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A new Tomosvaryella Aczél, 1939 species from Ethiopia (Diptera, Pipunculidae)

by Marc De Meyer

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Abstract

A new Tomosvaryella species from the mountainous regions of the Arusi province in Ethiopia is described and illustrated. The new species belongs to the group of Afrotropical Tomosvaryella species with polished mesonotum and abdomen, abdominal terga pilose and eyes holoptic in the males.

Introduction

Tomosvaryella ACZÉL, 1939 is a cosmopolitan genus and well represented in the Afrotropical Region with 24 species (HARDY, 1980). HARDY (1949, 1950, 1961) has divided the Afrotropical species into several groups in his keys, based on phenetic differences like the pubescence and pilosity of thorax and abdomen, and on the structure of the hind trochanters and the presence or abscence of a junction between the eyes in the male. The present species belongs to the group with polished mesonotum and abdomen, with obvious pilosity on abdomen, and with holoptic eyes in the male. Unfortunately the hind legs of the male are missing. It resembles the southern African species T. anomela HARDY, 1949 but can be readily differentiated from it, as well as from any other Afrotropical Tomosvaryella species by the long and very conspicuous hairs on thorax and abdomen. The specimens described here were found among a collection of undetermined Afrotropical material from the British Museum (Natural History). Although the author had extensive pipunculid material at his disposal from different regions of the African continent, no additional specimens from other regions were found.

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Tomosvaryella comaousa sp. n. (Figs. 1-9)

Type material

Holotype: f, Ethiopia: Arusi province, Digala, Mount Chillalo (approx. 9,500 ft; 2,900m), 26.xi.1926 (H. Scott). Allotype: same locality and date as holotype. Paratype: 1 f, same locality and date as holotype. Holotype, and allotype are deposited in the BMNH. Paratype is deposited in the collections of the KBIN.

Description

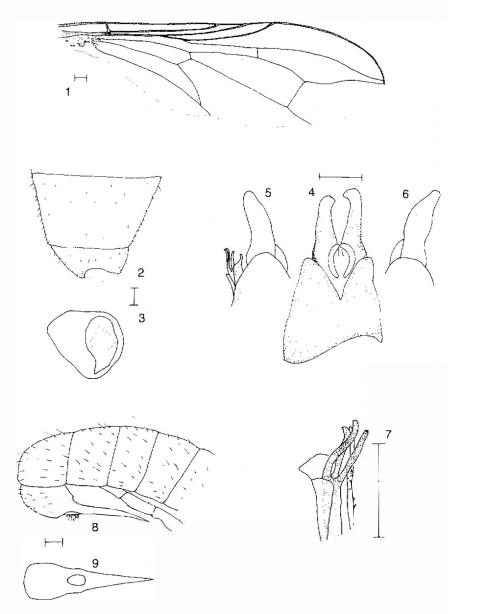
Male. Length: 3.3 mm. Frons, eyes touching for a short distance (about one sixth of total length); upper part in front of ocellar triangle shining black, lower part silver-grey below and subshining black above. Third antennal segment dull, long acuminate, yellowish brown with fringe of whitish hairs anteriorly: arista dark brown, shining. First and second antennal segment mainly shining, dark brown; one short bristle on dorsal side of second segment. Face equal in width to lower portion of frons, silver-grey pubescent. Occiput shining black on upper half, silver-grey pubescent on lower part.

Thorax. Humeri bright yellow; no propleural fan. Mesonotum and scutellum shining black, without pubescence except along anterior margin narrowly brownish dusted. Dorsocentral and marginal rows of conspicuous long pale hairs, almost equal in length to third antennal segment; humeri, anterior part of mesonotum and apical margin of scutellum also with long pale hairs. Halteres yellow. Pleurae greyish dusted, dorsally more brownish.

Legs mainly dark. Coxae black brown; anterodistally with few long pale hairs. Front and mid trochanters black brown, without any obvious processes; few dispersed, short hairs. Femora dark, apical margins narrowly yellow; front femora ventrally with double row of few pale bristly hairs over apical third, basally 1-2 spiny bristles, posterodorsal row of short pale hairs, furthermore dispersed short pale hairs; mid femora ventrally with double row of 7 poorly developed spines over apical half, continued basally as row of pale hairs, otherwise as front femora but posterodorsal row with longer hairs; hind femora missing in allotype. Tibiae dark, basally narrowly yellow; with dispersed rows of short pale hairs. Tarsi dark with short pale hairs, last tarsal segment apically with longer hairs; pulvilli about as long as last tarsal segment, claws slightly longer.

Wings (Fig. 1). Length 2.9 mm. Third costal section not coloured; slightly shorter than fourth section. Cross-vein r-m situated at middle of discal cell.

Abdomen mainly shining black. Lateral fan on first tergum well developed with approx. 7 pale hairs arranged on row. All terga with dispersed but conspicuous pilosity of long, pale hairs. Sterna black, dull, without pilosity, greyish pubescent. Fourth sternum with fold enveloping apical part of surstyli. Eight sternum subshining black-brown, with brownish pubescence; in dorsal view about as long as half the length of fifth tergum (Fig. 2). Membraneous area occupying half of eight sternum; rounded above, narrowing underneath; not reaching epandrium (Fig. 3).



Figs. 1-9: Tomosvaryella comaousa sp. n. 1. male wing; 2. male fifth tergum and eight sternum, dorsal view; 3. male eight sternum, distal view; 4. male hypopygium, dorsal view; 5. outer surstylus, lateral view; 6. inner surstylus, lateral view; 7. ejaculatory duct and fused parameres, ventral view; 8. female abdomen, lateral view; 9. female ovipositor, ventral view; (scale line: 0.1 mm; pilosity omitted in figs. 3-7,9).

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Male terminalia (Figs. 4-7). Surstyli subsymmetrical, in dorsal view inner surstylus slightly longer than outer (Fig. 4), straight with apical ends curved inwards; in lateral view (Figs. 5.6) slightly bent downwards, with blunt ends. Ejaculatory duct (Fig. 7) trifid with short tubiform ductuli; fused parameres asymmetrical.

Female, as male except for following characters. Eyes dichoptic. Frons broadened in the middle; silver-grey pubescent below, subshining black on upper part for twice the length of ocellar triangle. Face subequal in width to lower portion of frons. Front and mid femora with 1-2 spiny bristles basally; otherwise as in male but pilosity more conspicuous. Hind femora shining in lower part; ventrally with double row of 5 pale bristly hairs over apical half: anterodorsal and posterodorsal row of long pale hairs, otherwise with dispersed long pale hairs. Third costal section about half as long as fourth section.

Female terminalia (Figs. 8.9), base of ovipositor shining black with pale hairs; short and roundish below. Piercer shining yellowish brown, stout and slightly downcurved; longer than base, reaching till posterior margin of second sternum.

Etymology: derived from the Greek word " $Ko\mu\dot{\alpha}\omega v$ " meaning "the long-haired one", after the description of Achilleus by Homeros.

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Plataraea verbekei sp.n., a new Callicerini from Romania (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Aleecharinae)

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Abstract

A new species of Plataraea from Romania is described and illustrated.

Introduction

During a trip in the north-eastern province Dobroudja, a number of staphylinids were collected with among them an unknown *Plataraea* species, caught by sweeping over low vegetation in a deciduous wood.

The genus *Plataraea* THOMSON, 1858, belonging to the *Callicerini*, contains seven European species. Most of them occur in the southern countries.

The last revision of this group was made by BENICK (1934-35). BENICK's work solved many taxonomical problems; however, we still found an undescribed species.

Plataraea are medium-sized (3-5 mm), yellow-brown species, closely related to the genus Atheta.

The following species were examined (all in the collections of the K.B.I.N.): *P. brunnea* (FABRICIUS, 1798) from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy: *P. dubiosa* (BENICK, 1934) from Germany; *P. interurbana* (BERNHAUER, 1899) from Germany, Czechoslovakia; *P. nigrifrons* (ERICHSON, 1840) from Belgium, France; *P. elegans* (BENICK, 1934) from Austria and *P. fiorii* (BERNHAUER, 1908) from Italy and compared with the following new species.

Plataraea verbekei sp.n. (fig. 1-4)

Type material: Romania: Babadag (Dobroudja), V.1987, 2 males & 2 females (leg. G. HAGHEBAERT) male holotype and 1 female paratype in coll. of the K.B.-I.N.; J male paratype in coll. of the author; 1 female paratype in coll. of the Musée d'Histoire Naturelle "GRIGORE ANTIPA" in Bucuresti - România.

Diagnosis: The new species is very similar to P interurbana. Externally P. verbekei may be distinguished from interurbana by the darker color and by the shape