

***Acupalpus dubius* Schilsky, 1888 (Carabidae, Coleoptera) in Norway**

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On specimen of the carabid species *Acupalpus dubius* Schilsky, 1888 was caught in a light-trap at Østre Randøy (VAY Kristiansand) in May 2007. This is the first record from Norway.

Key words: *Acupalpus dubius*, Carabidae, Coleoptera, Norway

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Introduction

A. dubius is a temperate European species distributed from France and Germany in the south, north to the British Isles, Denmark and Sweden, and east to Silesia and the Caucasus. In Sweden the species is only known from a few coastal localities in Skåne and Blekinge and is here regarded as a near threatened species (Gärdenfors 2005). It is also local and regarded as quite rare in Denmark but is not considered to be threatened (Stoltze & Pihl 1998). *A. dubius* is usually found on sparsely vegetated ground on clay, sand or peat close to small water bodies in coastal areas. In Sweden it is usually found on open pastured grasslands close to the seashore. This has become a rare biotope in Norway, as the grazing animals are normally no longer let out on such meadows. In Ireland *A. dubius* is recorded both from warm, humid, marshy sites beside ponds and pools on the coast, often in partially saline conditions, and from Sphagnum on acid, peaty lakeshores (Anderson et al 2005).

Material

VAY Kristiansand: Østre Randøy (EIS 2, UTM_{WGS84}32VMK479392), May 2007 (leg Kai Berggren). One specimen was caught in a light-trap.

Because of the species' small size (2.5–2.7 mm) and its special habitat preference, it is most likely that *A. dubius* has been overlooked in Norway. Additionally, there are no signs in our neighbouring countries indicating increased populations, or an invasive behaviour in this species. This has in reality been the case for several of the beetle species found new to the Norwegian fauna the last decade. This implies that *A. dubius* most probably is a rare and local species in Norway and at most confined to a few suitable localities along our south-eastern coast.

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