

# *Stauropoctonus bombycivorus* (Gravenhorst, 1829) in Norway (Hymenoptera, Ichneumonidae, Ophioninae)

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The conspicuous ichneumonid fly *Stauropoctonus bombycivorus* (Gravenhorst, 1829) is recorded for the first time in Norway. Four specimens have been captured in light-traps at three different localities in 2007: Hvaler in Østfold (Ø) and Arendal in Aust Agder (AAY), respectively. The biology and distribution are briefly discussed.

Key-words: Ichneumonidae, Ophioninae, *Stauropoctonus*, ichneumonid fly, *Stauropus fagi*.

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## Introduction

The ichneumonid subfamily Ophioninae is represented with relatively huge and easily recognizable species, usually with broad wings and red-brown body. They are well known among Lepidoptera collectors, because they are easily attracted to light-traps. Most of the species are associated with Lepidoptera where they attack the larvae (Gauld 1973, Cederberg 1979). Three genera are known from N Europe, and *Stauropoctonus* is the smallest, represented with only one single European species (Achterberg & Zwakhals 2004). This contribution deals with the first records of the species *Stauropoctonus bombycivorus* in Norway.

## The records

Ø Hvaler: Asmaløy, Huser «Havet» (EIS 12, UTM WGS84 32V PL 1033547482 +/- 50 m), 7 August 2007, 1♀, leg. Ove Sørliåten ; Vesterøy,

Guttormsvauen (EIS 20, UTM WGS84 32V PL 0624451654 +/- 50 m), 26 July 2010, 1♀, leg. Ove Sørliåten. AAY Arendal: Havsøy (EIS 6, UTM WGS84 32V MK 869758), July 2007, 2♀♀, leg. Kai Berggren. All the specimens were captured in light-traps. The material is deposited in the collections at the Natural History Museum, University of Oslo.

## Identification

*Stauropoctonus bombycivorus* may easily be separated from other ophionins by the size and color. The length of the body may be around 25 mm, and the color usually red-brown or yellow-brown, and with black markings (Cederberg 1979). A character for the genus is the twisted mandibles along the axis, hiding the upper teeth laterally. The second trochanter on the middle- and hind legs is apically armed with a tooth pointing downwards. Pterostigma is extended into the



**FIGURE 1.** *Stauropoctonus bombycivorus* ♀ from Huser, Østfold. Photo: Karsten Sund, Natural History Museum, Oslo.

costalvein. A photo of the specimen from Huser, Østfold is presented in Fig. 1.

### Biology and distribution

The lobster moth (*Stauropus fagi* L.) (Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Notodontinae) is the only mentioned host in the literature (Cederberg 1979). This species is distributed in Southern Norway, but rare (Aarvik et al. 2009). The distribution of *S. bombycivorus* goes throughout the Palaearctic region, from England, Sweden and Finland in west, through Central and Southern Europe and eastwards to Japan (Townes et al. 1965, Gauld 1973, Achterberg & Zwakhals 2004).

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