

NEW CEYLON DIPTERA.

PART III.

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I HAVE included in this part the descriptions of several Diptera from India, which have been sent me from time to time for determination, as, though not yet known from Ceylon, they are quite likely to occur here also.

Mycetophilidae.

PLATYROPTILON TALAROCEROIDES S.-W.

This insect, which I described in the first part of this paper as a *Platyura*, should be transferred to the above genus, on the authority of Mr. F. W. Edwards of the British Museum. The only other two species of the genus are found in South America. My type, as several fresh specimens taken subsequent to the writing of the description show, is an undersized specimen, and the average length exceeds that given by one to two millimetres. One specimen has been placed at South Kensington.

PLATYURA TRIPUNCTATA sp. nov.

Female.—Head: Frons yellow with short black pubescence, face concolorous, palpi brownish-grey. Antennae, scape and extreme base of first flagellar joint yellow, remainder brownish-grey.

Thorax: Yellow with black pubescence. Hind margin of mesonotum with three large, somewhat square-shaped black spots, from the middle one of which, the largest, precede three diverging black lines, barely reaching the fore margin, the middle one the faintest but proceeding the furthest. Scutellum black. Pleurae yellowish, metapleuron with a dark bar. Metanotum blackish above and yellow below.

Abdomen: Dark yellow, hind margins of the segments narrowly darkened.

Legs: Pale yellow, tibiae and tarsi darkened.

Wings: Clear. Petiole of fourth vein about one-third the length of the fork. Halteres pale, capitellum slightly brownish.

Long: 2-2 $\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

Described from two females, both in good condition, taken on windows, Sudu-ganga, Matale, Ceylon, on May 24 and 26, 1922. Type and co-type in my own collection.

This species separates from *indistincta*, Brunetti, on the very distinct thoracic pattern.

ACNEMIA ASIATICA sp. nov.

Male.—Head: Yellowish, the frons thickly covered with black hairs. Face distinct. Antennae yellow, the bases of the flagellar joints increasingly blackened outwardly. Palpi with basal joints yellow, the two outer black. Eyes minutely pale pubescent.

Thorax: Dull yellow. From each shoulder a dark line converging medially before root of scutellum, each with a row of small but closely set bristly hairs. Shoulders and notopleural suture bristly. Pleurae concolorous. Spiracular area and mesopleuron blackened. Metapleuron with several longish bristles. Scutellum concolorous with mesonotum, marginally beset with numerous fine long bristles. Metanotum with sub-median rows of long bristles on lower half.

Abdomen: Seven distinct segments before the genital rings, elongate, black, dorsally with narrow yellowish junctions, which are rather broader laterally, the whole with short, thick hairs dorsally and ventrally. Genitalia prominent, blackish, hairy.

Legs: Anterior coxae black, hind pair yellowish except extreme tips, which are black. Femora yellow, tip of hind pair blackened. Tibiae and tarsi brown, the latter rather darker. Mid tibiae with only two rows of setulae apparent.

Wings: No sub-costal cross-vein. Yellowish. A dark costal patch between humeral cross-vein and tip of sub-costa, not descending behind vein I except in the marginal cell which is darkened from its transverse origin to a point just beyond the tip of the sub-costa. All apical third of wing darkened. Wing not as long as the abdomen. Halteres with yellow stem and very elongate blackened capitella.

Long: 6 mm.

Described from a unique male, legs damaged but otherwise in good condition, taken dead in cobweb, Pattipola Resthouse, Ceylon, 6,201 feet, on May 5, 1923. In my own collection.

Probably a new genus will be required for the reception of this species. The absence of the sub-costal cross-vein and the additional visible abdominal segment, making the relative wing-abdomen length shorter, are contrary to Johannsen's definition of Winnertz' genus, but knowing that a revision of the Oriental *Mycetophilidae* is in preparation by Mr. Edwards, I refrain from new generic erection meanwhile.

The bristly metanotum is a most exceptional character.

EXECHIA CRISTATOIDES sp. nov.

Male.—Head: Frons black, covered with somewhat widely separated silvery pubescence. A row of black supra-ocular bristles. Eyes minutely black pubescent. Antennae, scape and first flagellar joint yellow, remainder black with thick white pubescence, giving the whole a grey appearance.

Thorax: Dorsum dark brown with a yellow V-mark from the anterior margin to the base of the scutellum, the anterior margin itself very narrowly dark, with a T-form prolongation in the centre of the yellow V-mark for a short distance posteriorly. Scutellum and pleurae dark brown. Metanotum black. Edge of dorsum from wing roots round anterior margin with a row of bristles, the hindmost of which is very strong and long. V-mark edged with bristles as far as level of wing roots, behind which they become very weak and merge in the general microchaetae of the dorsum. The bristles of the V-mark are outwardly directed and decumbent, not forming a true crest. Humerus with three erect and two decumbent bristles, the three lowest the strongest. A very strong post-alar. Scutellar pair apical, divergent, erect. Metapleuron with about three weak bristles. All bristles black.

Abdomen: Strongly laterally compressed, black, bristly. Base of first segment and apex of sixth broadly pale yellow. the junction of the first and second very narrowly so. Third and fourth yellow ventrally, the colour extending half way up the sides. Genitalia yellow, very complex, each side-piece above with a long, bristly process.

Legs : Whitish, tips of hind femora slightly, and all tarsi darkened.

Wings : Smoky-grey, fork of fifth vein short. Halteres whitish-yellow.

Long : $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

Described from a unique male in perfect condition taken on a window, Sudu-ganga, Matale, Ceylon, on March 4, 1922. In my own collection.

Differs from *cristata*, S.-W. by the absence of the posterior dark patch on the dorsum, the much paler legs, and the more shortly forked fifth vein. From my *paramirastoma*, with which it runs out in my key in *Mem. Dept. Agric. India*, Vol. VII., pp. 118-119, the thoracic V-mark and the pale halteres will at once distinguish it.

DELOPSIS Skuse.

In describing yet another new species of this genus it seems suitable to offer a key to the present muster of the Indian species, which have gone up considerably in number since the publication of the "Fauna" volume. (See Text Fig. 1.)

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| 1.—Thorax all ferrugineous, or only slightly brown marked | 2 |
| Thorax yellow with black markings | 3 |
| Thorax black, with or without touches of yellow laterally | 6 |
| 2.—Scutellum without golden pilosity | <i>setosiventris</i> , S.-W. |
| Scutellum with golden pilosity | <i>ferruginea</i> S.-W. |
| 3.—A black saddle-mark on hinder half of meso-notum | 4 |
| No such mark | 5 |
| 4.—Scutellum black | <i>nigroflava</i> S.-W. |
| Scutellum yellow | <i>brunetti</i> Edws. |
| 5.—Meso-notum with anterior black spot continued posteriorly as a stripe; sub-dorsal black stripes | <i>pectenipes</i> , S.-W. |
| Meso-notum with two black lunules | <i>bilunulata</i> , sp. n. |
| 6.—Sides of thorax grey | <i>griseolateralis</i> , Brun. |
| Fore margin and humeri yellow | <i>flavohirta</i> , S.-W. |

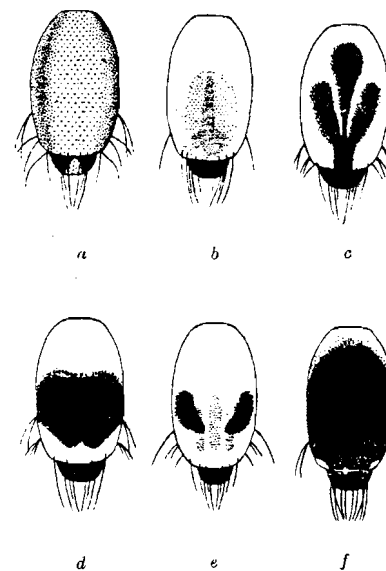


FIG. 1.—DELOPSIS spp.

(a) *ferruginea*. (c) *pectenipes*. (e) *bilunulata*.
 (b) *setosiventris*. (d) *nigroflava*. (f) *flavohirta*.

DELOPSIS BILUNULATA sp. nov.

Male.—Head : Yellow. Antennae and palpi concolorous, the last ten joints of the former darkened, the amount of infuscation increasing apically.

Thorax : Dorsum and pleurae yellow, the former with short golden hairs, and, on posterior half, three obscure brownish stripes, over the outer of which on each side is a well-defined black lunule. Hypopleura and a small area below the wing roots blackened. Scutellum black. The usual six prescutellar and four scutellar bristles.

Abdomen : Yellow, the segments blackened apically dorsally, the infuscation covering all the first two, less than half the third and fourth and only the apical margin of the

fifth segment, and absent on sixth and seventh, which, with the small yellow genitalia are covered with short golden hairs. Just before the apex of the second segment on the mid-line of venter is a pair of decumbent bristles as in my *selosiventris*, which Mr. Edwards considers to be a generic character.

Legs: Whitish, apices of coxae slightly blackened. Hind tibiae with the usual three rows of setae.

Wings and veins yellowish, halteres pale whitish-yellow.

Long: $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

Described from a unique male in good condition, taken in garden, Sudu-ganga, Matale, Ceylon, on March 17, 1922. In my own collection.

Bibionidae.

SCATOPSE ZEYLANICA sp. nov.

(Text Fig. 2.)

Male.—Head: Shining black. Eyes closely approximated just above level of antennae, but more widely separated above and, viewed from in front, seemingly divided into two halves by the antennal plate. Antennae black, ten-jointed, with white pubescence, the tip of the second scapal joint appearing white. Palpi greyish.

Thorax: Black with short concolorous pubescence. Scutellum similar, the hairs longer.

Abdomen: All black, the genitalia small, concealed.

Legs: Femora and tibiae black, tip of front tibiae and all tarsi yellow. The fore femora are only very slightly swollen, and the tibiae not clavate.

Wings: Clear. Fourth vein simple, fifth and sixth closely approximated, seventh distinct, bisinuate, and near its tip apparently with a re-curved appendix, which is very faint. Halteres black.

Long: $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Described from a unique male in good condition, * taken on window in company with specimens of both sexes of *Scatopse brunnescens*, Brun., at Sudu-ganga, Matale, Ceylon, on July 17, 1922. In my own collection.

* Now headless.

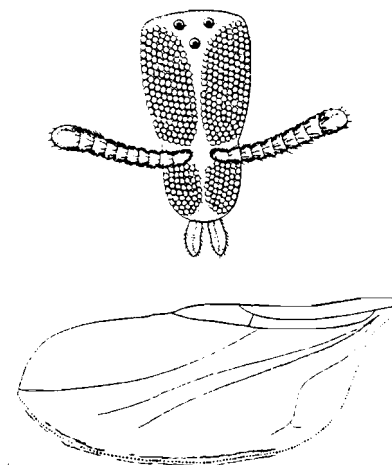


FIG. 2.—*Scatopse zeylanica*, head and wing

Unless a new genus be erected for it, this species will apparently have to remain as an unconformity in *Scatopse*. The ten jointed antennae and unarmed front tibiae prevent its inclusion in *Aspistes*, the only genus of the family with simple fourth vein.

It may be noted that the point of issue of the fourth vein, behind the basal section of the third, is against Brunetti's interpretation of the venation in this genus.

Dixidae.

DIXA ZEYLANICA sp. nov.

Male.—*Female*.—Head: Vertex and frons pale grey-brown with some shimmering whitish pubescence. Face blackish with some pale pubescence. Proboscis dark brown, blackened basally. Palpi very dark brownish. Antennae, the first joint large, globular, bright ochreous-yellow, the flagellum very dark brown. Five joints can be distinguished, accounting for less than half the total length, of which the remainder is of an indefinite number of joints. Neck yellowish-brown above, darker below.