

# ***Paragus constrictus* Simic, 1986 (Diptera, Syrphidae) new to Norway, with some notes on the rare species *Paragus punctulatus* Zetterstedt, 1838**

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The species *Paragus constrictus* Simic, 1986 was found in a material from the Natural History Museum in Oslo. The specimens (3♀♀3♂♂), were caught at Ekebergskrånningen in Oslo by Anders Endrestøl. They were collected in a malaise trap placed in a west faced slope in late summer (19 August–22 October 2008). The rare species *Paragus punctulatus* Zetterstedt, 1838 is reported from two coastal localities further north than hitherto known.

Key words: Diptera, Syrphidae, *Paragus constrictus*, *Paragus punctulatus*, Norway.

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## **Introduction**

The genus *Paragus* Latreille, 1804 consists of small, mostly blackish flies, of which five species are known to occur in Norway. As this genus has been under revision for the last decades, it is not strange that the species numbers are slowly but steadily increasing. The sixth Norwegian species in this genus, *P. constrictus* Simic, 1986 was just recently separated from its close allies, *P. haemorrhous* Meigen, 1822 and *P. tibialis* (Fallén, 1817) (Simic 1986).

The very characteristic and diminutive flies are flying in warm and dry open habitats, mostly sea-shores and open mountain areas, where they are visiting flowers like *Fragaria vesca*, *Potentilla erecta* and *Galium verum*, flying rather low above the vegetation. The larvae are known to prey on root-living aphids (Bartsch et al. 2009).

## **The records**

The records are referred to the grid zones of the European Invertebrate Survey (EIS) (Endrestøl 2006) and to A. Strand's Norwegian reference system, as revised by Økland (1981).

### ***Paragus constrictus* Simic, 1986**

**Material.** AK Oslo: Ekebergskrånningen (EIS 28), 3♀♀3♂♂, 19 August–22 October 2008, Leg. A. Endrestøl, Coll. Natural History Museum in Oslo.

**Remarks.** The specimens were collected in a malaise trap placed in a west faced slope in late summer.

The locality is a mountainous slope facing the fjord in the city of Oslo, one of the last remnants of the nature that formed in one of Norway's climatically most favourable areas, and covering much of what is now Norway's biggest city area, consisting of open, herb-rich meadows, an open