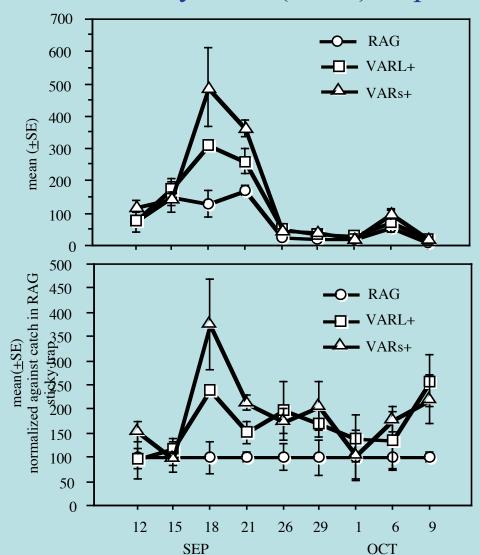
Highest catches in *Ph. cruciferae* with compound A plus allyl ITCN,

# while in *Ph. vittula* with compound A plus 3BUT ITCN

So these species show differing preferences in their host-plant related communication, but are very similar in their pheromonal communication

# Optimal trap design

Preliminary comparison of funnel traps VARL+ and VARs+ with sticky delta (RAG) trap designs



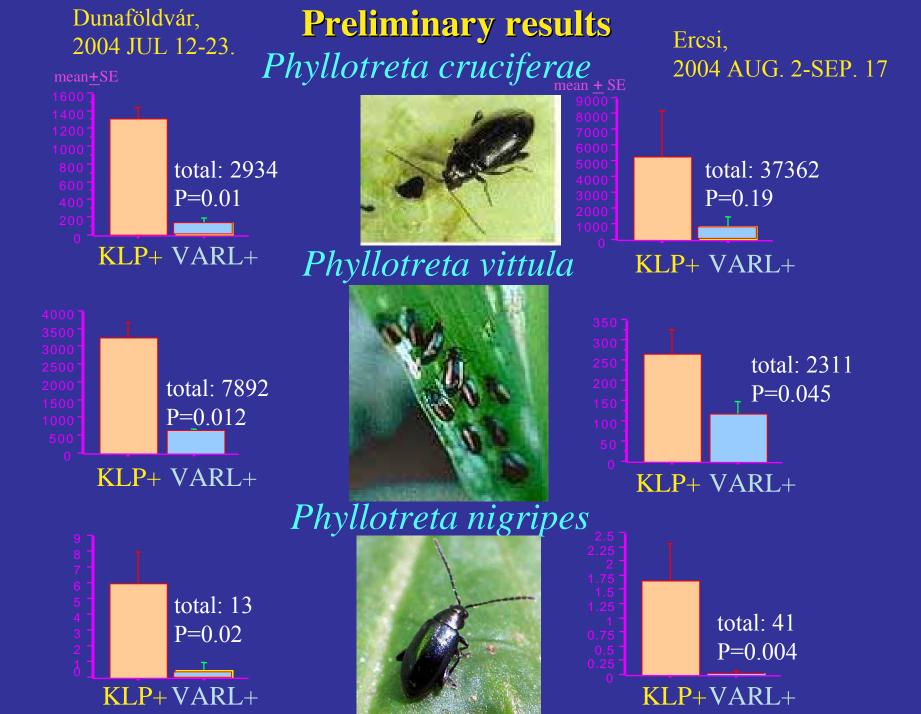




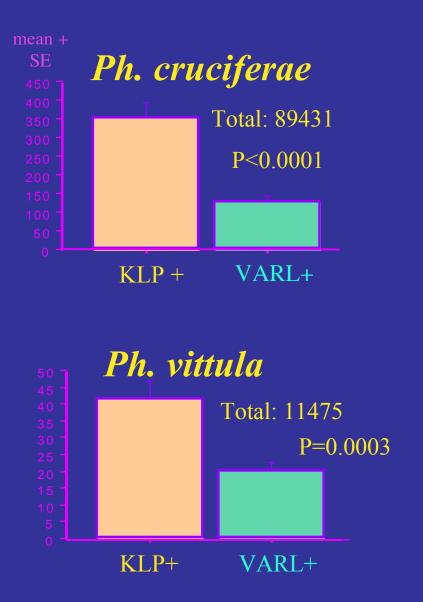
# Optimal trap design

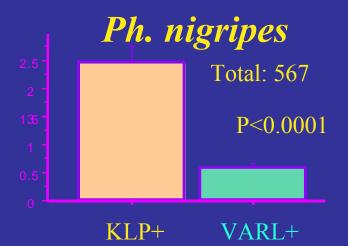


Comparison of VARL+ (funnel) vs. KLP+ (,,hat") trap designs

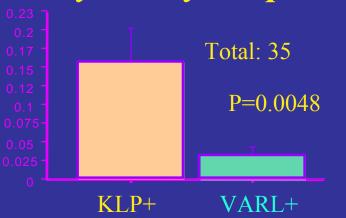


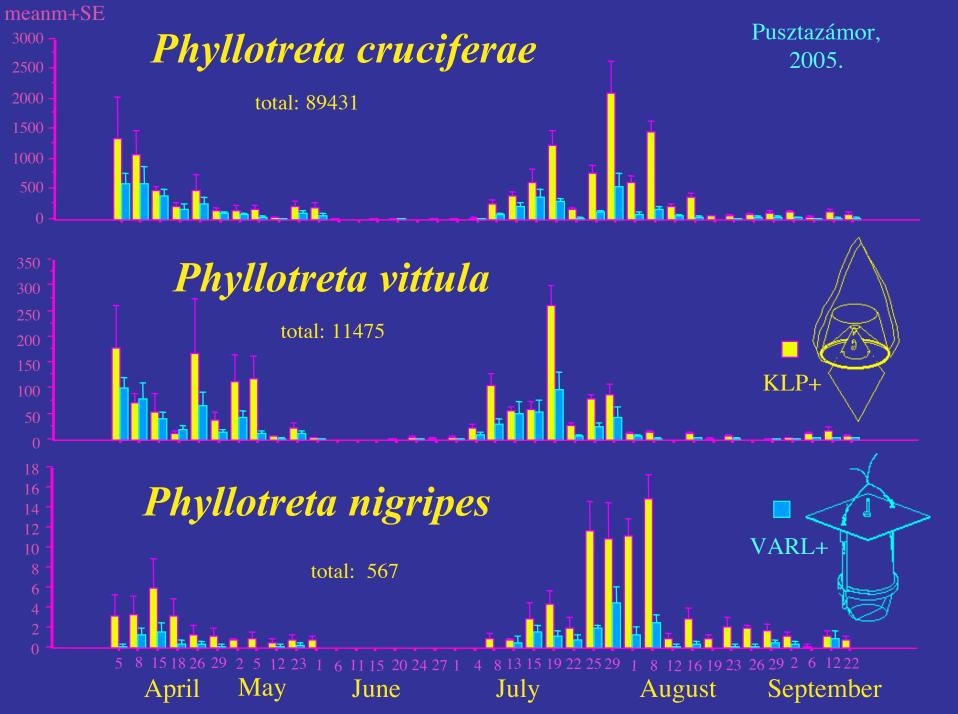
#### Season-long comparisons of VARL+ vs. KLP+ (Pusztazámor, 2005 MAR. 31- SEP. 2).











The authors are greatly indebvted to valuable contributions of cooperators participating in one or several parts of our research on flea beetles:

Flórián Bakcsa, Hungary Robert J. Bartelt, USA Pál Benedek, Hungary Allard A. Cossé, USA Stanislav Gomboc, Slovenia Kenji Mori, Japan Enno Möttus, Estonia Shin-Etsu Muto, Japan Mitko Subchev, Bulgaria István Szarukán, Hungary Teodora Toshova, Bulgaria István Ujváry, Hungary Bruce W. Zilkowski, USA

