Additions to the Hoverfly (Diptera, Syrphidae) fauna in Rogaland

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Several hoverfly species new to Rogaland County were recorded in 2009–2010, being Cheilosia semifasciata Becker 1894, C. uviformis Becker 1894, Criorhina asilica (Fallén, 1816), Platycerius rosarum (Fabricius 1787) and Temnostoma vespiforme (L., 1758). The article also publishes some interesting records of species that are scarce in Rogaland or in Norway.

Key words: Syrphidae, new records, Rogaland, Norway.

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Introduction

This article provides an overview of 5 new species to the Hoverfly fauna (Syrphidae) of Rogaland, collected in 2009–2010. The records have not been published previously (cf. Gammelmo & Nielsen, 2008; Nielsen, 1999; Nielsen 2002; Nielsen 2005). In addition, some interesting records of other species are presented. All photographs in this article depict the specimens discussed. Coordinates are given with UTM WGS84-datum – zone 32V.

Species new to Rogaland

Cheilosia semifasciata Becker, 1894 (Fig. 1)


Remarks. The specimen was found basking on flowering Lesser Celandine Ranunculus ficaria L. Its larvae are associated with Crassulaceae plants (Bartsch, 2009b), of which several species can be found on Ytraberget and in nearby gardens.

Cheilosia uviformis Becker 1894 (Fig. 2)

Material. ROY Finnøy: Reilstad, Kvitevik (EIS 14, E03 16361 N65 60561) 1 May 2009, 1♀2♂ leg. A.C. Leendertse, coll. ACL; Finnøy: Reilstad, Kvitevik (EIS 14, E03 16361 N65 60561) 1 June 2009. 1♀ leg. A.C. Leendertse, coll. ACL.

Remarks. The specimens were found feeding on Willow catkins (Salix spp.) and flowering Dandelion (Taraxacum spp.) in a steep moist hill covered with deciduous forest. The species is known from several localities in Hordaland and thus, it is not surprising that the species now is found in Rogaland. Reportedly, the species is associated with Marsh-marigold Caltha palustris L. (Bartsch, 2009b) but it wasn’t confirmed that this host plant is present at this location.

Criorhina asilica (Fallén, 1816) (Fig. 3)


Remarks. The specimen was found basking on flowering Lesser Celandine Ranunculus ficaria L. Its larvae are associated with Crassulaceae plants (Bartsch, 2009b), of which several species can be found on Ytraberget and in nearby gardens.

Criorhina asilica (Fallén, 1816) (Fig. 3)

Material. ROY Sandnes: Dybingen (EIS 7, E03 15906 N65 30152) 6 June 2010, 1♀, leg. A.C. Leendertse, coll. ACL.

Remarks. The specimen was collected on flowering Barberry Berberis vulgaris L. in an old deciduous forest composed mainly of Oak (Quercus spp.) and Aspen (Populus tremula L.).
FIGURE 1. *Cheilosia semifasciata* Becker, 1894, male, has silvery dust spots on the tergites and a protruded “face”. Note that the dust spots are prominently visible due to the oblique angle of light. In the field, these spots will be more obscure. Photo: Arjen C. Leendertse.

Its larvae are associated with decaying wood. The species is known from several locations in southern Norway, both to the east and north of Rogaland, in addition to some isolated records from northern Norway.

*Platycheirus rosarum* (Fabricius, 1787) (Fig. 4)

**Material.** ROY Sandnes: Møgedalshølen (EIS 7, E03 13352 N65 22107), 21 August 2010, 1♂, leg. A.C. Leendertse, coll. ACL.

**Remarks.** It was collected whilst flying between low patchy vegetation (heather and grass tussocks) on a moist semi-forested hill bordering the Figgjo river. The species is previously known from Agder, Hordaland and Southeastern Norway.

*Temnostoma vespiforme* (L., 1758) (Fig. 6)


**Remarks.** The specimen was captured and photographed in a garden, close to a deciduous forest with a warm microclimate. It consists the first record for Rogaland, and only the second for Western Norway.

**Interesting records**

*Brachypalpus laphriformis* (Fallén, 1816) (Fig. 7)

**Material.** ROY Sandnes: Dybingen (EIS 7, E03 15906 N65 30152) 6 June 2010, 1♀, leg. A.C. Leendertse, coll. ACL.

**Remarks.** The specimen was collected whilst basking on Bramble leaf (*Rubus fruticosus* L.). It was only the second record for Rogaland and the first for Nord-Jæren. Its larvae are associated with decaying wood. It was collected on the same location and date as the previously discussed *Criorrhina asilica* (Fallén, 1816), indicating a high quality of the habitat from a biodiversity perspective.

*Cheilosia bergenstammi* Becker, 1894

**Material.** This species was collected/recorded at several coastal locations in Sola and Klepp municipalities (ROY EIS 7) in 2009–2010. Its
known distribution in Norway is restricted to Rogaland (Jæren, EIS 3 and 7), Hordaland (EIS 30) and Oslo Akershus (EIS 28). The fact that its larvae are associated with Common Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea* L.), which can be found at coastal locations from Oslo to Møre og Romsdal County, suggests that *C. bergenstammi* could be found to be more widely distributed in coastal Southern Norway.

**Chrysotoxum festivum** (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Material.** ROY Sola: Solastrand Sør (EIS 7, E03 03819 N65 31246) 7 June 2009, 1♂, leg. A.C. Leendertse, caught, photographed and released.

**Remarks.** The specimen was recorded in open sand dune landscape whilst feeding on a flowering white Umbellifer (Fam. Umbelliferae). The location is on the species’ northernmost border in Western Norway.

**Platycheirus splendidus** Rotheray, 1998 (Fig. 5)

**Material.** ROY Stavanger: Hinna (EIS 7) 21 April 1974. 2♂♂, leg. Tore R. Nielsen, coll. TRN; Finnøy: Judaberg, Hauske (EIS 14, E03 21208 N65 63954) 1 May 2009. 1♂, leg A.C. Leendertse, coll. ACL. The specimen was collected on flowering Plum (*Prunus domestica* L.) in a garden in agricultural area; Sola: Røyneberg, Ytraberget (EIS 7, E03 07737 N65 35088). 13 May 2010, 1♂, leg A.C. Leendertse, coll. ACL. The specimen was collected at a ruderal patch bordering a meadow.

**Remarks.** The species was first described in 1998 by Rotheray, prior to that it was not distinguished from *P. scutatus* Meigen, 1822. The 1974 record has not been published previously, but is indicated in the distribution map of Bartsch (2009a). Other published records for *P. splendidus* in Norway are from several locations around Bergen. The 3 separate records in Rogaland indicate that the species might be fairly common. It may be worth the effort to check *P. scutatus* in old collections against the new key of Bartsch (2009a).
FIGURE 7. *Brachypalpus lapriformis* (Fallén, 1816), female. Like *Criorhina asilica* (Fallén, 1816), the species strongly resembles a honeybee (*Apis mellifera* L. 1758). Photo: Arjen C. Leendertse.

**Discussion**

Rogaland has a well explored hoverfly fauna and over 150 species have been recorded earlier. However, even with relatively modest collecting activity, five new species for the county were recorded in only two years. Several were expected due to occurrences of the species in the neighboring counties.

The most rewarding locations were relatively undisturbed forest, riparian and coastal locations of a certain size. This indicates the importance of pristine locations for maintaining biodiversity and underpins the need to protect them against fragmentation and deterioration.

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**References**


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