

Hoverflies (Diptera, Syrphidae) in North Norway

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225 hoverfly species and 53 genera have been recorded from North Norway. Examination of northern type material has revealed three synonyms: *Eristalis corymbus* Violovitsh, 1975 = *E. fratercula* (Zetterstedt, 1838), *Platycheirus rarus* Violovitsh, 1978 = *P. manicatus* (Meigen, 1822) and *Melangyna stackelbergi* Violovitsh, 1980 = *M. coei* Nielsen, 1971, all new synonyms. *P. urakawensis* (Matsumura, 1919) is reported new to the Norwegian fauna. The unknown larva of *Eristalis fratercula* was hatched from eggs and figured.

Key words: Diptera, Syrphidae, taxonomy, new synonyms, distribution, ecology, North Norway.

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Introduction

North Norway comprises the counties Nordland, Troms and Finnmark, from about 65° northern latitude, e.g. north of Trondheim.

As in other parts of West Europe the climate and vegetation of North Norway is much influenced by the Gulf Stream, giving a cold temperate climate in the coastal areas. The climate of the interior and northernmost parts is of the mountain and polar type. Innermost parts of Finnmark and Troms have continental conditions with less snow and strong frost in winter, but may have dry and warm summers, often influenced by southern winds from Finland and Russia.

Tundra (Figures 1–2) is the main vegetation type along the coast and in the mountains, gradually changing into birch (*Betula*) scrub and deciduous thickets in the fjords and inland. Taiga vegetation (Figure 3), much dominated by pine (*Pinus*), is present in eastern part of county Finnmark, mainly in the Pasvik valley and in Karasjok, but also in the inland valleys of Troms. Further details of topography and climate are

given by Moen (1998).

Bidenkap (1900) was the first to publish on syrphids from North Norway (in coll. Tromsø Museum), reporting on 61 species names. Some of the names could not be verified as the material probably has been lost.

Later on hoverfly material from North Norway has been reported in a series of publications: Nielsen (1974–2008), Mazánek *et al.* (1999, 2004), Nielsen & Claussen (2001), Gammelmo & Nielsen (2008) and Bartsch *et al.* 2009 a, b.

Material and methods

The material for this paper is mainly from our own collecting trips: the first author in 1969, 1977, 1981, 1983, 1984, 1990, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2006 and 2008, the second author in 2006, 2007, 2010 and 2011. In addition we have had the possibility to include material from the collections of Tromsø Museum, Helgeland Museum, Bergen Museum and Natural History Museum Oslo. Andreas Tore Andreassen, Borlaug supported us with valuable