

***Criorhina berberina* (Fabricius, 1805) new to Norway, with a note on the distribution of *Xylota ignava* (Panzer, 1789) (Diptera, Syrphidae)**

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A female of the Hoverfly species *Criorhina berberina* (Fabricius, 1805) was captured at Ingelsrud in the southernmost part of Hedmark county on 26 June 2011. The species is new to the Norwegian fauna. A female of the very rare species *Xylota ignava* (Panzer, 1798) was also caught on the same occasion. This constitutes the third Norwegian record.

Key words: Diptera, Syrphidae, *Criorhina berberina*, *Xylota ignava*, Norway.

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Introduction

The Syrphid genus *Criorhina* Meigen, 1822 contains seven European species, of which four occurs in Northern Europe. They all mimic different species of bumble bees (Hymenoptera, Apidae). Hitherto two of these have been known to occur in Norway: *C. asilica* (Fallén, 1816) is rather widespread and in some places in southern Norway it is fairly common, while *C. ranunculi* (Panzer, 1805) has been found only on a few occasions in early spring along the southern coastline.

C. berberina (Fabricius, 1805) exists in several colour forms, the Norwegian specimen belongs to the yellow form, *f. oxyacanthae* (Meigen, 1822), mimicking *Bombus pascuorum* (Scopoli, 1763). Hitherto it has not been known to go further north than Skåne province at the southernmost tip of Sweden, and in Denmark (Bartsch et al. 2009). The specimens was caught on flowering *Rubus idaeus* L., which grew in a tight stand behind a small chapel, protecting it from the wind.

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).

***Criorhina berberina* (Fabricius, 1805)**

Material. HES Eidskog: Ingelsrud (EIS 29), 1ex., 26 June 2011. The specimen is kept in the author's private collection.

Remarks. How effective this camouflage is, is clearly demonstrated by the fact that Ove Bergersen got a photograph of a spectacular bumble-bee mimic on the 24 May 2008 on the Norwegian side of the Swedish border at Halden in Østfold. The fly landed for a very short time in the sun on an aspen leaf, before it buzzed away. But due to the fact that it had not been caught in Norway, no one dared to make the decisive determination from the photo. However, the picture is very clearly a *C. berberina*, not to be confused with any other of the bumble bee mimics among the Syrphidae. So this photo must count as



FIGURE 1. *Criorhina berberina* (Fabricius, 1805) from Halden in Østfold. Photo: Ove Bergersen.

the first record of the species in Norway, and the record at Ingelsrud, further inland and some way north of Halden, is a good confirmation.

***Xylota ignava* (Panzer, 1789)**

Material. HES Eidskog: Ingelsrud (EIS 29), 1♀, 26 June 2011. The specimen is kept in the author's private collection.

Remarks. *Xylota ignava* (Panzer, 1798), was caught in a single female specimen on the same location as *C. berberina*. This species was first found in Norway by Anders Endrestøl in a malaise trap placed in a forest edge in 2006, at AK Oslo: Lindøya, (Gammelmo & Nielsen, 2008) and then recorded from Ø Halden in the Norwegian Species databank in 2010. The third record from HES Eidskog: Ingelsrud, will allow a certain spatial area to the distribution, though it may be somewhat premature to give a definite distribution area based on just these three records.

This species has a wide European distribution, but has been regarded as north-eastern, as it has not been found in Denmark, nor England or Ireland. It clearly points out that this south-eastern area of

Norway is in need of more scrutiny by Norwegian collectors.

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