

**Brachycercus harrisella (Ephemeroptera, Caenidae)
found in Finland**

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Abstract

ITÄMIES, JUHANI; KUUSELA, KALEVI & SAVOLAINEN, EINO: *Brachycercus harrisella* (Ephemeroptera, Caenidae) found in Finland. — *Notulae Entomol.* 59:89—90, 1979.

Brachycercus harrisella Curtis, 1834 is recorded for the first time from Finland. Seven males were caught in Oulu (*Ob*) in 1973 and four in Muhos (*Ob*) in 1976—77. They were taken in light traps near the River Oulujoki.

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Seven males of *Brachycercus harrisella* Curtis, 1834 were identified by Itämies and Kuusela in insect material sampled by O. Blomberg with light-traps in Oulu (*Ob*: 720:48) in 1973 (for equipment, see BLOMBERG et al. 1976). The specimens were caught between 3 and 29 August, at the border of field and forest about 100 m away from a quiet, pool-like stretch of the River Oulujoki. A belt of bushes screened the traps from the river.

At about the same time four males of *B. harrisella* were identified quite independently by Savolainen in mayfly material taken by Itämies and Kyrki in a light-trap in Muhos (*Ob*: 719:45), on 1976-08-08, 1976-08-13, 1976-08-19, 1977-09-05. The trap was placed on a steep, shrubby bank about 100 m from a slow-flowing reach of the same river.

The specimens are preserved in the Zoological Museum of the University of Oulu and in Kuopio Museum. Our observations support the conclusion that the nymphs typically inhabit the muddy bottoms of big rivers (KIMMINS 1972, BRITTAİN 1972). *B. harrisella* is apparently a fairly common species in the Oulujoki because in August 1973, for example, it composed some 25 % of the total mayfly

catch in the light-trap (30 exx.). It is possible that the nymphs also inhabit other Finnish rivers, and they may also occur in lakes, for instance in exposed stretches of soft-bottomed littorals.

The imagos of *B. harrisella* have a late flying period, in August and September, when the nights are already longer. As KIMMINS (1950) has supposed and as the present catches indicate, their period of activity may be nocturnal. This may explain the general scarcity of observations of adults of the species. *B. harrisella* has been recorded sporadically throughout central and northern Europe to the Urals (TSHERNOVA 1964, LANDA 1969, PUTHZ 1978). The nearest finds to the present ones lie in Estonia (REMM 1970), South Sweden (BENGTSSON 1917) and South Norway (BRITTAİN 1972). It possibly also occurs in Russian Karelia (see TSHERNOVA 1964).

Brachycercus is easily distinguished from *Caenis* species. Its prothoracic sternum is rectangular, broad and twice as wide as long, and the coxae of the forelegs are widely separated, while *Caenis* imagoes have a triangular sternum and the coxae close together (see REMM 1970 and KIMMINS 1972). In addition, *B. harrisella* is big-

ger than the *Caenis* species found in Finland. The larger size also distinguishes it from *B. minutus*, which has been found in some of the Baltic countries (TšHERNOVA 1964).

Selostus

Maalle uusi päivänkorentolaji

Brachycercus harrisella Curtis-päivänkorentoja löytyi maalle uutena lajina sekä *Ob*: Oulusta (1973) että Muhokselta (1976 ja 1977 Oulujoen rantamilla kerätyistä valorysämaterialaaleista. Laji lienee yöaktiivinen ja on ilmeisesti yleisempikin seuduilla, missä isohkot suvantoiset ja mutapohjaiset joet virtaavat. Aiemmat havainnot ovat varsin kaukaa — Eestistä sekä Ruotsin ja Norjan eteläosista.

Referat

En för Finland ny dagäländeart

Dagäländor tillhörande *Brachycercus harrisella* Curtis blev funna som för landet ny art såväl från *Ob*: Uleåborg (1973) som Muhos (1976 och 1977) i ljusryssjematerial som insamlats nära Ule älv. Arten torde vara nattaktiv och är tydligen vanligen i trakter där större lugna älvar med dybotten rinner fram. De närmaste fynden är från Estland och de sydligare delarna av Sverige och Norge.

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