

# The sawfly *Janus luteipes* (Lepeletier, 1823) (Hymenoptera, Cephidae) in Norway

Ole J. Lønnve

Lønnve, O.J. 2007. The sawfly *Janus luteipes* (Lepeletier, 1823) (Hymenoptera, Cephidae) in Norway. Norw. J. Entomol. 54, 49-50.

The sawfly *Janus luteipes* (Lepeletier, 1823) is recorded in Norway for the first time. Comments are given on its biology and distribution.

Key words: Cephidae, *Janus luteipes*, Norway, biology, distribution

Ole J. Lønnve, Natural History Museum, University of Oslo, P.O. Box 1172 Blindern, NO-0318 Oslo, Norway. E-mail: o.j.lonnve@nhm.uio.no

## INTRODUCTION

The Cephidae is a small family of slender insects with a thin integument. The pronotum is exceptionally large and its hind margin is nearly straight. They are mostly black or dark coloured, with or without narrow yellow bands. The larva lives in the stem of various woody angiosperms, herbaceous plants, or grasses. The majority of the species are Holarctic and more than 100 species in three tribes and 12 genera are known (Viitassari 2002). So far only eight species have been recorded from Norway: *Hartigia xanthostoma* (Eversmann, 1847), *Cephus spinipes* (Panzer, 1801), *C. nigrinus* Thomson, 1871, *C. pygmeus* (Linnaeus, 1767), *C. brachycercus* Thomson, 1871, *Trachhelus troglodyta* (Fabricius, 1787), *Calameuta filiformis* (Eversmann, 1847) and *C. pallipes* (Klug 1758) (Strand 1889, Nuorteva et al. 2005). Here, *Janus luteipes* (Lepeletier, 1823) is recorded in Norway for the first time.

## MATERIAL

Material from the Zoological Museum, University of Bergen, and the Natural History Museum, Oslo,

have been examined. The following abbreviations are used for collections: ZMUB = Zoological Museum, University of Bergen, NHMO = Natural History Museum, University of Oslo. The records are:

**VE** Tjøme: Moutmarka (EIS 19) 2 July 1985 1 ♂ (leg. Arild Fjeldså). ZMUB.

**Ø** Sarpsborg: Tune, Råkil (EIS 20, UTM (WGS 84) 32VPL 1963 7503) 10 June 2002 1 ♀ (leg. Thor Jan Olsen). NHMO.

**BV** Rollag: Tråen-saga (EIS 35) June 1994 1 ♀ (leg. Bjørn Arve Sagvolden). NHMO.

## DISCUSSION

*J. luteipes* is 6–9 mm long with whitish borders on the hind margin of the pronotum. Tegula is brownish or black. The ♂ has its apical abdominal segments light coloured and the legs mostly red, while the ♀ has completely black abdomen and its hind femur black. The food plants are according to Taeger et al. (1998) *Salix*, *Populus tremula* and possibly *Viburnum*. The female oviposit on the shoots of the food plant. Like most internal plant feeders, the larva lacks prolegs. *J. luteipes*

is distributed in whole Europe (Taeger et al. 2006), and from Northern Europe it is known from Denmark and Finland (Nielsen & Henriksen 1915, Viitasaari & Vikberg 1985). Its total range in Norway is unknown, but it is probably restricted to the southern parts of the country. One common feature for all the three localities where *J. luteipes* are recorded, is that they all are situated in South-East Norway and that the climatic conditions are particularly warm. Moutmarka is on an island close to the coast, Råkil, Tune is located in the southern part of Østfold County and Tråen-saga is a warm southwest faced locality in Numedal. Since its food plants are common in Norway, this is not restricting the distribution of the species. It is more likely that the temperature is the main obstacle for its presence. It is also worth mentioning that so far no Cephids have been recorded further north than Hedmark in Southeast-Norway, and most of the records are from the southern coast districts. Cephidae is not well represented in our museum collections, probably they have been overlooked, and this is also likely to be the case with *J. luteipes*.

**Acknowledgments.** I would like to thank Thor Jan Olsen and Bjørn Arve Sagvolden who generously deliver material to NHMO. I also thank Lita Greve Jensen, Zoological Museum, University of Bergen, who kindly let me borrow specimens from the collection. I would also like to thank Leif Aarvik for constructive comments to the manuscript.

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*Received 10 April 2007*

*accepted 20 April 2007*