Tomosvaryella cilitarsis (Strobl, 1910) (Diptera, Pipunculidae) in Norway

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The pipunculid fly Tomosvaryella cilitarsis (Strobl, 1910) is recorded as new to Norway based on two male specimens collected in Aurland in Sogn og Fjordane on 26 July 2006.

Key words: Tomosvaryella cilitarsis, Pipunculidae, Diptera, Norway.

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Introduction

The Pipunculidae, or the big-headed flies, are a characteristic group of flies related to the Syrphidae. They are easily recognised on their large compound eyes, which almost cover their spherical and flexible heads completely, and can otherwise be distinguished from syrphids by e.g. wings lacking a vena spuria and the parasitoid behaviour of the larvae (Skevington & Yeates 2001). Most species are parasitoids of Auchenorrhyncha (Hemiptera), however the genus Nephrocerus Zetterstedt, 1838 was recently found to parasitise adult Tipula L., 1758 (Tipulidae) (Koenig & Young 2007).

The genus Tomosvaryella Aczél, 1939 is a large cosmopolitan genus comprising about 250 described species; 35 of which occur in Europe (Földvári & de Meyer 1999, de Meyer 2004, Kehlmaier 2008). The only species of the genus previously known from Norway is T. sylvatica (Meigen, 1824), which was first recorded by Collin (1956). Including the present record, 40 species of Pipunculidae are known from Norway (de Meyer 2004).

The record

Tomosvaryella cilitarsis (Strobl, 1910)


Remarks: Földvari & de Meyer (1999) lists T. cilitarsis as a widespread, but relatively uncommon species restricted to high altitudes and cold places. Its presence in the Norwegian mountains is thus not surprising, although it has not previously been recorded from Norway. It is recorded from Sweden by de Meyer et al. (1989).

The specimens are deposited in the Zoological collections at Bergen Museum.

Acknowledgements. I am grateful to Lita Greve Jensen for providing me with material and for commenting on the manuscript.

References


Received: 8 February 2011
Accepted: 27 March 2011