

***Temnothorax nylanderi* (Förster, 1850) new and a second record of *Stenammas debile* (Förster, 1850) (Hymenoptera, Formicidae) in Norway**

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Temnothorax nylanderi (Förster, 1850) is documented for the first time in Norway. This is the northernmost record of the species. Two single, wingless queens were recorded at VE Borre: Natursenteret in Horten (EIS 19). The species has been expected to occur in Norway. Three colonies of *Stenammas debile* (Förster, 1850) were recorded in an oak forest at VAY Kristiansand: Nedre Timenes (EIS 2). The first record this species was done in 1977 at AAY Grimstad: Omre (EIS 6). Both *S. debile* and *T. nylanderi* are believed to have a potential distribution along the coast of Norway, from Kristiansand to the Swedish border.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Formicidae, *Temnothorax nylanderi*, *Stenammas debile*, distribution, Norway

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Introduction

The first overview of the Norwegian ant fauna was written by J.H.S. Siebke (1816–1875) and published by Sparre Schneider (1880). This publication included a total of 16 ant species. The number of ant species known in Norway has increased steadily due to new records, descriptions of new species and taxonomical changes. The latest list of Norwegian ants includes 54 species (Kvamme & Wetås 2010). Compared to the ant fauna in Sweden (Douwes 1995), we should expect closer to 70 outdoor living species (Kvamme & Collingwood 2009) or even more (Kvamme 2010). The record of *Temnothorax nylanderi* (Förster, 1850) raises the number of ant species in Norway to 55.

T. nylanderi was originally described as *Myrmica nylanderi* Förster, 1850, but was later included in *Leptothorax* Mayr, 1855, and then transferred to *Temnothorax* Mayr, 1861 (Bolton 2003). Later it was included in the subgenus *Myrafant* M.R. Smith, 1950. *Myrafant* is now a junior synonym of *Temnothorax* (Bolton et al. 2007). The interpretation of the taxonomic status of *T. nylanderi* has varied between subspecies and species (Bolton et al. 2007). Seifert (1995, 1996) worked out the morphology of *T. nylanderi* and closely related species in Central Europe. Radchenko (2000) cleared up the misinterpretation and the misidentification of *T. nylanderi* in Russia and the former Soviet Union (see also Czechowski et al. 2002). We follow the common interpretation