

Opiliones new to Finland and an updated checklist

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Finnish Opiliones have been studied as a part of the research programme of deficiently known and threatened forest species (PUTTE) since 2012. During the project, several species new to Finland have been found and some errors in former checklists (Heinäjoki 1944, Stol 2007) discovered. Prior to the project, 12 Opiliones species were reported from Finland, the number now being 15. Here we present additions and changes with the updated checklist (Table 1.).

Additions to Finnish Opiliones fauna

Four Opiliones species, *Lacinius dentiger* (C. L. Koch, 1848), *Oligolophus hanseni* (Kraepelin, 1896), *Opilio canestrinii* (Thorell, 1876) and *Opilio saxatilis* C. L. Koch, 1839, have been observed for the first time in Finland. All these species are widespread in central Europe, *Opilio canestrinii* and *Opilio saxatilis* occur also in Sweden, *Oligolophus hanseni* in Sweden and Norway. *Opilio canestrinii* is common in Central Europe, often found in parks, gardens and on walls, but can also be found in deciduous forests. *Opilio saxatilis* is a thermophilic species, found in grasslands, on dunes and on walls. *Oligolophus hanseni* is found on tree trunks, walls and leaf litter in forests and gardens. *Lacinius dentiger* is found in sparse and open forests, parklands and gardens.

Lacinius dentiger

Kotka, Halla, 67078:34986 (Finnish Uniform Coordinate System), grove, under loose bark of pine, 23.8.2013, photographed by Petri Parkko, det. Veikko Rinne; On trunks and under loose bark, 27.8.2013, 8 males and 4 juveniles, leg. Petri Parkko and Annika Uddström, det. Annika Uddström

Oligolophus hanseni

Eckerö Post Museum, 67021:30874, rocky meadow, swept from small pines, 18.8.2012, 2 juveniles (reared to adults, 2 females), leg. Teemu Rintala and Veikko Rinne, det. Veikko Rinne; Lemland, Bengtsböle, sports field, 66816:31172, sparse pine forest, shaken from branches of pine, 21.8.2013, 5 juveniles, leg., det. Veikko Rinne; Lumparland, Långnäs, 66860:31277, on spruce, 21.8.2012, 2 juveniles, leg. Teemu Rintala, det. Veikko Rinne; Turku Kupittaaapuisto, 671302:324101, on poplar, 16.11.2012, 1 female, leg., det. Veikko Rinne; Paimio, 6708723:3261940, pitfall trap, 25.–27.6.2012, 2 juveniles, leg. S. Härkönen, I. Saarijärvi & al., det. Veikko Rinne



Fig. 1. *Lacinius dentiger* (male). Olive green and gray pigmentation, highly denticulated dorsally. Photo: Anika Uddström.



Fig. 2. *Oligolophus hanseni* (female). Differs from *O. tridens* by more dense denticulation between the trident and the ocularium. Often additional dents on the both sides of the trident (five in a row). The saddle pattern is characteristically bordered. Photo: Veikko Rinne.



Fig. 3. *Opilio canestrinii* (male). Reddish-brown to greenish brown with light and short transversal lines, often at least some orange pigmentation. Males often strikingly coloured. Photo: Veikko Rinne.



Fig 4. *Opilio saxatilis* (male). Similar to *O. parietinus*, but has more apparent longitudinal stripe on dorsum. Femur of the first leg pair is short and thickest in the middle part. Photo: Timo Pajunen.

Opilio canestrinii

Mariehamn, Ramsholmen, crossing, 66881:31049, road side, 17.8.2012, 1 juvenile, leg., det. Veikko Rinne; Sund, Bomarsund, fortress, 66970–1:31255–7, grove vegetation etc., 20.8.2012, 1 juvenile (reared to adult, 1 male), leg., det. Veikko Rinne; Mariehamn, Äspholm, 66820–7: 31083–6, grove, road side, 22.8.2012, 1 juvenile, leg., det. Veikko Rinne; Mariehamn, Österleden, 668603: 310815, on lime tree, 9.9.2012, 1 male, leg. Anssi Teräs, det. Veikko Rinne

Opilio saxatilis

Imatra, Immola Airfield, 67947:36020, sand/gravel with dry meadow vegetation, pitfall trap, 15.9.–9.10.2006, 1 male, leg. Juha Jantunen & Anu Valtonen det. Timo Paunonen

Changes to the checklist due to misidentifications

Leiobunum tisciae Avram, 1968 has been systematically misidentified as *Leiobunum rupestre* (Herbst, 1799). Lars Friman was the first to notice the misidentification and he contacted us. All *Leiobunum* specimens we have checked so far have turned out *Leiobunum tisciae* (from the collections of the Zoological Museum of Finnish Museum of Natural History, University of Helsinki, of the Zoological Museum, University of Turku, and our own collections from Åland and southern coast of Finland). It seems very unlikely that *Leiobunum rupestre* occurs in Finland.

Martta Heinäjoki reported *Platybunus bucephalus* (C. L. Koch, 1835) from Finland (Heinäjoki 1944). Later there has been some doubts on its occurrence in Finland (Stol 2007). Based on the collections of the Zoological Museum of Natural History, University of Helsinki and of the Zoological Museum, University of Turku, we suggest *Platybunus bucephalus* does not occur in Finland. All specimens we have checked, formerly identified as *Platybunus bucephalus*, have turned out juvenile *Rilaena triangularis* (Herbst, 1799). We have not been able to find any of the

Table 1. Checklist of Finnish Opiliones

Nemastomatidae

Nemastoma lugubre (Müller, 1776)

Phalangiidae

Lacinius dentiger (C. L. Koch, 1848)

Lacinius ephippiatus (C. L. Koch, 1835)

Lacinius horridus (Panzer, 1794)

Lophopilio palpinalis (Herbst, 1799)

Mitopus morio (Fabricius, 1779)

Oligolophus hanseni (Kraepelin, 1896)

Oligolophus tridens (C. L. Koch, 1836)

Opilio canestrinii (Thorell, 1876)

Opilio parietinus (De Geer, 1778)

Opilio saxatilis C. L. Koch, 1839

Phalangium opilio Linnaeus, 1758

Rilaena triangularis (Herbst, 1799)

Sclerosomatidae

Leiobunum tisciae Avram, 1968

Leiobunum rupestre auct.

Nelima gothica Lohmander, 1945

adult specimens Heinäjoki (1944) and Hippa (1975) reported. According to Martens (1978), *Platybunus bucephalus* occurs in Central and Southern Europe and the species has not been reported from other Nordic countries (Stol 2007).

References

- Heinäjoki, M. 1944: Die Opilionidenfauna Finnlands. — Acta Zool. Fennica 42: 1–26.
- Hippa, H. 1975. Faunistic and Ecological notes on the Opilionid fauna (Opilionida) of South-West Häme, Finland. — Lounais-Hämeen Luonto 55: 1–4.
- Martens, J. 1978: Die Tierwelt Deutschlands 64. Teil, Weberknechte, Opiliones. — VEB Gustav Fischer Verlag, Jena, 464 p.
- Stol, I. 2007. Checklist of Nordic Opiliones. — Norw. J. Entomol. 54: 23–26.