

First record of *Aleiodes unguularis* (Thomson, 1892) (Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Rogadinae) from Norway

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Aleiodes unguularis (Thomson, 1892) is reported from Norway for the first time. Locality and biology are briefly discussed.

Key words: *Aleiodes unguularis*, *Pseudoips prasinana*, Rogadinae, Braconidae, Hymenoptera, new record, Norway.

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Introduction

Aleiodes Wesmael, 1838 is a cyclostome braconid genus in the subfamily Rogadinae. Rogadines are peculiar in the habit of mummifying their lepidopteran hosts to protect their pupae, see Figure 1.

Aleiodes unguularis (Thomson, 1892) was originally described from Sweden. It is widespread but always rare in Europe, and has not been recorded from Norway previously. In view of its general scarcity as well as the fact that it is now readily identifiable (van Achterberg & Shaw, 2016), we hereby report *A. unguularis* as a Norwegian resident insect.

Material and Methods

Among specimens of *Aleiodes* Wesmael, 1838 collected by HH and sent to MRS for determination was a female of *A. unguularis* from the July 2016 catch of a Malaise trap operating at Skår (Karmøy). The specimen (Figure 2) arrived with MRS just

a couple of weeks too late to be included in the first part of a revision of *Aleiodes* in the Western Palaearctic (van Achterberg & Shaw, 2016), in which the species is keyed and redescribed, with a summary of its confirmed distribution and biology. The Norwegian specimen is deposited in the collection of the National Museums of Scotland. The record is presented as follows: Faunistic Region (Økland 1981), municipality, location, coordinates (WGS 84 decimal degrees), and European Invertebrate Survey grid-number (EIS) (Endrestøl 2005).

The record

Aleiodes unguularis (Thomson, 1892) (Figure 2)

Material: RY, Karmøy: Skår (59.287979N, 5.264283E) (EIS 13), July 2016, 1♀ (Malaise trap)

Remarks: The trap was located in mixed forest dominated by *Betula*, *Corylus* and *Picea* with sporadic *Quercus robur* and *Fagus*.



FIGURE 1. Mummified larva of *Pseudoips prasinana* (Linnaeus, 1758), the only known host of *Aleiodes unguaris* (Thomson, 1892). The mummy figured is from France.



FIGURE 2. The first Norwegian specimen of *Aleiodes unguaris* (Thomson, 1892).

Discussion

The only known host of *A. unguaris* is *Pseudoips prasinana* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Lepidoptera: Nolidae) which feeds as a larva on *Quercus* and *Fagus*. We know that *P. prasinana* is present at this locality as a single adult was collected in May 2016, resting on the very Malaise trap that had collected the parasitoid. The possibility of confirming this host for *A. unguaris* in Norway by rearing it at this locality seems good.

References

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