

# *Ilyocryptus agilis* (Kurz 1878)

Family Macrothricidae Norman et Brady

Genus *Ilyocryptus* (Sars 1861)

## Key characteristics:

Seen from the side the head of *I. agilis* is more pointed than in *I. acutifrons*. Anteriorly on the dorsal side it has an incurvature. The first pair of antennae are long and slim as in *I. sordidus*, while the second pair are powerfully built. Its postabdomen has the same appearance as in *A. acutifrons*, much shorter and wider than in *I. sordidus*. Like *I. sordidus* there is an incurvature in the middle of the dorsal edge where the anus lies. This area of the postabdomen is armed with 4-5 strong denticles. The basal spines are short. It has a yellowish-brown or dark red colour. Some specimens may be more or less hyaline.

Female: Length 0.6-0.8 mm

Male: Length 0.4-0.7 mm

## Distribution:

*I. agilis* is only found in six water bodies which are randomly distributed in South Norway. All records are from the littoral of lakes situated below 700 m a.s.l. pH is close to neutral, while conductivity was measured in two of the lakes (2,5 and 8.3 mS/m). Like other species within this genus, *I. agilis* may have been underestimated because it lives hidden in the mud.

