

NOTES

Mycetophilidae and Sciaridae (Diptera) in Mexican Amber

Recently I had the opportunity, through the kindness of Dr. J. H. Peck, to see the Mycetophilidae and Sciaridae from Mexican amber that are in his care in the Museum of Paleontology at the University of California, Berkeley. My main purpose in viewing the material was to search for specimens belonging to two recently revised genera, *Phronia* and *Trichonta* (Mycetophilidae). I found no species of those genera, but I was able to identify most of the specimens to generic or at least tribal level. Further identification is possible, but this should be done by whoever revises the modern species of each of the genera and tribes represented. A reviser will know the group intimately and will be better able to appreciate the relationships of the fossils to modern forms. I suspect that some of these fossils are at least close to if not conspecific with extant species, as is true for some Cecidomyiidae from Mexican amber (Gagné, 1973, Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 75:169-171).

The specimens are dated Upper Oligocene to Lower Miocene, about 30 million years BP. Some are in excellent condition, the males with well-displayed terminalia that are so important for identification of these flies. Some species are represented in more than 1 piece of amber.

Following is a list of Mexican amber Mycetophilidae and Sciaridae that I was able to identify. Each code number refers to one specimen and is a combination of locality number and specimen number. Unless the postabdomen is lost or obscured, I have indicated the sex of each specimen following its code number. Mycetophilidae: Ceroplatinae (*Platyura* or *Orfelia*), B4116-3 ♂, B4116-4 ♂, B4120-10 ♂, B5341-32 ♀, B5341-38, B7046-24 ♀, B7048-49 ♂, B7048-50 ♀, B8411-71 ♀, B8413-40 ♂, B8413-41, B8425-102 ♂, 12997 ♀; Exechiini, B7048-51, B8413-156 ♂; Leiini, 12960 ?♂; Leiini, possibly *Tetragoneura*, B7046-25; *Manota* sp. ♀. Sciaridae: *Bradysia* (s.l.) sp., B6899-16 ♂, B7045-45 ♂, B7045-46, B7046-23, 12932 ♀, 12933 ♂, 12934 ♂, 12998 ♀; *Sciara* sp., 12930, 12995 ♂.

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