

Distribution and ecology of harvestmen (Opiliones) in the Nordic countries

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Occurrences of the twenty-four Nordic Opiliones species in coniferous-, deciduous-, mixed- wood, heather, grazing land, garden and beach are presented. Three harvestmen are taken in all these types of biotopes; *Oligolophus tridens* (C.L. Koch, 1836), *Lacinius ephippiatus* (C.L. Koch, 1835) and *Mitopus morio* (Fabricius, 1779). Densities of most of the species throughout the year are given in detailed curves. Two Opiliones species are certainly present throughout the whole year; *Nemastoma bimaculatum* (Fabricius, 1775) and *Nemastoma lugubre* (Müller, 1776). The earliest species appears with a maximum abundance in June and the latest with a top in November. The distributions in the Nordic countries are illustrated in 24 maps. Three harvestmen species; *Lacinius ephippiatus* (C.L. Koch, 1835), *Mitopus morio* (Fabricius, 1779) and *Rilaena triangularis* (Herbst, 1799) live in the whole region, whereas five species; *Trogulus tricarinatus* (L., 1758), *Paroligolophus meadii* (Pickard-Cambridge, 1890), *Lacinius horridus* (Panzer, 1794), *Platybunus bucephalus* (C.L. Koch, 1835) and *Leiobunum limbatum* L. Koch, 1861 are very rare in the Nordic countries.

Key words: Opiliones, Nordic countries, ecology, distribution.

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