

**A new species of *Macrocera* from the Crozet Islands
(Diptera : Mycetophilidae)**

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SYNOPSIS

A new species of *Macrocera*, described from the Crozet Islands, is the first Mycetophilid recorded from those islands and the first of its genus from the subantarctic islands.

MYCETOPHILIDAE have not previously been recorded from the Crozet Islands, nor has any species of *Macrocera* been found on the subantarctic island groups. It is of some interest therefore to describe such a species, sent to me by Dr. Lewis Davies. Although recognisably new, it has no obvious close relatives, possibly because most of the Southern Hemisphere *Macrocera* are still poorly known or undescribed.

I am indebted to Dr. Davies for the opportunity to describe the species, and to the administration of Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises, who permitted and facilitated his visit to the Crozet Islands.

***Macrocera crozetensis* sp. n.**

Male

Head dark brown, almost black, slightly paler laterally; of usual form, vertical plate bounded laterally by furrows, ocelli projecting conspicuously; clypeus hairy and projecting. Antenna 2.7–2.9 mm. long, a little longer than the abdomen, dark brown on basal half, becoming a little paler on apical half; flagellar segments (from base) approximately in ratio: 14, 12, 11, 11, 10, 9, 8, 8, 6, 6, 5, 5, 4, 4. Mouthparts normal, brown; palp apparently 4-segmented, the 3 apical segments ovoid.

Thorax and legs dark-brown in paratype, somewhat paler, with distinct mesonotal stripes, in holotype (which seems rather teneral). Lateral, declivitous part of mesonotum with quite profuse, black hairs; dorsocentral rows conspicuous; all these hairs small, but more conspicuous than in Australian species of *Macrocera*. Anepisternite with a patch of about 10–12 small, black hairs dorsally. Halteres brownish, but distended with white contents, giving a pale appearance in holotype. Legs without peculiarities; dimensions (femur : tibia, in mm.): fore leg, 0.9 : 1.1; mid-leg, 1.3 : 1.5; hind leg, 1.6 : 1.8.

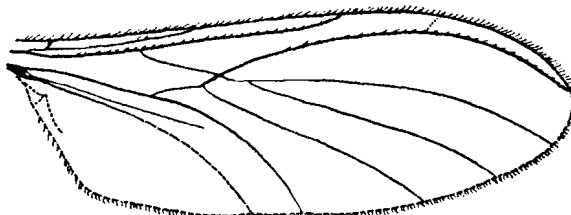


FIG. 1.—*Macrocera crozetensis* sp. n., wing of paratype ♂.

Wing (fig. 1) 3.0–3.3 mm. long, without markings or macrotrichia on membrane. Venation fairly normal, but R4 variably obsolescent or missing. Sc ending a little before r-m chiasma. 1A reaching margin, but very faint apically. Costa, R1, and about distal two-thirds of Rs with macrotrichia, and, in holotype only, a few scattered along M1 and M2.

Abdomen about 2.7 mm. long. Tergites 1–6 pale brown, with apparent darker apical bands due to overlap of segments; terminal segments and terminalia very dark brown.

Proc. R. ent. Soc Lond. (B). 39 (1–2). Pp. 27–28, 2 figs. 1970.

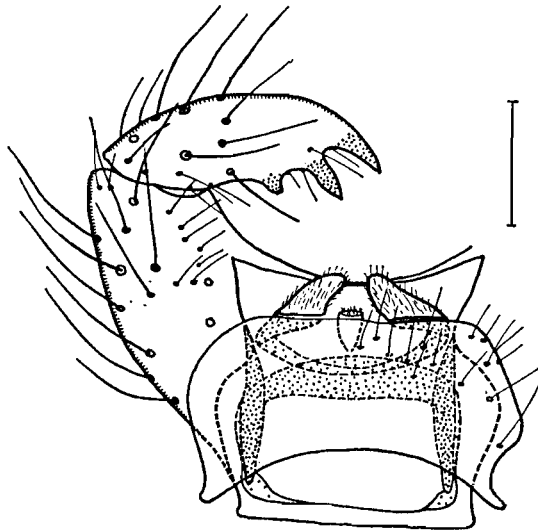


FIG. 2.—*Macrocera crozetensis* sp. n., terminalia of holotype, dorsal. Scale = 0.1 mm.

Terminalia (fig. 2) not rotated. Ninth tergite well developed (but sternite membranous), a pair of setulose lobes (? cerci) hinged to its apex and folded down to lie in a more or less vertical plane across a membranous structure that is presumably the proctiger; latter with a median, setulose, sclerotised strip. Aedeagal structures not evident externally, presumably membranous and retractile, but a well sclerotised internal skeleton present (see figure). Coxites stout; style with three strong teeth.

Female

Unknown.

Holotype ♂, preserved in spirit + glycerine, CROZET: Possession Is., pond surface near Basa, 21.ii.1968 (*L. Davies*) (terminalia on slide N14); *paratype* ♂, POSSESSION Is., R. Malpassée, 13.ii.1968 (*L. Davies*); both in Museum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris.

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BOOK NOTICES

Revisionary studies in the Nearctic Decticinae by David C. Rentz and James D. Birchim. *Mem. Pacific Cst. ent. Soc.* 3: 1-173, 10 tabs., 37 text-figs., 1968.

This review of Nearctic shield-backed katydids includes keys to genera, subgenera and species, and notes on biology and distribution. A check list of genera and species and a list of references cited conclude the work.

Australian butterflies in colour. Alexander Burns (text); E. R. Rotherham (photography). 7¼ in. × 7 in. Sydney: A. H. & A. W. Reed, 1969.

After a general introduction, 85 Australian species of butterflies are described and illustrated; notes on habits, range of food plants and distribution are included. The work is intended for the lepidopterist and the general reader.