

## *Epuraea concurrens* Sjöberg (Coleoptera, Nitidulidae) new to Europe

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*Epuraea concurrens* Sjöberg, a species hitherto known only from Central Siberia and Mongolia, is reported from Finland. The characters distinguishing it from the closely related *E. neglecta* (Heer) are given.

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On 7th June 1988 the writer collected in Patvinsuo National Park, Lieksa (Kb), eastern Finland (grid 27°E 700:68), a specimen of *Epuraea* resembling the unicoloured form (*convergens* Reitter) of *Epuraea neglecta* (Heer). A study of the male genitalia showed that it belonged to *E. concurrens* Sjöberg. Two years later, on 26th June 1990, another male of the same species was found in Ilomantsi (Kb), (grid 27°E 701:70). Both these observations were made in the same way in similar habitats: by shaking bracket fungi (Polyporaceae) growing on dead birch trunks in old spruce forests mixed with birch and aspen. In the summer of 1991 again one female of this species was trapped in Kuhmo (Ok), (grid 27°E 709:60). This habitat (a protected peatland) also consists of an old spruce forest mixed with some birches and aspens. In 1992 *E. concurrens* was again found by the writer in three new localities: Nurmijärvi (N) (grid 27°E 670:38), Kuhmo (Ok) (grid 27°E 708:61) and Sotkamo (Ok) (grid 27°E 708:60).

Sjöberg (1939a) described *E. concurrens* from five specimens collected by Fritz Jensen during the Örjan Olsen expedition of 1914 to Central Siberia and Mongolia. The type specimens are kept in the Zoological Museum of Oslo, Norway, and I had an opportunity to compare my speci-

mens with the type (male, labelled as "lectoholotypus" by Josef Jelinek, Prague, in 1964) of Sjöberg, which Dr. Jan E. Raastad kindly lent to prof. Olof Biström, at the Zoological Museum of Helsinki. After having compared my three specimens with the type I am convinced that they all belong to *E. concurrens*.

*E. concurrens* is closely related to *E. neglecta*, differing in the following aspects: hairs of pronotum and elytrae are shorter; middle tibia of male have an extremely slight dilation with a weak tooth near the apex (sometimes this dilation is lacking); parameres of the aedeagus (Fig. 1) with downwards curved apex, in *E. neglecta* straight, the median lobe (penis) is more tapering apically. Female ovipositors are also slightly different (Fig. 1). Both aedeagus and ovipositor are longer in *E. concurrens*.

A check of the *E. neglecta*-material in the Zoological Museum of Helsinki disclosed the following old records of *E. concurrens* from Eastern Fennoscandia: Finland: Hattula (*Ta*) 28.06.1952 and 02.07.1952, A. Wegelius leg.; Ristiina (*Sa*), O. Renkonen leg.; Saarijärvi, Pyhä-Häkki (*Tb*) 04.07.1943, G. Stenius leg.; Juuka (*Kb*), 22.06.1940, A. Wegelius leg.; Russia: Syväri, Gumbaritsa, E. Palmén leg.

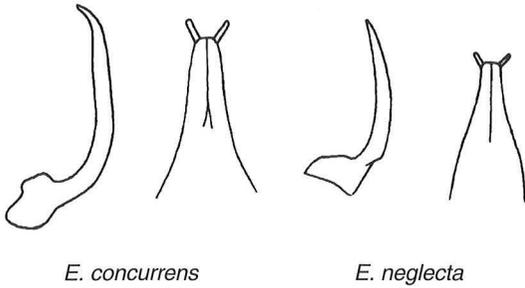


Fig. 1. *Epuraea concurrens* and *neglecta*. — Left paramere, lateral view; ovipositor, dorsal view.

In private Finnish collections the following observations of *E. concurrens* have been recorded: Ilomantsi (*Kb*) (grid 27°E 701:70), Tom Clayhills leg. and Kuusamo, National Park Oulanka (*Ks*) (grid 27°E 736:60), Jyrki Muona leg.

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