

Project Update: June 2018

During May and beginning of June 2018 we made all the promotional material (project logo, posters, badges, key chains) and gathered the equipment necessary for the upcoming field work.

In the first week of June 2018 we held several lectures for the public, elementary and high school students and students of Faculty of Biology and Faculty of Agriculture in Belgrade. Lectures and workshops were held in the outdoor facility of the Faculty of Agriculture in Belgrade, Radmilovac. With the help of promotional posters we presented our project first to high school seniors, some of which were very interested in the subject and in joining our group in future studies on parasitoid wasps. The workshop for elementary school children was very lively and the children were very interested to learn about parasitoid wasps and their relationship with aphids and importance of preserving the conifer forests, especially since they haven't had the chance to hear about such organisms before. We showed them the samples of aphids, mummies and parasitoids from conifers and explained how amazing the micro world of insects can be. Also, we demonstrated how they can easily sample aphids and preserve them until the emergence of the parasitoid. The significance of preserving the conifer forests and how someone can do it as an individual was also one of the main topics during the workshops and lectures. Finally, we presented the Rufford Foundation to the Faculty students.



Cinara aphid attended by ants.

