

On the family Bolitophilidae (Diptera, Mycetophiliformia) in Norway

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Bolitophilidae is a little studied family of nematocerous Diptera. In all 21 species have been recorded from Norway and are listed here, one for the first time. This is the first check-list of Bolitophilidae from Norway.

Key words: Diptera, Mycetophiliformia, Bolitophilidae, check list, Norway.

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INTRODUCTION

Members of the family Bolitophilidae are delicate, medium sized gnats. Their slender habitus with long legs is quite distinct (Figure 1) and they are also easy to recognize from other flies based on their characteristic wing venation (Figure 2). In terms of species diversity the family is among the smallest in Mycetophiliformia (systematics following Amorim & Rindal (2007)), with 57 currently recognized extant species in one single genus, *Bolitophila* Meigen, 1818. In addition two fossil taxa have been described, including a second genus, *Mangas* Kovalev, 1986, from Lower Cretaceous deposits in Mongolia. The genus is divided in two subgenera, viz. *Bolitophila* s.s. and *Cliopisa* Enderlein, 1936. Except for two newly described oriental species (Ševčík & Papp 2004), the family is confined to the Holarctic region, including the Mediterranean part of North Africa. 36 species are recorded from the Palearctic and 20

species from the Nearctic region (Bechev 2000). As with most groups in Mycetophiliformia, little is known about their biology in general, but their larvae are often found in sporophores of fleshy fungi. Keys for identification and illustrations of genitalia can be found in Plassmann (1975) and Hutson et al. (1980).

The first two Norwegian records date back to Siebke (1863) and two more species were added in “Enumeratio Insectorum Norwegicorum” (Siebke 1877). Our knowledge about this family has accumulated slowly, and today 21 species have been recorded from Norway. The present paper is the first attempt to compile a complete list of Norwegian Bolitophilidae since Siebke (1877). More species will certainly be added in the years to come. In comparison, the Swedish list contains 25 species (Kjærandsen et al. 2007), and there is no reason to assume a lower number of species in Norway.