Agrilus cyanescens Ratzeburg, 1837 (Buprestidae) and *Xyleborus monographus* (Fabricius, 1792) (Curculionidae) – two new but probably extinct Norwegian Coleoptera

Stefan Olberg

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One specimen each of *Agrilus cyanescens* Ratzeburg, 1837 and *Xyleborus monographus* (Fabricius, 1792) was discovered in the collections at Natural History museum in Oslo. These specimens where sampled around a century ago and represent the first and last records of their species from Norway. A brief discussion of the beetle's ecology attempts to shed light on the possibility of a present existence of these two species in the country.

Key-words: Coleoptera, *Agrilus cyanescens*, *Xyleborus monographus*, Norway.

Stefan Olberg, Natural History Museum, University of Oslo. P.O. Box 1172 Blindern, NO-0318 Oslo, Norway. E-mail: h.s.olberg@nhm.uio.no

INTRODUCTION

In the present article the two beetle species *Agrilus cyanescens* Ratzeburg, 1837 and *Xyleborus monographus* (Fabricius, 1792) are mentioned from Norway for the first time. Both species are only known from Norway in one specimen each from old museum collections. Assuming the labels are correct, these two species should be added to the Norwegian fauna.

THE SPECIES

Agrilus cyanescens

A specimen of *Agrilus cyanescens* was discovered in the collections at Natural History museum in Oslo. During a revision of the museums *Agrilus*-specimens by Eduard Jendek, a specimen previously misidentified as *A. sulcicollis* proved to be *A. cyanescens*. The specimen was labelled "Nesodden pr. Kr.nia, Ths. Münster", meaning it was captured at **AK** Nesodden by Thomas Georg Münster. It was probably caught in the 1930's.

A. cyanescens is distributed from Spain to Caucasus, north to Denmark, the Baltic and Northwest Russia, but is missing in both Sweden and Finland (Silfverberg 2004). The larvae develop in trunks and thick branches of *Lonicera* spp. and seem to prefer *Lonicera periclymenum*. Imago can be found on the leaves in June and July. *L. periclymenum* are planted in gardens and have spread itself out in nature many places in southern parts of Norway. *Lonicera* only harbour a few insect species and collectors have therefore probably not searched for beetles on these plants in Norway. The specimen found at Nesodden could have been an occasionally introduced specimen or part of a small introduced population that later went extinct. Nevertheless, there are several localities in south-eastern Norway that have a

microclimate that certainly is within the species temperature range. Additionally, several species that earlier where thought to be too demanding for our climate, have been detected in Norway throughout the last decade. A directed search on the host plant in climatically favourable areas, could resolve the question whether *A. cyanescens* still exists in Norway.

Xyleborus monographus

In 2005 the author came a cross one specimen of *Xyleborus monographus* in the late Axel Conradin Ullmann's collection, which is situated at the Natural History museum in Oslo. The specimen is labelled "Chr.sand, Ullmann", meaning that it was captured in the vicinity of **AAY** Kristiansand: Kristiansand. Ullmann lived in Kristiansand in the period of 1896-1913, and it is reasonable to believe that the specimen of *X. monographus* was captured during this time span.

In Europe, *X. monographus* is distributed north to Sweden, where it has been located in four southern districts and has recently also been found as far north as Uppland (Lindelöv et al. 2006). The species develop in newly dead oak wood (*Quercus* sp.) where the larvae live of ambrosia fungi. *X. monographus* prefer stems of larger sizes, which there apparently are more of in Sweden than in Norway. A declining amount of breading material in Norway could be the main reason for why this species might no longer exists in the country. On the other hand, a directed search in oak forests in south-eastern Norway could reveal some viable populations of this species.

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