

# *Ilyocryptus acutifrons* Sars 1862

Family Macrothricidae Norman et Brady

Genus *Ilyocryptus* (Sars 1861)

## Key characteristics:

Seen from the side this species is somewhat slimmer than *I. sordidus* and the head is comparatively larger. Anteriorly its head is elongated into a strongly protruding, acute angle. The first pair of antennae are considerably shorter and thicker than in *I. sordidus*, while the second pair are far larger and more powerfully built. Its post abdomen is much shorter and wider than in *I. sordidus*. Instead of a double row of teeth on the dorsal part of the hind edge of postabdomen, *I. acutifrons* has a single row. The basal spines of the abdominal claw are short. It has a yellowish colour, with only a slight trace of red.

Female: Length 0.6-0.9 mm

Male: Length 0.6-0.8 mm

## Distribution:

*I. acutifrons* is only found in 15 water bodies, and has a scattered distribution in Norway. It is found in both lakes and ponds but never above 700 m a.s.l. The records so far are from water with pH ranging from 4.8 to 7.5, while conductivity is between 1 and 22 mS/m. Like other species within this genus, *I. acutifrons* may have been underestimated, because it mostly lives hidden in the mud.

