

# ***Micropterna lateralis* (Stephens, 1837) (Trichoptera, Limnephilidae) recorded in Iceland**

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Two adult specimens, male and female, of *Micropterna lateralis* (Stephens, 1837) were found in a light trap at the Forestry Research Institute at Mógilsá in Kollafjörður, 20 km north of Reykjavík on 23–30 July 2008. Light traps have been operated at two sites in south and south-east Iceland since 1995 and at Mógilsá in south-west Iceland since 2005. Streams in all parts of Iceland were surveyed in 2004–2006 for Trichoptera species. Larvae of this species have not been found yet, and these are the only specimens obtained so far. This recent addition to the Trichoptera fauna is probably not associated with global warming, as this species is found much further north in Norway.

Key words: *Micropterna lateralis*, Trichoptera, Iceland

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## **Introduction**

Prior to this new record only 11 species of Trichoptera had been recorded from Iceland (Gíslason 1981), belonging to the families Apataniidae, Limnephilidae and Phryganeidae. All 11 species are also found in Norway (Gíslason 1981a), 8 in mainland UK, and only 4 in the Faroe Islands, Shetland and the Orkneys and 1 in Svalbard (Henriksen 1929, Gíslason 1981a, 2005, Shire et al. 1964) with 3 in Greenland (Böcher 2001). One species (*Limnephilus sparsus* (Curtis, 1834)) is found only in running water, 6 are found only in stagnant water, and 4 species are found in both habitats (Gíslason 1981a). Two of them, *Apatania zonella* (Zetterstedt, 1840) and *Potamophylax cingulatus* (Stephens, 1837) are found in streams and the exposed shores of lakes, where wave movement is common and gives the effect of running water (Gíslason 1981a). The current Trichoptera fauna of Iceland has only one arctic species (*A. zonella*), whereas others

have temperate distributions in the Palaearctic or Holarctic regions (Gíslason 2005). The number of Trichoptera species on islands in the North Atlantic declines with distance from the European continent and Britain, and seems to be unrelated to their sizes (Gíslason 2005). The pattern of their occurrence indicates the stochastic nature of dispersal.

A general survey of Trichoptera adults and larvae was conducted in 1974–1978 (Gíslason 1981b), when *P. cingulatus* was recorded for the first time in Iceland and found only in the east and north-east of the country (Gíslason 1974). It was fairly common in running waters, but *A. zonella* was rare in these areas, where it had been common before (Fristrup 1942, Gíslason 1981b). In 2004–2006 the survey was repeated to map the present distribution of *P. cingulatus* and *A. zonella*. Rivers and streams in all areas of Iceland were sampled and species recorded, but no new Trichoptera species were discovered.