

## The genus *Leiomyza* Macquart, 1835 in Norway (Diptera, Asteiidae)

GUNNAR MIKALSEN KVIFTE

Kvifte, G.M. 2013. The genus *Leiomyza* Macquart, 1835 in Norway (Diptera, Asteiidae). *Norwegian Journal of Entomology* 60, 62–64.

One male and two females of *Leiomyza curvinervis* (Zetterstedt, 1838) have been recorded from two localities in Finnmark, and a single male of *Leiomyza dudai* Sabrosky, 1956 from one locality in Ringsaker, Hedmark. These records represent the first findings of this genus in Norway. The identification and biology of the family Asteiidae and the genus *Leiomyza* are briefly commented on.

Key words: Diptera, Asteiidae, *Leiomyza*, *Leiomyza curvinervis*, *Leiomyza dudai*, faunistics.

Gunnar Mikalsen Kvifte, Department of Entomology, Bergen University Museum, P.O. Box 7800, University of Bergen, 5020 Bergen, Norway. E-mail: [gunnar.kvifte@um.uib.no](mailto:gunnar.kvifte@um.uib.no)

### Introduction

The Asteiidae are a group of small to minute acalyprate Diptera found in all biogeographical regions except Antarctica. More than 100 species have been described in two subfamilies; however the family's diversity is underestimated and poorly studied. About 20 species in four genera occur in Europe (Oosterbroek 2006).

What little is known of the biology of asteiids suggests that they are diverse generalist saprophages or phytophages. Larvae of several species have been found in or reared from such diverse habitats as tree bark, floral inflorescences, phloem, rotting or dry organic matter and fungal fruit bodies (Papp 1998, Oosterbroek 2006). *Leiomyza* Macquart, 1835 are generally thought to be fungivorous in their larval stage (e.g. Papp 1984, Chandler 1978); however Sidorenko & Shedko (2010) recorded *Leiomyza scathophagina* (Fallén, 1823) as a facultative myiasis parasite of Amur sturgeon *Acipenser schrenckii*.

Asteiids are most easily recognized on their characteristic wing venation, with crossvein BM-Cu and cell *cup* absent, a continuous costa,

subcosta incomplete and M1 concave (e.g. Figure 1). In the genera *Asteia* Meigen, 1830, *Astiosoma* Duda, 1927 and *Phlebosotera* Duda, 1927, vein R2+3 terminates very close to the base of the wing; *Leiomyza* is atypical in having it closer to the wing apex (Merz 1996). Nine species of *Leiomyza* have been described and five of them are known from Europe (Gibbs & Papp 2006).

The Norwegian fauna of Asteiidae has apparently not been studied at all; as no species are listed by Papp (1984) or Carles-Tolra (2012). The family was first published from Norway by Gammelmo & Søli (2011), who recorded *Asteia amoena* Meigen, 1830 from three localities in Akershus and Aust-Agder. Further *Asteia* species are present in the Natural History Museum, Oslo; however this material has not yet been published (G. Søli, pers.comm.) The present paper gives the first account of the genus *Leiomyza* from Norway.

### Material and methods

Most of the specimens were collected in Malaise traps as part of the project "Insects inhabiting