Brief report

Two species of Bibionidae (Diptera) new to the Finnish fauna

John Skartveit

Bibio varipes Meigen, 1830 and Dilophus borealis Skartveit, 1993 are recorded as new species to the Finnish fauna. Bibio lepidus Loew, 1871 should be reintroduced into the Finnish list. — Entomologica Fennica 10: 115–116.

John Skartveit, Museum of Zoology, Musèplass 3, N-5007 Bergen, Norway

Received 11 October 1997, accepted 10 May 1999

The Finnish bibionid fauna was dealt with by Lundström (1910, 1921). Fourteen species were listed by Hackman (1980). When examining the collection of the Central Museum of Natural History, Helsinki, I encountered two species not previously recorded from Finland.

Bibio varipes Meigen, 1830


This is a southern coastal species in Scandinavia, having a somewhat western distribution. The species is very common in southwestern Norway but seemingly scarce in Sweden. It is mainly a deciduous forest species which can often be found in abundance at forest edges, but may also occur in conifer forest.

Dilophus borealis Skartveit, 1993


This species is habitually quite similar to Dilophus femoratus Meigen, from which it was recently distinguished (Skartveit, 1993). In contrast to D. femoratus, this is an autumn-flying species, with a flight period between mid-August and mid-October. It is a boreoalpine species in a European perspective but occurs even at coastal localities in Finland (for instance Åland and Oulu). The species has been recorded from Norway, Sweden (Skartveit 1993), Russia (Nartshuk 1995), Switzerland, France and Spain (Skartveit and Haenni 1997). Like in most Dilophus, the male terminalia should be macerated and studied for an accurate species identification.

Taxonomic note on Bibio lepidus Loew, 1871

This species was recorded from Finland by Lundström (1910). Hackman (1980), however, followed various continental authors in listing it as a synonym of Bibio clavipes Meigen. I do not agree with this synonymy, as Scandinavian populations of the two nominal species are readily differentiated and intermediate populations seem not to occur in Scandinavia. In Central Europe the species seem to merge into one species; series of Central European specimens often show various intermediate forms between a typical B. clavipes (milky-white wings with indistinct pterostigma, long palps, strongly swollen hind tarsi in males) and a typical B. lepidus (clear wings with dark pterostigma, shorter palps, less swollen hind basitarsi). However, as long as the two morphological groups appear to form readily identifiable entities without overlap in Scandinavia, they should be treated as good species, despite their unclear central European status.


Acknowledgement. I wish to thank Pekka Vilkamaa, Institute of Zoology, Helsinki, for making the collection at the Museum of Zoology available to me, and helping me find the specimens I wanted to examine.

References


