

XVIII
CHLOROPIDAE (DIPTERA)

BY

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9th CRUISE

A small collection of Diptera of the family *Chloropidae*, from Obidos on the Amazon River, Brazil, and from the Island of Martinique in the Lesser Antilles, was submitted to me for study. Pending an examination of generic concepts, I have used the terminology of Dr. O. DUDA, the latest monographer of the Neotropical species.

All specimens from Obidos were labelled « Le soir, à la lumière ».

Liohippелates pruinosus DUDA, 1930, Folia Zool. Hydrobiol., II, p. 65.

9 ♂♂, 16 ♀♀. Brésil : Obidos, 13.I.1936 (W. Adam).

This species, which forms the bulk of the present lot, was originally described from Brazil and Peru, and has since been recorded from Costa Rica. It is similar in many respects to the Nearctic *Hippelates dissidens* (Tucker) (= *H. texana* Malloch).

Lasiopleura longulus BECKER, 1912, Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung., X, p. 89.

3 ♀♀. Brésil : Obidos, 13.I.1936 (W. Adam).

The writer has previously (*Ent. News*, XLVII, pp. 246-247) noted that *Hippelates longulus* Becker is really a *Lasiopleura*, according to the type in the United States National Museum. Since the hind tibial spur is distinct, it would fall in

Parahippelates in the sense of DUDA, but I prefer to follow the nomenclature of MALLOCH (1934, *Dipt. Patagonia and S. Chile*, VI, p. 416) in placing *Parahippelates* in synonymy under *Lasiopleura* Becker.

In DUDA's monograph (1930, *op. cit.*, p. 59), these specimens run to *Omochaeta nigricornis* Duda (Chanchamayo, Peru), and agree with the brief description. DUDA did not include *longulus* in his monograph, however, since it was not until 1931 (*Ent. Soc. Wash., Proc.*, XXXIII, p. 71) that Aldrich called attention to BECKER's error in recording the locality as Canada, instead of Grenada, West Indies. Besides the type of *longulus* from Grenada, I have seen a long series of specimens from Paso Real, Marianao, and Vibora, Cuba (Hine Colln., Ohio State University) which are typical *longulus*, and one from Duran, Ecuador which may be the species. It would appear, therefore, that the species has a wide distribution in the Neotropical Region, and pending a reexamination of DUDA's type, I suggest that *nigricornis* Duda may be a synonym of *Lasiopleura longulus* (Becker).

The species is similar to *Lasiopleura capax* (Coq.) of North America; indeed, ALDRICH (1931, *loc. cit.*) believed them to be the same. There is undoubtedly a close relationship, but I believe that the two may be distinguished as follows :

Head in dorsal aspect appearing somewhat elongate, the front narrow, decidedly longer than broad; the orange stripe which connects the apex of the triangle with the orange band across the anterior margin of the front is comparatively narrow; artista with loosely arranged hairs, which are longer than the diameter of the enlarged base of the arista *longulus* (Beck.)

Head not appearing elongate, the front shorter and broader than in *longulus*, the length and width subequal, or the width greater; the orange median frontal stripe, as well as the anterior band, broader than in *longulus*; arista pubescent, the hairs appressed *capax* (Coq.)

Monochaetoscinella nigripes DUDA, 1930, *op. cit.*, p. 107.

One example. Brésil : Obidos, 13.I.1936 (W. Adam).

DUDA gave no type locality or description of this species, indicated as new in his key. The specimen agrees well with *M. anonyma* (Williston) except for the almost entirely black legs upon which DUDA founded his species. Another distinct species (*M. Zernyi*), with the same generic feature of a pair of very long orbital bristles, was recently described by DUDA from Belém, also in the state of Pará.

Conioscinella sp. (*nana* WILLISTON ?)

1 ♀. Martinique : Fort-de-France, 28.XII.1935 (W. Adam).

Inasmuch as the lone specimen before me lacks antennae and is partially discolored, it is inadvisable to do more than indicate its probable position. The

relationship between WILLISTON's *Oscinis nana*, described in 1896 from the nearby Island of St. Vincent, and DUDA's *Conioscinella griseolineata* (1930, *op. cit.*, p. 91, type locality unpublished) is not clear from DUDA's work ⁽¹⁾. The specimen before me is strikingly similar, except in a few minor details, to the Nearctic *Siphonella trigramma* (Loew) (= *S. quinquelineata* Adams), and the relative status of all three names probably needs to be reconsidered on the basis of the types.

Conioscinella sp. ?

1 ♀. Martinique : entre Fort-de-France et Schoelcher, 27.XII.1935 (W. Adam).

The specimen belongs with species having a long costal sector, twice the length of the third sector, but the obviously teneral condition of the specimen makes further determination uncertain.

Oscinella coxendix (FITCH) var. (var. *costaricana* DUDA ?)

1 ♀. Martinique : Fort-de-France, 28.XII.1935 (W. Adam).

The varietal status cannot be determined with certainty, since the specimen lacks antennae and the legs are not in good condition for study.

⁽¹⁾ Since these lines were written, a female specimen labelled *Conioscinella griseolineata* Duda—Typus, apparently the holotype, was seen and studied in the Zoological Museum at Hamburg, Germany. The label reads « Farm La Caja, 8 km. westl. S. José, 15.IV-20.VI.1924 », from material collected in Costa Rica by HEINRICH SCHMIDT. After seeing the types of both species, I must regard *griseolineata* Duda as an absolute synonym of *nana* Williston, as DUDA himself suspected. The specimen from Martinique should undoubtedly be recorded as *nana* Williston.
