

# Contributions to the knowledge of Norwegian Tachinidae (Diptera, Oestroidea) – Part 1, including an updated checklist

HÅKON HARALDSEIDE

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Records are given for 215 specimens representing 34 genera and 41 species of tachinid flies from western Norway. *Gymnocheta magna* Zimin, 1958, *Prooppia nigripalpis* (Robineau-Desvoidy, 1847) and *Tachina ursina* Meigen, 1824 are recorded in Norway for the first time, notes on their identification, biology and distribution are given. An updated checklist of Norwegian Tachinidae with references to sources of records succeeding Rognes (1986) is also given.

Key words: Diptera, Tachinidae, *Gymnocheta magna*, *Prooppia nigripalpis*, *Tachina ursina*, new records, checklist, Norway.

Håkon Haraldseide, Ålavikvegen 4, 4250 Kopervik, Norway. E-mail: hharaldseide@gmail.com

## Introduction

Tachinidae is a speciose and morphologically diverse family of flies with members ranging in size from 20 (*Tachina grossa* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Figure 1)) to only a couple of millimetres.

More than 1600 species are known from the Palaearctic Region (Tschorsnig & Richter 1998). Fauna Europaea (Tschorsnig et al. 2004) lists 875 species for Europe and 382 for Scandinavia, 358 and 279 species for Sweden and Finland, respectively. Only 200 species are listed for Norway. In the updated checklist below the total number of species is 220. Undoubtedly many species still await discovery in Norway.

The typical tachinid fly is medium sized, black, greyish dusted and very bristly, usually easily recognized, even in the field. Almost all tachinids share the exclusive character of an enlarged subscutellum.

All tachinids are obligate parasitoids of arthropods, most species attack lepidopteran larvae, but other groups are also parasitized (Coleoptera, Heteroptera, Hymenoptera and Dermoptera to mention the most important).

Tschorsnig & Richter (1998) explains the morphology, biology and behaviour, classification and distribution of Tachinidae in the Palaearctic Region.

## Material and methods

In this first in a series of papers on Norwegian Tachinidae I aim to contribute to the knowledge of Tachinidae in Norway by presenting an updated checklist and 215 records from Norway (Figure 2) representing 41 species in 34 genera, including three new species for Norway; *Gymnocheta magna* Zimin, 1958, *Prooppia nigripalpis* (Robineau-Desvoidy, 1847) and *Tachina ursina* Meigen, 1824.

**The checklist** is based on the previous list by Rognes (1986) and succeeding papers reporting tachinid species new to Norway. Additions since Rognes (1986) are marked with a number which refers to the relevant publication.

Generic and specific synonyms and emendations are only included where the source-records do not agree with the classification