

Amara gebleri Dejean in Finland (Coleoptera, Carabidae)

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Recently another species has been separated from *Amara aulica* (Panz.). In Die Käfer Mitteleuropas (Lompe 1989) this species is referred to as *Amara helleri* Gredler, and several distinguishing characters are listed. The species is mentioned as found in many parts of Central Europe.

Dr. Friedrich Hieke of the Humboldt University, Berlin, some time ago studied Finnish specimens standing as *A. aulica*, and found that some of them belong to this other species, for which he had found *Amara gebleri* Dej. to be the valid name (Hieke 1973 & in litt.). Since then I

have compared the rest of the material in the Zoological Museum, and found many additional specimens of *A. gebleri*.

Amara aulica is found in all of Finland save the very far north (*Al-Le*). *A. gebleri* is found in south and central Finland (*Ab-Ok*); it seems, however, to be absent from Åland and from the southwestern archipelago, where *A. aulica* is common. Generally *A. gebleri* seems to become more common towards the eastern part of Finland, and from some of those districts there were more specimens of *A. gebleri* than of *A. aulica*. In

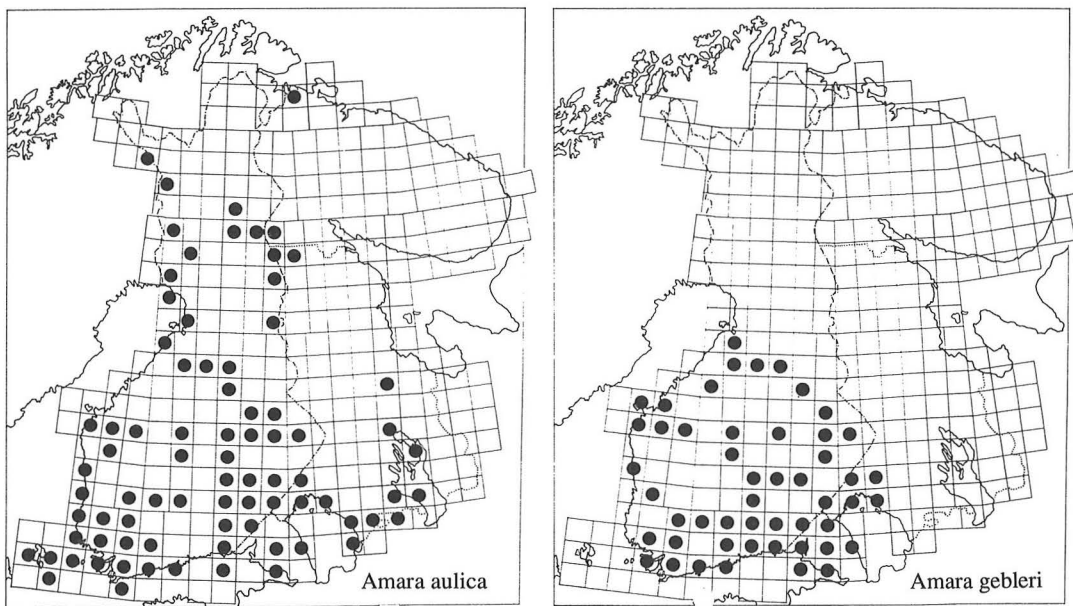


Fig. 1. Records of *Amara aulica* and *A. gebleri*.

the adjacent parts of Russia *A. gebleri* clearly dominated in the Karelian Isthmus, while the museum has only *A. aulica* from the areas of the River Svir and Lake Onega.

As for other North European specimens, Dr. Hieke identified both *A. aulica* and *A. gebleri* from Denmark, while all Swedish specimens in the museum proved to be *A. aulica*.

A. aulica has been considered fairly eurytopic on open land. It remains to be seen what ecological differences exist between the two species.

References

- Hieke, F. 1973: Beitrag zur Synonymie der paläarktischen Amara-Arten (Coleoptera, Carabidae). — Deutsche Entomol. Zeitschr. 20:1–125.
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