

## A new species of the genus *Tachydromia* Meigen (Diptera: Hybotidae) from Israel

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### Abstract

A new species of the genus *Tachydromia* Meigen is described from Israel: *Tachydromia israeliensis* sp. n. (type-locality: En-Bogeg).

**Keywords:** Diptera, Hybotidae, *Tachydromia*, new species, Israel, Palaearctic

Currently the genus *Tachydromia* Meigen includes 73 species known from the Palaearctic region. So far, only three *Tachydromia* species have been recorded from Israel (Chvála, 1970): *T. aliterpicta* (Becker), *T. arrogans* (Linnaeus) and *T. simplicissima* (Engel). *Tachydromia aliterpicta* and *T. simplicissima* were also recorded from the Mediterranean; *T. arrogans* is a common species throughout Europe, with additional records from Tunis and Turkey. In this paper we describe a new species of *Tachydromia*, which was found among Hybotidae materials deposited in the Diptera Collection of Tel Aviv University (TAU). It was collected at the locality of En-Bogeg, or En Boqeq or Ein Bokek that is located at the West side of the Dead Sea. In the description, right and left side of the male terminalia are based on the unrotated position viewed posteriorly, such that in the illustrations the right surstylus appears on the readers left side and vice versa. All male terminalia are figured in their unrotated position.

### *Tachydromia israeliensis* sp. n. (Figs 1–3)

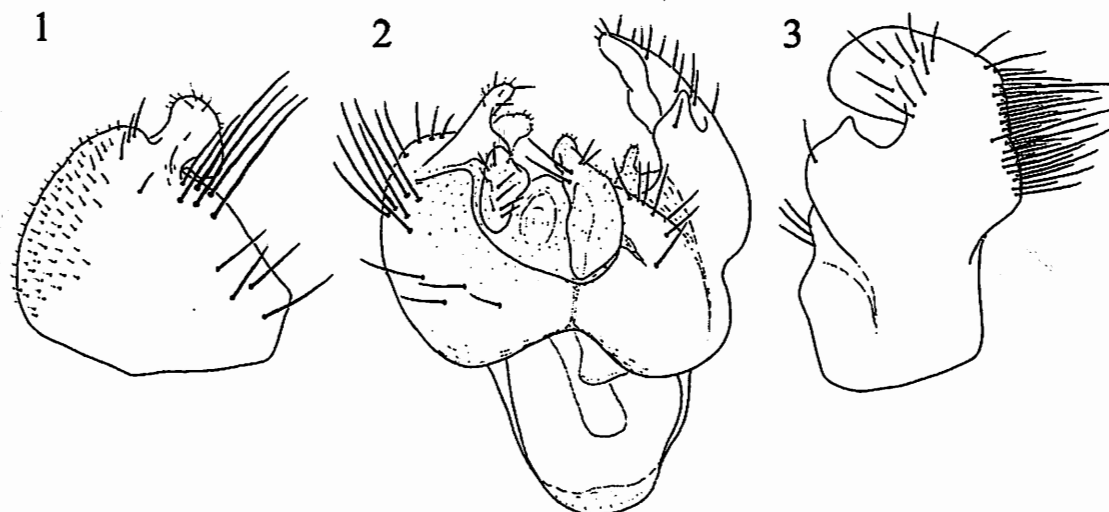
**Material examined.** Holotype male, ISRAEL: En-Bogeg (31° 21'N, 35° 21'E), 4.02.1981, A. Freidberg (TAU).

**Diagnosis.** Small, robust species recognised by whitish grey tomentose prothoracic sclerites, brown antennae, yellowish palpi, several very long brownish yellow posteroventral setae on mid tibiae, brownish halters and uniformly infusate wings (not banded). Legs completely brownish black.

**Description.** Wing 1.5 mm. Head dark brown. Frons above antennae broad, slightly widened toward ocellar tubercle, shining. Ocellar tubercle shining anteriorly and finely pollinose posteriorly; anterior ocellars long lateroclinate, posterior ocellars minute. Occiput largely greyish pollinose, shining behind eyes laterally; with 2 moderately long verticals and several short black setae on upper part, clothed in numerous pale long hair-like setae on lower part. Antenna with postpedicel brown, scape and pedicel somewhat paler, rather reddish brown; postpedicel small, subglobular; stylus long, short pubescent. Proboscis dark brown. Palpus small, oval, yellowish, clothed in numerous silvery white setae, bearing short yellowish subapical seta.

Thorax dark brown, largely shining, with black to brown setae; prothoracic sclerites (including anterior margin of postpronotal lobe) densely whitish grey tomentose; anepisternum (= mesopleuron) along anterior margin and katepisternum (= sternopleuron) on middle part with similar tomentosity; notopleural depression, postalar face (including postalar tubercle), scutellum, mediotergite, anepimeron (= pteropleuron), meron (= hypopleuron) and laterotergite (= metapleuron) greyish tomentose. Postpronotal lobe with several minute setulae. Mesonotum with 1 long and 1 very short notopleurals, 1 short postalar and 2 long cruciate scutellars; dorsocentrals uniserial, minute throughout; acrostichals scattered, minute, 1–2 serial, on anterior part only.

Legs rather robust, entirely brown, largely shining. Fore coxa densely whitish grey pollinose



Figs 1-3. *Tachydromia israeliensis* sp. nov. 1: right epandrial lamella, lateral view, 2: epandrium with cerci, 3: left epandrial lamella, lateral view.

anteriorly, mid and hind coxae with similar small patch of pollinosity anteriorly and laterally, respectively; coxae and trochanters with unmodified, pale setation. Fore femur strongly thickened, whitish pubescent ventrally, with rows of short anteroventral and longer posteroventral pale setae. Fore tibia slightly thickened, with row of 7 very long brownish yellow posteroventral setae. Fore basitarsus with thin posteroventral setae, which are long basally and becoming shorter toward apex. Mid femur with shallow subbasal excision; whitish pubescent ventrally; bearing several spinules (1 somewhat stronger) placed on small tubercle just before excision and 1 strong spinule beyond excision. Mid tibia with rather large subapical flattened projection bearing several minute setulae, with some erect anteroventral and posteroventral setulae just before projection and row of short brown posterodorsal setae. Hind legs with inconspicuous setation.

Wing normally developed, with unmodified venation; uniformly finely brownish infusate. Vein  $R_{2+3}$  straight. Veins  $R_{4+5}$  and  $M_{1+2}$  convergent near wing apex. Calypter brown, with dirty yellow ciliation. Halter brownish.

Abdomen brown, finely greyish pollinose; tergites with minute pale setulae medially and rather long setae laterally; sternites with similar setation, sternite 8 bearing long posteromarginal setae; pregenital segments unmodified (except segment 8), tergite 8 deeply concave posteriorly, strongly narrowly sclerotised anteriorly, lacking setation medially.

Terminalia (Figs 1-3) rather large, subglobular, brown. Right cercus small, subtriangular, with several short unmodified setae. Left cercus rather elongate oval, narrower apically, with several short

and 2 long unmodified setae. Right epandrial lamella subglobular, covered with numerous short setae along ventral margin, bearing 6 very long setae on subapical part. Right surstylus undifferentiated from epandrium, small, bilobed, with several short unmodified setae. Left epandrial lamella with several long setae on upper part. Left surstylus undifferentiated from epandrium, bilobed, with ventral tuft of long dense pale setae.

Female. Unknown.

**Remarks.** Within the Chvála's (1970) key to Palaearctic species of *Tachydromia* the new species would run to *T. parva* Chvála and *T. halidayi* (Collin). However, both these species can be readily distinguished from *T. israeliensis* sp. n. by banded wings, yellowish halteres, unmodified setation of male fore tibiae and several other distinctive characters, including the male terminalia. In having brownish halteres (unique feature among the Palaearctic *Tachydromia*) the new species could be compared only with *T. halterata* (Collin) but the latter possesses largely shining occiput, partly yellow legs, two pairs of scutellar setae, etc.

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#### References

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