

Lygistorrhina urichi, a new Mycetophilid from Trinidad.

By F. W. EDWARDS, B.A., F.E.S.

(Published by permission of the Trustees of the British Museum.)

THE writer has received for examination from Mr. H. Scott, of Cambridge, a small series of a very peculiar and interesting Mycetophilid, described below. The species is undoubtedly congeneric with Williston's *Probolæus singularis* from St. Vincent, but, for reasons which will appear, the writer does not consider that *Probolæus* can be retained as a distinct genus from Skuse's *Lygistorrhina*. The latter was described (in the female sex only) as possessing three ocelli, the median one being minute. In *Probolæus* (described from males only) the ocelli were described as apparently absent, the remaining characters of *P. singularis* being almost exactly like those of *L. insignis*. Fortunately in Mr. Scott's series both sexes are represented, and a careful examination showed that while in the male ocelli seem to be absent, in the female a pair of large ones is present in the same position as in *Lygistorrhina*. The loss of the ocelli in the male is no doubt due to the much greater development of the eyes, which are quite twice the size of those of the female. The chief (supposed) distinction between these two genera is thus proved to be non-existent, and *Probolæus* therefore becomes a synonym of *Lygistorrhina*. There are, however, some slight differences which can hardly be considered of generic value: (1) In *L. urichi* the median ocellus is apparently wanting; (2) in the two West-Indian species the mediastinal vein (*sc*) reaches the costa, while in the Australian *L. insignis* it does not; (3) *Lygistorrhina* has two small spurs to the middle tibiæ, *Probolæus* only one.

*Lygistorrhina urichi**, sp. n.

♂. *Head* (including antennæ) black, antennæ scarcely longer than head; proboscis brownish. *Thorax* uniformly shining black. *Abdomen* very long and thin, swollen apically; black, with well-marked yellow apical bands on the first five segments. *Legs*: front coxæ with the base fuscous, the apex and trochanters yellowish; mid and hind coxæ and trochanters shining black; fore and mid femora and tibiæ yellowish; hind femora swollen, yellow, with the apical two-fifths black; hind tibiæ yellow, apical fifth black, swollen on the apical half, a close-set row of stiff hairs along the whole of the upper surface; fore and mid tarsi brownish black, hind tarsi black, appearing thickened through being clothed with short very dense hair. *Wings* almost hyaline; a distinct brown blotch at the apex, darker in colour towards the costa; venation exactly as figured by Williston for *P. singularis*. *Halteres* yellow.

Length 5-6 mm.

♀. Resembles the male, but the eyes are much smaller and the front much broader; abdomen much shorter and rather stouter, and the yellow bands less distinct; apical half or rather more of hind femora brownish black.

Length 3.5 mm.

Hab. Trinidad. "Swept by F. W. Urich and Hugh Scott from grass, bushes, &c., on either side of a small stream below a waterfall at Diego Martin, 22. iii. 1912, between 8 and 10.30 A.M. The day was sunny, but the flies were swept from shady places." (Note by H. Scott.) Number of specimens, 7 ♂, 1 ♀.

Type presented to the British Museum by Mr. H. Scott.

* Named, by request of Mr. Scott, in honour of F. W. Urich, Government Entomologist in Trinidad.