

# The tachinid fly *Phasia hemiptera* (Fabricius, 1794) (Diptera, Tachinidae) in Norway

Øivind Gammelmo & Bjørn Arve Sagvolden

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We report the first record of the tachinid fly *Phasia hemiptera* (Fabricius, 1794) from Norway. The number of Norwegian Phasiinae is thus increased to fifteen.

Keywords: *Phasia hemiptera*, Phasiinae, Tachinidae, Diptera, Norway, new record.

Øivind Gammelmo, Natural History Museum, University of Oslo, P. O. Box 1172 Blindern, NO-0318 Oslo, Norway. E-mail: oivind.gammelmo@nhm.uio.no

Bjørn Arve Sagvolden, NO-3626 Rollag, Norway. E-mail: bjorn.arve.sagvolden@online.no

## INTRODUCTION

Tachinidae is one of the most diverse and ecologically important families of Diptera. Approximately 10,000 species are described worldwide (Irwin et al. 2003). Four subfamilies of Tachinidae are recognized by most authors: Exoristinae, Dexiinae, Phasiinae and Tachininae. A key to the subfamilies is given by Tschorsnig (1994). *Phasia hemiptera* (Fabricius, 1794) belongs in the Phasiinae. Rognes (2006) gives detailed distribution of 14 species of Phasiinae in Norway. With *P. hemiptera* the total number of Norwegian Phasiinae is increased to 15. Below we give details of the biology of this species, some details of the locality, including specimen depositories, and how it can be identified.

## BIOLOGY

With the exceptions of the genera *Strongygaster* Macquart, 1834 and *Arcona* Richter, 1988, larvae of Phasiinae parasitize Heteroptera (Belshaw 1993, Tschorsnig & Richter 1998). Eggs of *Phasia*

*hemiptera* have been observed in *Palomena prasina* (Linnaeus, 1761) (Pentatomidae). But direct oviposition has not been observed (Dupuis 1963). *Phasia* eggs do not hatch immediately after oviposition. According to Dupuis (1963) eggs of *P. hemiptera* incubates from 52-91 hours before hatching. The larva develops in the host for about 2 weeks before it pupates. Adults emerge after 2½-4 weeks. Like other tachinid flies, males emerge earlier than females. According to Dupuis (1963) the maximum longevities for *P. hemiptera* are 21 and 31 days for males and females, respectively. In the field, however, adults of *P. hemiptera* can only survive for 15 days and disperse only 250-900 m (Dupuis 1985). Most *Phasia*-species are polyvoltine, but *P. hemiptera* is bivoltine (Rubtsov 1947). In Europe, the first generation of *P. hemiptera* parasitizes *Pentatoma rufipes* (Linnaeus, 1761) (Pentatomidae) in the spring, and *P. prasina* in the autumn (Dupuis 1963, Tschorsnig & Herting 1994). Both these species are common and widespread in Norway (A. Endrestøl pers. comm.), at least in the south-eastern parts. Several records from Denmark and Sweden indicates that *P. hemiptera* are beneficiary of