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A SECOND LOCALITY FOR *PHYTOCORIS HOFFMANI* HENRY (HETEROPTERA: MIRIDAE). — Henry (2009) described the plant bug *Phytocoris hoffmani* on the basis of two adult males collected by SMR (in a blacklight trap) in a red spruce (*Picea rubens*) forest in the Laurel Fork Recreation Area of the George Washington National Forest in Highland Co., Virginia. The type locality is within 0.3 km of the Virginia-West Virginia border at an elevation of approximately 3600 feet (1097 m) (SMR, pers. obs.). A full page color plate accompanied the description of this moderately large mirid. Although there are no definite plant associations for *P. hoffmani*, Henry (2009) speculated that red spruce would prove to be the host based on the species group to which it belongs. Limited subsequent beating by SMR of red spruce branches in northwestern Highland County has failed to yield additional specimens of this poorly known insect. Thus, RLH was pleasantly surprised to discover that sweep net samples obtained by SMR on 30 June 2010 from grassy bald habitats (elevation ca. 5400 ft/1645 m) near the summit of Whitetop Mountain in Grayson County, Virginia contained two more males of *P. hoffmani*. Whitetop is the second highest peak (5520 ft/1682 m) in the state and located at the common border of Grayson, Smyth, and Washington counties. The bald habitats along Forest Service Road 89 occur immediately downslope of the red spruce forest at the summit of the mountain. *Neolygus crataegi* Henry, another recently described plant bug, is currently known only from Whitetop Mountain and nearby Elk Garden; it is associated with hawthorns (*Crataegus* spp.) (Henry, 2007). The new record for *P. hoffmani* represents a southwestward range extension of about 170 miles/275 km (Fig 1). Both of the Whitetop specimens (and the holotype) are deposited in the Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, VA.

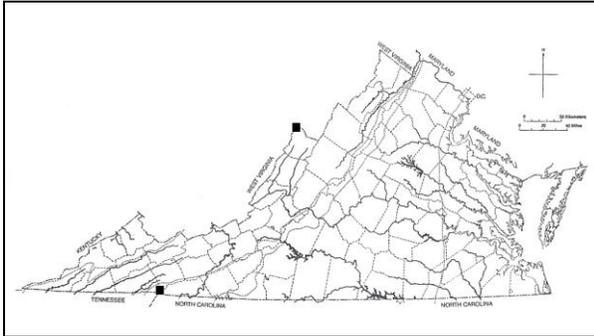


Fig. 1. Known distribution of *Phytocoris hoffmani* Henry.

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LITERATURE CITED

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Steven M. Roble
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
217 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Richard L. Hoffman*
Virginia Museum of Natural History
21 Starling Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia 24112

*Deceased