

Asecutor iuscitiae newstans 1
Washington 1913

Length of both sexes, 1.50 to 1.75 mm. in customary position which does not include head and proboscis, the head being extended ventrally from the strongly humped thorax. Head and proboscis of female less than half body length, about 0.80 to 0.85 mm.; of male about 0.60 mm.

Described from three dry-mount females and four balsam-mount females captured indoors by lamplight at the mouth of Verrugas Canyon on the night of July 9, and one dry-mount male captured in a dark recess of ravine wall at bottom of Verrugas Canyon under railway bridge (Verrugas Bridge of the Central Railway) on the forenoon of July 10, 1913.

It may be noted that the body and wing surfaces and hairs are iridescent in sunlight as seen with the 65 magnification of the binocular, the wing surfaces and leg surfaces appearing reticulate-iridescent, the tarsal joints most beautifully violet-blue varying through all shades of green to cupreous in very oblique sunlight. Considering the fact that these gnats never venture into the sunlight, so far as is at present known, the wonderful color effects which they display would seem to be entirely lost to their perception. It is probable, however, that their mating operations take place about sundown, and that the diffused daylight at such times allows their perception of these color effects in a certain degree.

The three figures were drawn by Miss Helen T. Townsend, with camera lucida, from balsam mounts.

Note.—Since the above was written, the successful transmission of verruga by the above described species has been accomplished in a dog, injection being given on July 11 and eruption appearing on July 17. This establishes the complete demonstration of the species as the vector of verruga.

A NEW SPECIES OF AGROMYZIDÆ

(Diptera)

By J. R. MALLOCH

Milichia orientalis, new species.

Female: Brownish-black, subopaque. Frons gray dusted; face thickly white dusted. Mesonotum with gray dusting, in some aspects with an olivaceous or greenish tinge; pleuræ with dusting slightly greenish and iridescent; scutellum colored as disk of mesonotum. Abdomen more distinctly shining than thorax, the dusting most distinct at base. Legs and halteres black. Wings clear, veins brown.

Tschirnhaas

27. JULI 1994

Malloch, 1913

Frons slightly less than one-third the width of head; two orbital bristles below level of anterior ocellus, the upper one backwardly directed, the lower directed forward; anterior to these bristles there are only weak orbital hairs; central stripe with two rows of hairs which increase in length toward the front; antennæ normal; arista bare; basal joints swollen slightly; second joint elongated, length of entire arista equal to length of frons; cheeks linear, bristles carried well up toward base of the antennæ; proboscis not elongated. Mesonotum covered with very short hairs on disk; two dorso-centrals present; the pair of bristles between the posterior pair subequal with these; sterno-pleura with 3 bristles (1-1-1); disk of scutellum bare. Abdomen with segments 2 and 5 distinctly longer than 3 and 4, which are subequal, segment 5 longer than 2. Legs normal. Wings with veins 3-4 convergent, the apex of 3 bent down; outer cross vein at about its own length from end of fifth. Length, 2 mm.

Type: Cat. No. 15956, U. S. Nat. Mus.

Locality: Island of Guam, Ladrone Islands (D. T. Fulloway) 7 specimens.

A NEW HETEROSTYLUM FROM MEXICO

(Diptera, Bombyliidae)

By FREDERICK KNAB

Heterostylum stigmatias, new species.

Male: Eyes broadly subcontiguous. Antennæ dark, the first joint dark brownish with blackish brown hair, the third joint black. Frontal triangle with a dense tuft of short black hair on anterior margin. Face clothed with pale yellowish brown hair, beneath with nearly white hair, some dark hairs above antennæ.

Mesonotum black, clothed with short and close dull brown pubescence becoming pale yellowish brown at the sides. Scutellum dull ferruginous, clothed with pubescence similar to that on mesonotum. Pleuræ clothed with dense, long, dull creamy pubescence.

Abdomen broad, short, and blunt; vestiture of brown, blackish and dull creamy yellow pubescence, the blackish hairs massed broadly upon the dorsum, the brown more laterally, the creamy hairs at the apical margins of the segments and most abundant laterally and on the apical half; vestiture of venter whitish with large patches of black hairs.

Wings limpid, with the venation typical of the genus; extreme base of wing honey yellow, followed by a broad dark brown fascia extending nearly to the apex of the second basal cell; subcostal and first veins ferruginous, the others dark brown.

Legs dull ferruginous, with fine very short and close yellowish pubescence and short black bristles; tarsi becoming black distally.

Length: Body about 12 mm., wing 13 mm.

Female: Similar to the male, but differing in the sexual characters. The brown vestiture of the mesonotum, scutellum, and abdomen inclines to ferruginous, but the abdomen shows the same tuftings of dull creamy hairs.

Frontera, Tabasco, Mexico; April 14 and 21 (C. H. T. Townsend).

Type: Cat. No. 16254, U. S. Nat. Mus.

One male and one female. The color of the body vestiture, as in other Bombyliidae, appears to be subject to considerable variation. The unusually broad deep brown fascia near the base of the wing should serve to identify this species without difficulty.

NOTE ON THE AMERICAN SILVERY SPECIES OF ARGYRIA

(Lepidoptera, Pyralidae)

By HARRISON C. DYAR

The American species of *Argyria* Hübner, that are known to me, which have silvery white ground color, separate by the following table. Sir G. F. Hampson listed them under the name *Platytes* (Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 943-948, 1895). *A. croceicinctella* Walker is not before me. Hampson lists it as with long palpi, like *auratella* and *jonesella*, from which Walker's description separates it. *A. interrupta* Zeller would fall with *multifacta* and *xanthoguma* in the table, but the costal triangular mark is more nearly apical, and touches the dentate marginal line. *A. subtilis* Felder is apparently the same as, or very near, *divisella* Walker. *A. mesodonta* Zeller would fall, from the description, with *tinguralis*, but seems distinct by the different color of the markings. *A. sordipes* Zeller is, no doubt, a southern race of *nivalis* Drury, as Zeller himself indicated.