

The genus *Stenostola* Dejean, 1835 (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae) in Norway, with a review of the biology and the distribution in Fennoscandia

TORSTEIN KVAMME & HENRIK WALLIN

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Both *Stenostola ferrea* (Schrank, 1776) and *S. dubia* (Laicharting, 1784) are verified recorded in Norway. *S. dubia* is locally common and distributed in the coastal and lowland areas of South Norway as far north as Midtre Gauldal in Sør-Trøndelag County. *S. ferrea* is regarded as a rare species with a limited distribution in southernmost Norway. All old examined specimens of *S. ferrea* were misidentified specimens of *S. dubia*. The distribution is probably limited by unfavourable climatic conditions, not the distribution of the main host tree *Tilia cordata*. We consider the population of *S. ferrea* in Norway as a possible relict. Together with information from a literature review, the present knowledge on both species is discussed in a historical context and European context. It is evident that information on the biology, as well as choice of host trees, often contains contradicting and confusing information due to misidentifications of the beetles. *S. ferrea*'s use of host trees other than *Tilia* spp. needs to be confirmed. The differences in the biology of the two species are not fully understood. We have found no documentation or indication that there has been a decline or an increase in the populations of the two *Stenostola* species in Norway. The availability of suitable host tree substrate, quality of habitats and fragmentation has according to our knowledge not been altered. This combined with the uncertainty and unanswered questions about distribution and biology lead to the conclusion that *S. ferrea* should remain Data Deficient (DD) in the Norwegian red list instead of Vulnerable (VU) until new data show otherwise.

Key words: *Stenostola ferrea*, *S. dubia*, Cerambycidae, Coleoptera, Norway, host trees, distribution, biology, red list category.

Torstein Kvamme. Norwegian Forest and Landscape Institute, P. O. Box 115, NO-1432 Ås, Norway
E-mail: torstein.kvamme@skogoglandskap.no

Henrik Wallin. The Swedish Museum of Natural History, Section of Entomology, P. O. Box 50007, SE-104 05 Stockholm, Sweden. E-mail: henrik.wallin@saiglobal.com

Introduction

Worldwide, 12 species of the genus *Stenostola* Dejean, 1835, are known (Bily & Mehl 1989). Seven species and two subspecies of the genus are known from the Palaearctic Region (Löbl & Smetana 2010). *S. ferrea* (Schrank, 1776) is divided into two subspecies: *S. ferrea ferrea* (Schrank, 1776) is widely distributed in Europe and

Turkey whilst *S. ferrea maculipennis* Holzschuh, 1982, is only known from the Russian South European Territory. Traditionally both *S. dubia* (Laicharting, 1784) and *S. ferrea* have been listed as recorded from the Nordic countries (Lindroth 1960, Lundberg 1995, Hansen 1996, Silfverberg 2004). Up to 1948 only *S. ferrea* was considered Swedish, and *S. dubia* was published from Sweden for the first time by Tjeder (1948) (see