

Brief report

Two species of *Trachyusa* Ruthe, 1854 (Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Alysiinae) in Finland

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Two species of the genus *Trachyusa* Ruthe, 1854 (Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Alysiinae) are recorded for the first time from Finland: *T. aurora* (Haliday, 1838) and *T. nigrothoracica* van Achterberg & O'Connor, 1990. Records and distribution in Finland are presented.

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1. Introduction

The Palaearctic genus *Trachyusa* Ruthe, 1854 (Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Alysiinae) was revised by van Achterberg and O'Connor (1990). According to them, the four species are comparatively rarely collected and the distribution of the genus seems to be restricted to Europe. For all species the biology is unknown, although all Alysiinae are believed to be koinobiont endoparasites of cyclorrhaphous Diptera larvae (Shaw & Huddleston 1991). The genus is easy to recognize because of the granulate sculpture of the second and third metasomal tergites and by the absence of a dorsope (van Achterberg & O'Connor 1990).

2. Material and methods

The new records here are based on 35 specimens from Finland. They were collected by sweeping by the author and deposited in the collections of Department of Applied Zoology, University of Helsinki (abbreviation DAZH, curator M. Koponen). No specimens were found in the collections of Finnish Museum of Natural History (A. Albrecht).

3. *Trachyusa* species in Finland

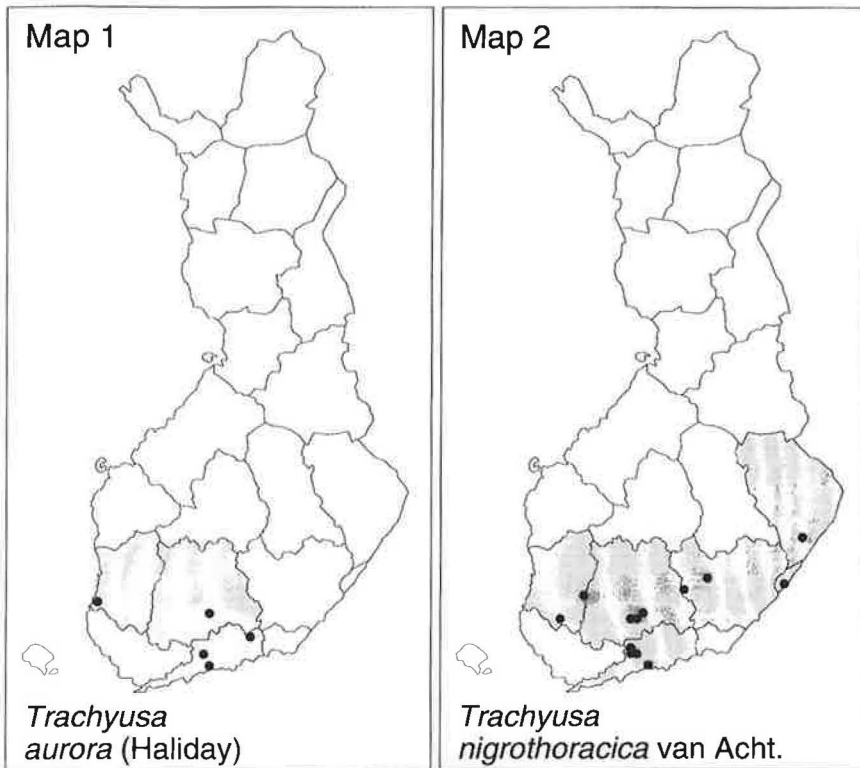
3.1. *Trachyusa aurora* (Haliday, 1838)

Material: In DAZH there are 7♂ and 1♀ from Finland (map 1) and 1♂ from Poland, all collected by the author; *N*: Elimäki (673:46), 16.6.1984, 1♂, Helsinki (6680:390), 16.6.1983, 1♂, Nurmijärvi (6707:379), 12.6.1992, 1♂, (6704:381), 1.7.1992, 1♂; *Sr*: Rauma (6791:204), 30.6.1986 1♀; *Ta*: Lammi (6773:394), 9. and 12.7.1976 3♂. There is also 1♂ from Poland, Pomorze, Miastko district, Stara Brda, 11.7.1988.

T. aurora is known from Austria, Czechoslovakia, England, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Russia (Krasnodarskij area), and Yugoslavia (Papp 1967, van Achterberg & O'Connor 1990).

3.2. *Trachyusa nigrothoracica* van Achterberg & O'Connor, 1990

Material: 18♂ and 12♀ (map 2); *N*: Nurmijärvi (6702:378), 22.6.1989, 1♀, (6706:381), 22.6.1982, 2♂, (6707:382), 7.6.



1984 ♀, 19.6.1984 2♂, 21.6.1984, 1♀, (6710:378), 12.7.1987, 1♀, (6717:375), 17.7.1991, 1♀, Sipoo (6688:400), 26.7.1981, 1♀, *St*: Vammala (6804:297), 30.6.1993, 1♀, Yläne (6762:256), 19.6.1982, 1♀; *Ta*: Janakkala (6766:381), 20.6.1981, 1♀, (6760:370), 12.6.1988, 1♀ ja 1♀, Lammi (6773:394), 8.7.1975, 1♀, (6772:391), 15.7.1976, 1♀; *Sa*: Mikkelin mlk. (6831:500), 23.6.1983, 2♀ 3♀, (6839:506), 25.7.1996, 1♀, Pertunmaa (6810:465), 22.6.1983, 1♀, Ristiina (6830:502), 25.6.1983, 2♀; *Kl*: Parikkala (6827:634, 6827:636), 27.6.-1.7.1990, 2♀; *Kb*: Kitee (6907:659), 19.7.1982, 1♀; Polvijärvi (6961:626), 5.7.1994, 1♀; Tohmajärvi (6908:660), 18.7.1982, 1♀.

T. nigrothoracica is known from Hungary, Ireland and Netherlands (van Achterberg & O'Connor 1990). This species was treated as *T. aurora* ab. *bicolor* by Papp (1967).

4. Discussion

In Finland *Trachyusa aurora* seems to be less common than *T. nigrothoracica*.

According to van Achterberg & O'Connor (1990), in the area of the Netherlands where both species occurred, *T. aurora* appeared later than *T. nigrothoracica*. In southern Finland the first records of *T. aurora* are in June 16th and the last in July 12th and of *T. nigrothoracica* June 7th and July 26th. The apparently shorter flight period of *T. aurora* may be no

more than a reflection of the smaller number of specimens.

The biology of these species is unknown. It seems that they are in Finland more or less forest species. The author has collected a lot of insects from Poaceae and other vegetation in forests. The samples with *Trachyusa* are from forests or forest edges.

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