

A note on the remarkable empidid fauna (Diptera Empididae Hybotidae Atelestidae) of Corsica

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Abstract

A survey was made with yellow pan traps in the “Vallée du Fango” (Haute-Corse) in the Northwest of Corsica in order to examine the distribution of species in four types of Maquis habitat and in the different strata in each habitat. Twelve species are reported, their phenology and distribution in the different strata are given. In addition, two more species are reported from a second sampling campaign in the same area. A number of remarkable species are found such as *Brachystoma vesiculosum*, *Microphorella curtipes*, *Atelestes pulicarius*, *Ragas unica* and *Oropezella sphenoptera*. Three species new to science are described: *Stilpon corsicanus* sp. nov., *Tachydromia andreiruizi* sp. nov., and a species belonging to the Afrotropical genus *Lamachella*. It is described but not named.

Keywords: Fauna of Corsica, Empidoidea, new species.

Introduction

In contrast to temperate regions in Europe, the empidid fauna of the Mediterranean and especially Corsica is not so well known. We have only a poor understanding of the empidid community that is present in that area.

The severe conditions caused by high summer temperature combined with drought, limit the activity period of the empidids. They are mainly active in May and June as will be shown here.

The material that we studied was collected by Dr. Marie-Cécile ANDREÏ-RUIZ and consisted of two batches of samples. A first series was collected in four different types of maquis in 1992 while the second set was collected in 1994.

A number of quite uncommon and remarkable species, at least for students of temperate faunas, was found such as *Brachystoma vesiculosum*, *Microphorella curtipes*, *Atelestes pulicarius*, *Ragas unica* and *Oropezella sphenoptera*. In addition, three species new for science are described: one new *Stilpon*, one new *Tachydromia* and a new species of *Lamachella*. The latter genus was originally described on the

basis of four species, all from Africa (SMITH, 1969). However, STARK and CHVÁLA (1997) recently described a species found in Berlin, being the first Palaearctic record of the genus. The species here is likely to represent a natural population while the Berlin species could represent an introduced species.

Material and methods

All material was collected in the “Vallée du Fango” situated on the territory of Galeria and Manso (Haute-Corse) in Northwest Corsica. The site is classified as “Réserve de Biosphère”. A first experiment was set up in 1992 by Dr. Marie-Cécile ANDREÏ-RUIZ (Laboratoire d'Ecologie Méditerranéenne, Université de Corse, Corte) in order to study the fauna of the different types of maquis, the strata of the vegetation and the phenology. Therefore a set of two yellow pan traps was placed at each stratum if present in the station. The trapping was started on 25 April 1992 and the traps were emptied every week until 4 July 1992.

Station I: "Dalles rocheuses": bare rocks, exposed to the East, at 340 m on a slope of 35°.

Vegetation is sparse and very short: *Sedum*, short grasses, mosses and lichens. A single stratum at soil level (traps I A). The climatic conditions at this station are severe since they are not buffered by the vegetation.

Station II: "Cistaies": exposed to the East, at 335 m on a slope of 35°. The *Cistus* formed a belt around the bare rocks and formed a transition zone between the rocks and the high maquis. *Cistus monspeliensis* and *C. salvifolius* are dominant. Two strata are sampled: soil level (II A) and at medium height of the cistaies (50 cm, II B).

Station III: "Futaie claire sur maquis": exposed to the East, at 360 m on a slope of 25°. A stratum of green oak is dominant at 14 m (III E). A second stratum is observed at 7 m (III D) and the other strata were sampled at soil level (III A), at 0.5 m (III B), at 1 m (III C).

Station IV: "Maquis haut": exposed to the East, at 315 m on a slope of 25°.

Here the green oak was at the same level of the other tree canopies i.e. at 7 m (IV E). A second stratum was observed at 5 m (III D). The other strata were sampled at soil level (IV A), at 0.5 m (IV B), at 1 m (IV C). Station IV is the most humid of all four.

A second series of samples were taken in 1994 in an "aulnaie" (*Alnus*; alder forest) in the Fango delta. In addition to the yellow pan traps placed at various heights, emergence traps were used as well. We have seen only the material collected in the week of 28 May until 4 June 1994. Not all material was studied.

Observations

Faunistical observations

At the vallée du Fango we found only 12 empidid species. In comparison to temperate western Europe, this is very poor. However, the species represent a biocoenosis that is quite unknown in temperate regions because most species are relatively rare. The most striking observation is the "Afrotropical" genus *Lamachella*. It is the second species recorded in the Palearctic. A description is given further in the paper. The large number of *Brachystoma vesiculosum* is surprising but in fact it is a Mediterranean species. Further there are the remarkable species such as *Microphorella curtipes*, *Atelestus pulicarius* and *Ragas unica*. The *Drapetis arcuatus* found here, might represent a new species for science as well, but given the large number of problematic *Drapetis*, a revision of the whole genus is needed.

Table 1. The distribution of the species in the four stations sampled at the Vallée du Fango in 1992.

Species / Stations	bare rocks station I	shrubs station II	maquis oak 7 m station IV	maquis oak 14 m station III	Total number specimens
<i>Atelestus pulicarius</i>		16	5	3	24
<i>Brachystoma vesiculosum</i>	17	54	10	21	102
<i>Drapetis arcuatus</i>	1	3	6	5	15
<i>Empis sp.</i>		7	4	5	16
<i>Hilara sp.</i>			1		1
<i>Lamachella sp.</i>				1	1
<i>Microphorella curtipes</i>		2	1	9	12
<i>Oedalea holmgreni</i>		1	2	9	12
<i>Platypalpus coxatus</i>				2	2
<i>Platypalpus longicornis</i>				1	1
<i>Ragas unica</i>				1	1
<i>Trichina clavipes</i>		4	2	5	11
Number of specimens	18	87	31	62	198
Number of species	2	7	8	11	12
Number of traps	2	4	10	10	

Table 2. The relative distribution of the species in the four stations sampled at the Vallée du Fango in 1992. The number of specimens are relative because the sampling effort per station is not identical and therefore have been brought up to 10 samples per station.

Species	bare rocks	Shrubs	maquis oak 7 m	maquis oak 14 m
	station I	station II	station IV	station III
<i>Atelestus pulicarius</i>	0	40	5	3
<i>Brachystoma vesiculosum</i>	85	135	10	21
<i>Drapetis arcuatus</i>	5	7,5	6	5
<i>Empis sp.</i>	0	17,5	4	5
<i>Hilara sp.</i>	0	0	1	0
<i>Lamachella sp.</i>	0	0	0	1
<i>Microphorella curtipes</i>	0	5	1	9
<i>Oedalea holmgreni</i>	0	2,5	2	9
<i>Platypalpus coxatus</i>	0	0	0	2
<i>Platypalpus longicornis</i>	0	0	0	1
<i>Ragas unica</i>	0	0	0	1
<i>Trichina clavipes</i>	0	10	2	5
Number of species	2	7	8	11

As can be seen in Tables 1 and 2, *B. vesiculosum* is the dominant species in all the habitats. Only 2 species are active above the bare rocks. They are *B. vesiculosum* and a species that is supposed to be *Drapetis arcuatus*. We repeat here that this area is directly exposed to the sun and is under extreme fluctuations of temperature. The area with the shrubs harbours 7 species. Here, *B. vesiculosum* is also dominant and has its peak activity here. In the maquis with oaks up to 7 m, 8 species were present. In the maquis with oaks up to 14 m, 10 species are found and it is the habitat with most species recorded. It is also the site with the most strata and the most sheltered area.

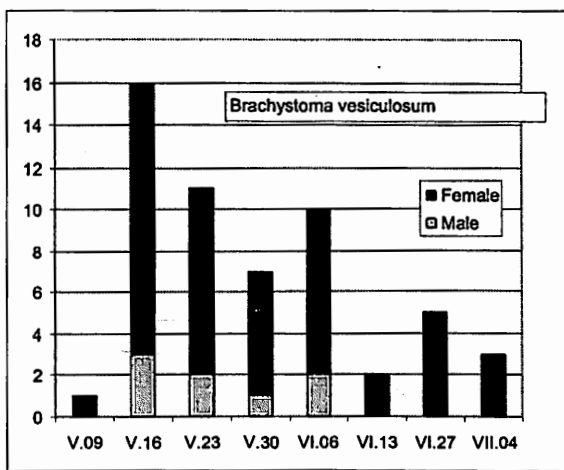


Table 3. Phenology of the empidids found at the Vallée du Fango in 1992.

	V.02	V.09	V.16	V.23	V.30	VI.06	VI.13	VI.20	VI.27	VII.04	Grand Total
<i>Atelestus pulicarius</i>			2	22	13	5	3	6	8		24
<i>Brachystoma vesiculosum</i>		1	26	22	13	27	2		7	4	102
<i>Drapetis arcuatus</i>				2	1	1	1		4	7	15
<i>Empis sp.</i>			2	6	1	1	2	1	2	1	16
<i>Hilara sp.</i>										1	1
<i>Lamachella sp.</i>										1	1
<i>Microphorella curtipes</i>				1		1	9		1		12
<i>Oedalea holmgreni</i>	1		2	3	1	2	2	1			12
<i>Platypalpus coxatus</i>		1		1							2
<i>Platypalpus longicornis</i>	1										1
<i>Ragas unica</i>							1				1
<i>Trichina clavipes</i>	1		2	5	2		1				11
Grand Total	3	2	34	40	18	36	21	8	22	14	198
Number of species	3	2	5	7	5	5	8	3	5	5	12

As can be seen from Table 3, the peak activity of the empidids starts near half May and slows down after the end of June. The male of *B. vesiculosum* are far outnumbered by the female (Fig. 1) and the peak activity is half May, slowly declining towards July.

Taxonomical observations

Stilpon corsicanus sp. nov.

Figs 2-7

Type material: Holotype male. France: Corsica, Vallée du Fango, Aulnaie, 28 May-4 June 1994 (leg. Marie-Cécile ANDREÏ-RUIZ).

Paratypes: same locality, yellow pan traps and emergence traps, 28 May-4 June 1994: A / P.11-R1 (94) - 1 m; 1 f; A / S.17-R1 (94) - 1 m; A / P.8-R1 (94) - 2 m, 1 f; A / E.8-R1 (94) - 1 f; A / E.3-R1 (94) - 3 m, 1 f; A / E.24-R1 (94) - 2 m; 2 f; A / P.1-R1 (94) - 1 m; A / P.13-R1 (94) - 4 m; 2 f; A / S.6-R1 (94) - 1 m; A / S.14-R1 (94) - 2 m; A / S.16-R1 (94) - 3 m, 1 f; A / E.19-R1 (94) - 2 m; A / E.11-R1 (94) - 1 m; A / P.6-R1 (94) - 1 m; A / E.17-R1 (94) - 2 m, 1 f. (In alcohol in the coll. RBINS; voucher specimens in coll. MNHN, Paris).

A means "Aulnaie"; E: emergence trap; P: yellow pan trap at 1 m height; S: yellow pan trap at soil level. M and f mean male and female respectively. In total we observed 283 specimens (130 males; 153 females) in the samples. We did not include all specimens in the paratype series because quite a number were badly preserved in the pan traps.

Diagnosis. A species with a uniform dark cloud on the wing anteriorly and without clear oval spot in the dark area. Resembling *S. nubilus* in most respects, but with left cercus with 3 strong black spines; tip of right epandrial lamella bifurcate but bifurcation slit-like and not a wide V like in *S. nubilus*.

Description.

Male. General habitus, including head, thorax, wing, and terminalia structures, typical for *Stilpon* species. Head black in ground-colour. Occiput and vertex largely finely greyish pollinose, subshining, occiput with dense pollinosity in lower part laterally. Frons broad, about 1.5 times as broad as distance between posterior ocelli, somewhat denser pollinose than occiput, parallel-sided. Ocellar tubercle weakly prominent, with 2 very

short yellowish anterior and 2 longer brownish posterior ocellars. Occiput with 2 brownish inclinate verticals, 1-serial minute posterior ocellars, scattered setae above neck, and denser, longer setae in lower part. Antenna with scape and pedicel yellow, postpedicel (except extreme base) and style brownish yellow. Pedicel with 2 long and several short brownish setae; style about 6-7 times longer than postpedicel. Palpus pale, clothed in pale setulae, with 1 moderately long brownish terminal bristle.

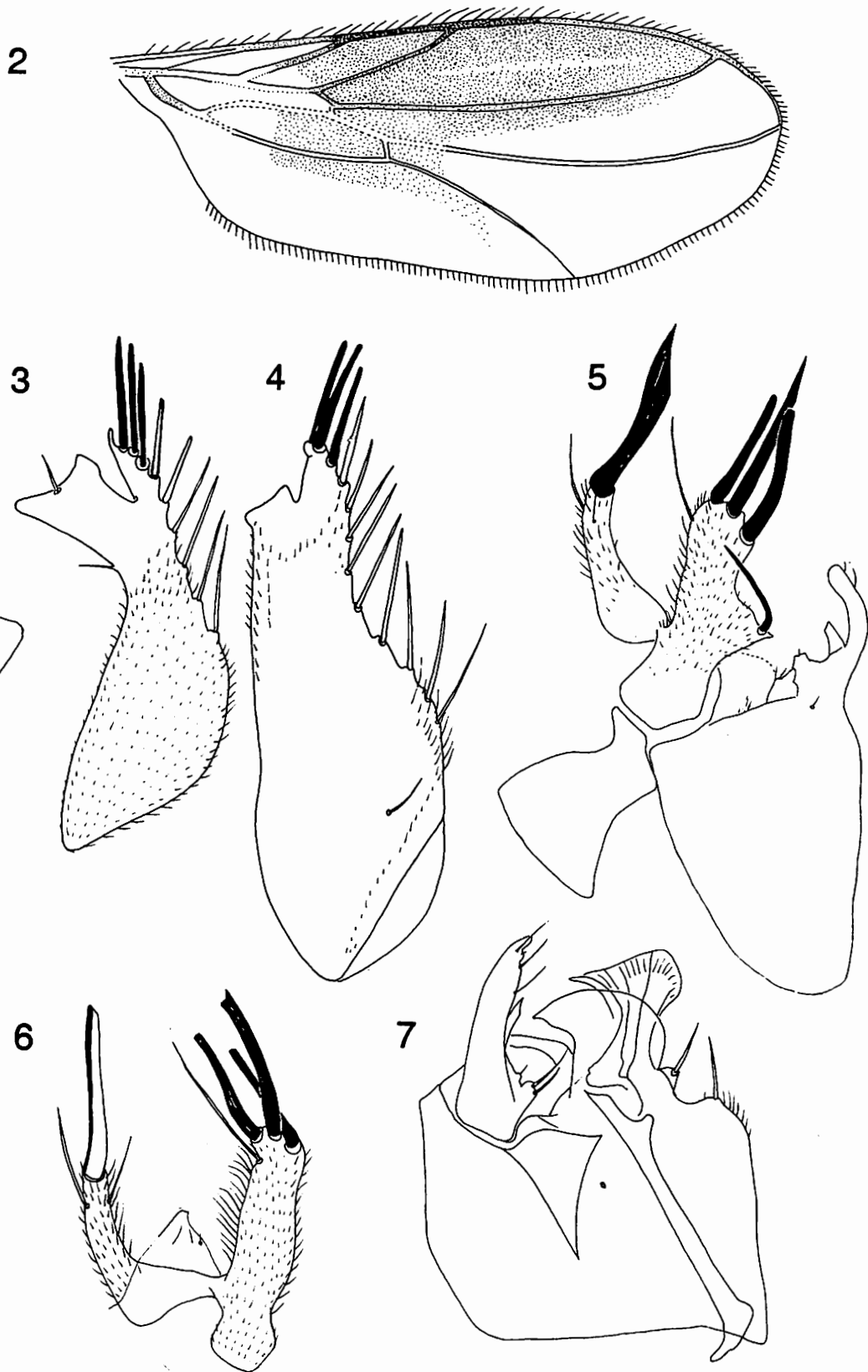
Thorax black in ground-colour, subshining, finely light greyish pollinose, mostly with brown to black setation, including 1 long inclinate postpronotal, 2 notopleurals, 1 postalar, 2 cruciate scutellars; additionally, 2 long bristles present in anterior margin of scutum, postsutural supra-alar space with some setulae. Dorsocentrals and acrostichals very short, hardly differentiated, ending before scutellum; the former arranged in 1 more or less regular row, with some additional bristles laterally and anteriorly; the latter 2-serial.

Legs largely yellow, tibiae and tarsi finely brownish yellow (colour intensity of varying intense, in darker specimens mid and hind coxae and even mid and hind femora apically brownish yellow). Fore femur with 1 row of long posteroventral bristles; mid femur with 3 long ventral bristles basally and 1 long bristle near apex anteriorly; hind femur with 3-4 anteroventral bristles in apical part and several shorter dorsal bristles at about middle. Fore tibia with 1 rather long subapical posteroventral and 1 very short dorsal bristles; mid tibia with rows of anterior to anteroventral spinule-like setulae. Tarsomere 1 of all legs with minute ventral spinules; otherwise legs with ordinary setation.

Wing with distinct uniform brownish pattern (Fig 2), leaving about apical fourth, broad lower margin and base of wing (nearly up to apex of cell br) hyaline. Veins brownish to pale yellow, costa extensively darkened from about apex of R1 to midpoint of distance between R2+3 and R4+5. R4+5 and M1+2 slightly divergent near wing apex. Distance between apices of R1 and R2+3 about 3 times shorter than that between apices of R2+3 and R4+5. Squamae pale and pale fringed. Halter pale.

Abdomen with tergites and sternites yellowish brown, covered with scattered brownish setulae which are longer and darker on pregenital segments. Terminalia brown (Figs 3-7).

Length: body 1.3-1.5 mm, wing 1.0-1.1 mm.



Figs 2-7. *Stilpon corsicanus* sp. nov. 2. wing; 3. right epandrial lamella with detail of tip; 4. right epandrial lamella, dorsally; 5. cerci with left epandrial lamella, dorsally; 6. cerci with epiproct; 7. ventral view of epandrium.

Female. Resembling male except for sexual differences.

Length: body 1.3-1.5 mm, wing 1.0-1.1 mm.

Differential diagnosis. There are two species known with a dark clouded wing: *S. nubilus* and *S. subnubilus*. *S. corsicanus* sp. nov. is most closely related to *S. nubilus*. It differs mainly in the male terminalia structure. The cerci are a little stouter and slightly differently shaped. The most obvious are the three strong, black spine-like bristles on the tip of the left cercus. In *S. nubilus* there are only 2 bristles. The shape and bristling of the right epandrial lamella is also different. The right lamella has a bifurcated tip and the gap between the two legs of the fork is slit-like and not a wide V like in *S. nubilus*. Further the new species has the left side of the right epandrial lamella set with bristles, the upper most are strong, black spine-like. In *S. nubilus* these upper bristles are not strong and black. *S. subnubilus* is easily separated because the right cercus has a bifurcated tip, bearing 2 black bristles. The right cercus in *S. corsicanus* has a simple tip and bears only one black spine-like bristle. There are many more differences in the male terminalia of the 3 related species as can be seen by comparing the figures 3-12 in CHVÁLA, 1988.

Etymology. The new species is named after the whole region of its type locality, Corsica.

Distribution. France (Corsica).

Biology. Numerous specimens were collected in yellow pan traps. In contrast to most *Stilpon* species which are soil dwelling, *S. corsicanus* was also caught in pan traps placed at 1 m indicating an activity on the higher vegetation and a possibility of flight.

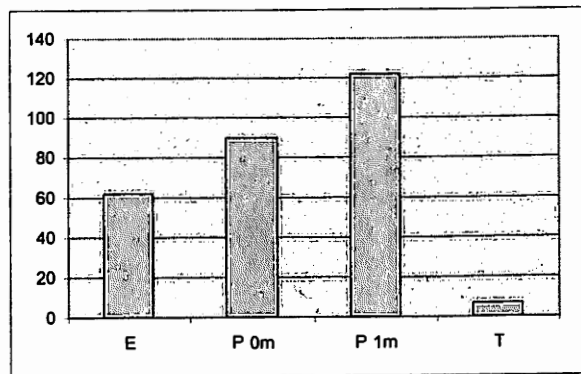


Fig. 8. Activity at various heights of *Stilpon corsicanus* sp. nov. at soil level (P 0m), at 1 m (P 1m), at 2 m (P 2m), higher than 2 m (T); E: emergence traps.

Tachydromia andreiruizae sp. nov.

Figs 9-13

Type material: Holotype male. France (Corsica): Haute-Corse, Vallée du Fango, A/P.19-R1(94). Aulnaie, yellow pan trap at 1 m above soil; 28.V-4.VI.1994; leg. Marie-Cécile ANDREÏ-RUIZ (in coll. RBINS).

Paratypes. 1 male, same locality, sample n° A/S.1S-R1(94). 28.V-4.VI.1994; leg. Marie-Cécile ANDREÏ-Ruiz.

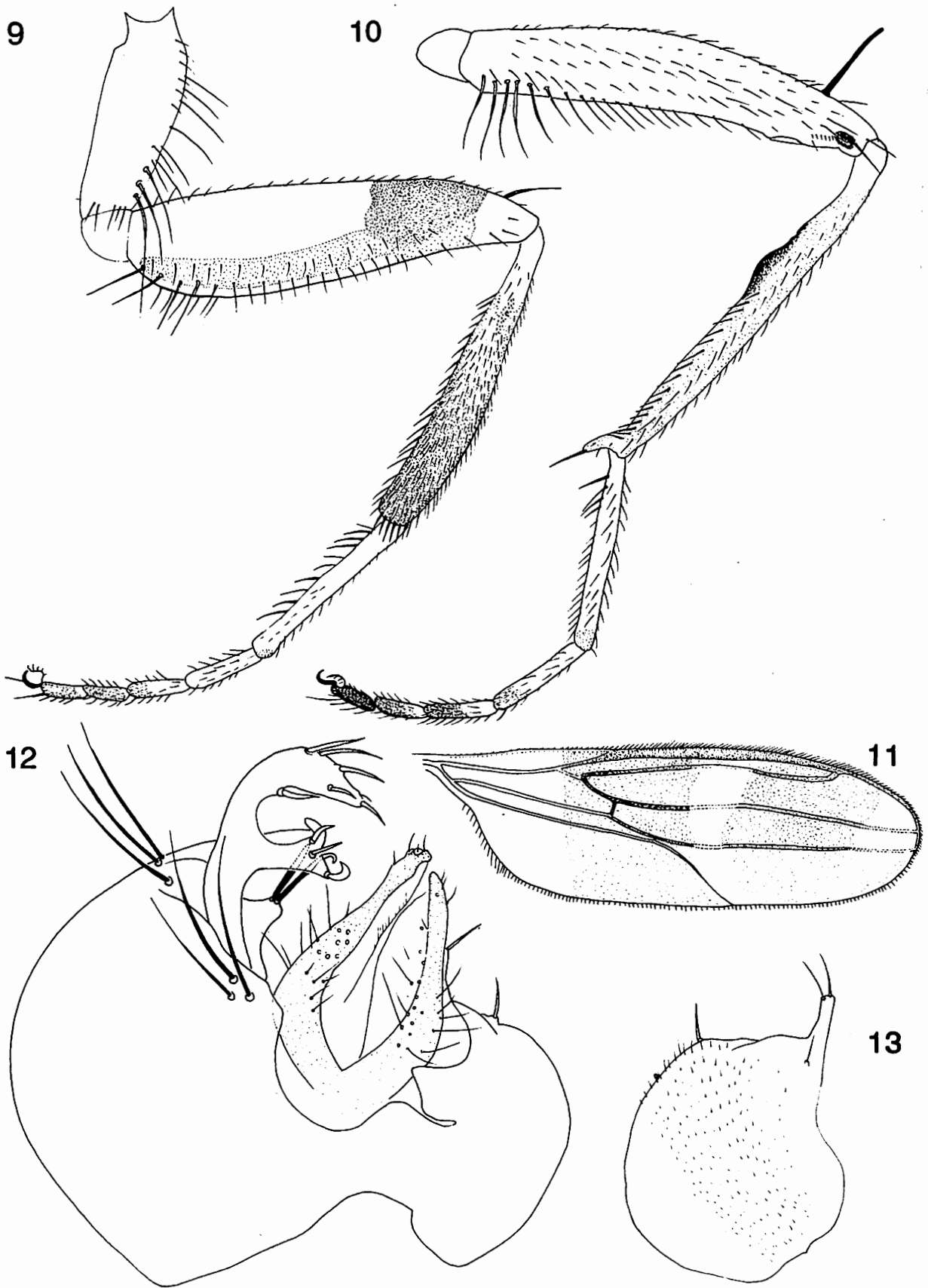
Diagnosis. Belonging to the *annulimana*-group of species *sensu* CHVÁLA (1971). Distinguished from all species of the group by colour of fore femora, which are largely yellow, in apical part (except apex) with dark brown broad ring extending as anteroventral band to base of femur, and tuberculate mid tibia.

Description.

Male.

Head black in ground-colour, occiput and vertex wholly whitish grey pollinose. Frons narrow, about 1.5 times wider than anterior ocellus, largely shining, finely pollinose above antennae; ocellar tubercle polished. Face almost linear, polished in middle, somewhat widened, finely pollinose both above and below. Ocellars minute. Occiput with 2 short black postverticals, 2 black bristles of subequal length nearer to middle, 3 pairs of longer pale bristles around neck (1 pair above, 2 pairs laterally), 1 row of minute pale postocellars and several pale hairs near mouth-opening. Antennae brownish yellow, style yellowish brown. Postpedicel short oval; style subapical, about 4.0-4.5 times longer than postpedicel. Palpus long, narrow, yellowish brown in ground-colour, clothed in long pale setae (silvery white in some angle of view), with 1 long black apical bristle. Proboscis somewhat longer than palpus, labrum brown.

Thorax black in ground-colour, polished (including prothoracic sclerites). Postpronotal lobe elongate, bearing several minute pale setulae. Mesonotum with greatly reduced, mainly black setation, prominent bristles spine-like; 1 notopleural, 1 short postalar, 2 scutellars; notopleural, posterior prescutellar and scutellar bristles long, of subequal length; additionally, some minute pale setulae present behind postpronotal lobe and on notopleural depression anteriorly. Acrostichals lacking. Dorsocentrals



Figs 9-13. *Tachydromia andreiruizae* sp. nov. male. 9. fore leg; 10. mid leg; 11. wing; 12. hypopygium; 13. Left epandrial lamella.

arranged in 1 regular row, numerous, mostly pale and minute, 2 strong, black prescutellars (anterior one shorter). Long yellowish setae between mid and hind coxae. Halter pale.

Legs long, modified, with complicated pattern of coloration. Fore coxae almost entirely yellow (brownish yellow at extreme base), mid and hind coxae yellowish brown. Trochanter of fore leg yellow (except small brownish spot beneath), trochanters of mid and hind legs yellowish brown. Fore femur largely yellow, in apical part (except apex) with dark brown broad ring extending as anteroventral band to base of femur; mid femur brownish yellow (somewhat darker dorsally); hind femur wholly light brown; all femora with small black subapical spot ventrally. Knees of all legs yellow. Tibiae almost entirely brown, yellowish to brownish yellow near base, fore and hind tibiae darker. Fore and mid tarsi with tarsomeres 1-2 brownish at apex, tarsomere 3 largely and tarsomeres 4-5 entirely brownish, otherwise tarsi pale yellow; hind tarsus with similar colour pattern but tarsomere 3 wholly brownish. Fore (Fig. 9) and mid femora (Fig. 10) rather short, thickened, especially fore one; hind femur long, slender, tapered basally; mid femur with small subbasal tubercle and some subapical indentation ventrally. Fore tibia thickened, spindle-shaped; mid tibia with posteroventral swelling and flattened apical projection; hind tibia and all tarsi ordinary. Fore coxae with numerous pale hairs anteriorly; mid and hind coxae and trochanters of all legs with rather scattered pale hairs, trochanter of hind leg with 1 short black spine-like bristle on inner side. Fore femur mostly with pale setation, some dark setulae present on brown ring dorsally, bearing numerous ventral hair-like setae becoming longer toward base of femur and 1 short dorsal subapical bristle. Mid femur with 1 strong black dorsal subapical bristle, bearing antero- and posteroventral hair-like setae (the former somewhat longer) basally. Hind femur clothed in ordinary setulae. Mid tibia with ventral spine-like setae which are denser in subapical part; apical projection with short terminal bristle; otherwise tibiae with ordinary setation. Fore and mid tarsomere 1 with black ventral spinule-like setae; otherwise tarsi with ordinary setation.

Wing with 2 broad brownish bands distinct and separate throughout. One short black basicostal bristle present. Costa thickened from about apex of R1 to somewhat beyond R2+3. R2+3 rather slightly arcuate near middle. R4+5 and M1+2

divergent toward wing apex. Cell bm about 1.5 times narrower than cell br in middle. Squamae brownish yellow, pale fringed. Halter pale.

Abdomen brown, polished, with scattered setation including pale minute setulae on segments 1-5 and longer dark setae on segments 6-8 posteriorly. Terminalia brownish.

Body length 3.7 mm, wing 2.2 mm.

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. Within the key given by CHVÁLA (1970) the new species would run to couplet 36 (including *T. annulimana* MEIGEN and *T. smithi* CHVÁLA) and could be included in the following way.

- 36 (34) Male: Mid tibia with posteroventral swelling. Fore femur largely yellow, in apical part (except apex) with dark brown broad ring extending as a anteroventral band to base of femur. Female unknown
..... *T. andreiruizae* sp. nov.
- Male: Mid tibia slender. Fore femur with different pattern of coloration
..... 36a
36a (36) Male: Fore femur blackish with distinct yellow ring at middle; genitalia very large and globular. Female: Fore femur yellow, blackish on apical third (C and S Europe) *T. annulimana* MEIGEN
- Male: Fore femur blackish brown with indistinct yellowish ring anteriorly and below or more yellowish towards base below; genitalia small and conical. Female: fore femur blackish brown along the whole length above, somewhat yellowish below or with indistinct yellowish ring at middle (C and S Europe) *T. smithi* CHVÁLA

Etymology. The new *Tachydromia* is dedicated to Dr. Marie-Cécile Andrei-Ruiz.

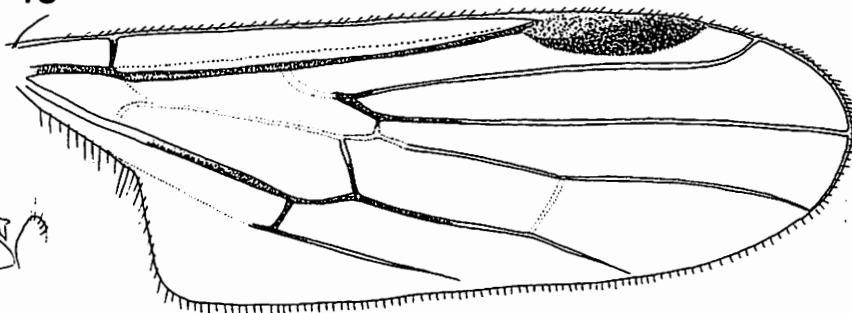
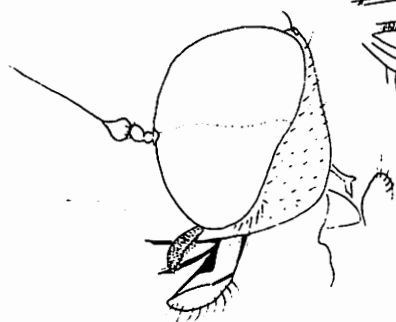
Distribution. France (Corsica).

Lamachella sp.
Figs 14-15

Material: one male. France, Corsica: Haute Corse, Vallée du Fango, 4.VII.1992, sample n° III C1, maquis with oak up to 14m; alt. 360 m; leg. Marie-Cécile ANDREI-RUIZ (RBINS).

14

15



Figs 14-15. *Lamachella* sp. Male: 14. head; 15. wing.

Diagnosis. Medium-sized (about 3.0 mm long) species with yellowish brown body, antennae and palpi yellow and legs almost wholly yellow; eyes with dorsal ommatidia greatly enlarged; postpedicel short oval, style very long.

Description. Male. Head yellowish brown in ground-colour. Occiput and face polished. Eyes with margins slightly emarginate near antennae, bare, extensively holoptic, dorsal ommatidia about 2.0 times larger than ventral ones, border between dorsal and ventral ommatidia distinct (Fig. 14). Face somewhat broader than pedicel, parallel-sided in middle, slightly widened both above and below. Ocellar tubercle well prominent; 2 thin proclinate and moderately long anterior and 2 very short posterior ocellars present. Occiput covered with numerous pale setae which are short in upper part and long below; postocular occipital bristles well differentiated, arranged in 1 row. Antennae largely yellow, scape rather brownish yellow.

Scape very short, bare; pedicel subglobular, ringed with circlet of pale setulae; postpedicel conical, short, about 1.5 times longer than wide; style terminal, 2-segmented, about 4.0 times longer than postpedicel, clothed in microtrichia. Palpus well visible, shorter than proboscis, brownish yellow, with 1 short pale apical bristle. Proboscis short, well visible.

Thorax yellowish brown in ground-colour, polished. Anteprenotum with several short pale setae. Postpronotal lobe small, with 1 short bristle, 2-3 setulae. Mesonotal bristles well differentiated but rather short, thin, mainly brownish yellow; 1 presutural supra-alar, 3 notopleurals of different length, 2 postsutural supra-alars, 1 postalar, and 4 scutellars (inner ones longer and 2 hairs also present at tip of scutellum). Acrostichals and dorsocentrals hair-like; the former 1-2-serial, divergent, disappearing before prescutellar

depression; the latter arranged in 1 row, prescutellars longest.

Legs largely yellow, hind femur brownish yellow; mainly with pale, hair-like, inconspicuous setation. Hind femur, fore and hind tibiae incrassate; additionally, hind tibia geniculate. Hind femur with numerous ventral black spinules, 1 row of anterodorsal bristles; hind tibia with 1 row of short spinule-like bristles.

Wing (Fig. 15) hyaline, covered with microtrichia; veins mostly strong (except basal section of M1+2 and CuA2), complete. One short basicostal bristle present. Costa running to M1+2. Sc closely attached to R1, almost reaching costal stigma. Stigma large, occupying 2/3 of distance between apices of R1 and R2+3 and almost reaching R2+3 below. Axillary lobe well developed but axillary angle obtuse. Squamae pale fringed. Halter pale yellow.

Abdomen brownish yellow in ground-colour, polished, with pale setation. Tergites with scattered short hair-like setae dorsally, denser and longer setae laterally. Sternites with 2-3 pairs of hair-like setae of different length. Terminalia very small, concolorous with abdomen.

Length: body 3.1 mm, wing 2.7 mm.

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. This new species was described several years ago under a manuscript name. The genitalia have been studied, but subsequently been lost. That is why we prefer to wait for additional specimens before naming the species. In having enlarged dorsal ommatidia in male, the present species is most closely related to *L. germanica* described recently from Germany (CHVÁLA & STARK, 1997). But *L. germanica* has almost wholly black body (including setation),

longer postpedicel and acute axillary angle of wing.

Distribution. France (Corsica).

***Microphorella curtipes* (BECKER, 1910)**

Material examined: France (Corsica), Vallée du Fango, 1 female, 23.V.1992 (sample II C2; leg. Marie-Cécile ANDREÏ-RUIZ (RBINS)).

Remarks. Although BECKER (1910) described this species, as *Sciodromia curtipes*, from Corsica, other material has not been available ever since (CHVÁLA, 1988).

Distribution. Southern Europe (North Italy and Corsica).

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**New Asilidae (Diptera) from Thailand:
contribution 1**

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Abstract

Five new Asilid species are described from the area around the Field Research Station at Na Hao, Loei province, Northeast Thailand : *Anacinaces nahaeoensis* sp. nov., *Clephyroneura promboonae* sp. nov., *Michotamia siamensis* sp. nov., *Saropogon thailandensis* sp. nov. and *Laloides tigris* sp. nov. A lectotype is designated for *Laloides phalaris* (OSTEN SACKEN, 1882).

Résumé

Cinq espèces nouvelles d'Asilidae sont décrites des environs de la station de recherche de Na Hao (province de Loei, Nord-Est de la Thaïlande) : *Anacinaces nahaeoensis* sp. nov., *Clephyroneura promboonae* sp. nov., *Michotamia siamensis* sp. nov., *Saropogon thailandensis* sp. nov. and *Laloides tigris* sp. nov. Un lectotype est désigné pour *Laloides phalaris* (OSTEN SACKEN, 1882).