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New species and new distribution records of Lestremiinae, Micromyinae and Porricondyliinae (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) in Sweden

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Abstract

The Swedish species of fungivorous Cecidomyiidae have been the subject of comprehensive inventory in recent years (2004–2012). Notwithstanding these efforts, which are unparalleled in the remainder of Europe and the World, a follow-up project running over four months (May–August, 2014) revealed the presence in Sweden of an additional 28 species of Lestremiinae, Micromyinae and Porricondyliinae. These discoveries, comprising 10 species new to science and 18 species new to the Swedish fauna, are outlined and discussed in terms of taxonomic position and geographical distribution. **New species** are described and named as follows: *Aprionus forshagei*, *Aprionus gustavssoni*, *Aprionus karlssonorum*, *Aprionus lindgrenae*, *Aprionus magnussoni* (all in Micromyinae), *Asynapta panzari*, *Asynapta suzuae*, *Dicerura peterssoni*, *Monepidosis tinnerti*, and *Tetraneuromyia wilksae* (all in Porricondyliinae). *Serratyla acuta* (Spungis), originally classified as a *Porricondyla*, is a **new combination**.

Key words: Palearctic region, Northern Europe, biodiversity, taxonomy, adult morphology

Introduction

Gall midges, Cecidomyiidae (or cecidomyiids), are commonly known as a family of plant-feeders, yet five of the six subfamilies included have retained fungus-feeding, the ancestral mode of nutrition. These fungus-feeders—Catotrichinae, Lestremiinae, Micromyinae, Winnertziinae, and Porricondyliinae—comprise almost 1,300 extant species, roughly one fifth of all Cecidomyiidae (Gagné & Jaschhof 2014). Most recent research into the diversity and taxonomy of fungivorous cecidomyiids has focused on the fauna of Sweden, with funds provided by The Swedish Taxonomy Initiative (<http://www.slu.se/en/collaborative-centres-and-projects/artdatabanken/the-swedish-taxonomy-initiative/>) for a nationwide species inventory. This research resulted in a modern generic classification of the Winnertziinae and Porricondyliinae, and in a revised subfamily classification of the Cecidomyiidae (Jaschhof & Jaschhof 2009, 2013). The number of Swedish species of fungivorous cecidomyiids increased from 164 to 443, including 100 species described as new to science. It is safe to assume that there is no other geographical region the size of Sweden whose fungivorous cecidomyiids are so thoroughly inventoried. But did this lead to a situation where the fauna in question may be regarded as exhaustively known, and any new discovery is only achievable at unreasonably high costs?

Here we document the occurrence in Sweden of an additional 28 (10 new) species of Lestremiinae, Micromyinae and Porricondyliinae, identified within a period of just four months (May–August, 2014). It is worth noting that the new species are true novelties, identified on the basis of morphological characters, not sibling species separated on grounds of primarily molecular evidence. In this paper, new species are described, named and classified, and species newly recorded in Sweden are listed and discussed in terms of geographical distribution.

We currently know of more than a dozen other fungivorous cecidomyiid species new to Sweden whose identity needs to be verified by more specimens. The inventory of Swedish Cecidomyiidae, including the subfamilies in the present paper, will continue in 2015 until 2017.