Some Corrections to the British List and other Notes on British Fungus Gnats (Diptera: Mycetophilidae)

By L. N. Kidd and D. M. Ackland

Mycomya Rond.

Edwards (1941) in his paper on British fungus gnats drew attention to a useful character for grouping the species of the genus *Mycomya*. This was the presence or absence of macrotrichia on the distal part of *Sc* and on the branches of *M* and *Cu*. Edwards listed *M. kingi* Edwards, *lambi* Edwards and *melanoceras* Edwards as having *Sc* bare. This would in fact appear to be the case so far as *kingi* and *melanoceras* are concerned but not in the case of *lambi* as in fact he points out in his description of this species on page 29 of the above paper. Here he states that several macrotrichia are present on the distal part of *Sc* (in seven of the eight available specimens).

Edwards apparently omitted to include *M. fuscata* Winn. in the list of species on p. 25 with bare *Sc* because he clearly states on p. 29 that it differs from the other species of the *ornata* group in having *Sc* completely bare. Additional material of this latter species has been taken at Dorback, Inverness-shire (D.M.A.).

A fourth British species of *Mycomya* has now been found to have this vein bare. It is *M. vittiventris* Zett., two males and two females of which were taken at Whitewell, Yorkshire, 6.7.1954 by Mr. A. Brindle, and a pair at Mugdock Wood, Stirlingshire, 15.7.1968 by Mr. J. Brock. Previously the species appears only to have been recorded from Nethy Bridge, Inverness-shire.

Polylepta Winn.

The genus *Polylepta* is represented in Britain by a single species *P. guttiventris* (Zett.) which according to Edwards (1925) is apparently rare and occurs chiefly in mountainous districts of the north and west. It is therefore worthy of mention that two males were taken at Blean, Kent, in September 1966 (D.M.A.) and three males in June 1967 by Mr. L. Parmenter. A note might be made in Edwards (1925: 554) key to *Sciophilini* (couplet 4) that the base of *M1* is sometimes missing in this species, which is clearly the case in the Blean species.

Leia Mg.

Edwards (1941: 70) added *Leia strobli* Landr. to the British list stating that the male hypopygium in the specimens seen by him was constructed as in Landrock's figures although he did not give any reference as to the source of these figures.

A recent examination of one of the above specimens and also of a male taken at Keighley, Yorkshire, in November 1935 by Mr. J. Wood reveals that they are identical with a male of *Leia bilineata* Winn. ex Kowarz collection, now in the Hope Dept. of Entomology, Oxford. Furthermore these specimens appear to agree very well with Landrock's figures of *L. bilineata* in *Die Fliegen* (1927).

Lackschewitz (1937: 20) pointed out that he had examined the types of *L. bifasciata* Gimmerth. and that the species described in 1863 by Winnertz as *L. bilineata* is a synonym. It would appear from this that our British material should be known as *L. bifasciata* Gimmerth. 1845, with *L. bilineata* Winn. 1863 as a synonym.

Leia strobli was proposed by Landrock (1925: 182) as a replacement name for the species described as *trimaculata* by Strobl in 1909, on the assumption that *trimaculata* Strobl was a junior secondary homonym of *Mycetophila trimaculata* Macquart, 1834.

Landrock (1927: 83) placed *strobli* in the same couplet as *winthemi* Lehm. both species having a dark spot in the base of cell *R5* and according to Landrock also having the vein *Cu1* unbroken at the base. *L. bilineata* Winn. which also has a dark spot in the base of cell *R5* is placed in Landrock's key with those species having *Cu1* clearly broken at the base. However, this latter character appears to be somewhat variable, as specimens with identical genitalia may have this vein noticeably disconnected at the base whilst in other specimens it is imperceptibly broken or virtually complete.

From what has been stated above, the status of *strobli* Landr. calls for further investigation. It may be that it will prove to be synonymous with *L. bifasciata* Gimmerth. but until either Landrock's material or Strobl's type of *trimaculata* can be examined the matter must remain unsolved.

Exechia Winn.

Edwards (1941: 75) pointed out an error in a previous paper where he had quoted *E. spinuligera* Lundst. as a synonym of *spinigera* Winn. In Kloet and Hincks (1945) *E. spinigera* Winn. has been included in error in place of *E. spinuligera* Lundst., the former species not so far having been taken in Britain. The genitalia of *spinigera* Winn. as figured by Dziedzicki (1915) Pl. 17, figs. 270 and 271 are quite distinct from those of *E. spinuligera* Lundst., which are illustrated in *Die Fliegen*, Pl. 8, fig. 17 (as *spinigera*).

It should be noted that in *E. spinuligera* the fore metatarsus is slightly shorter than the tibia.

Phronia Winn.

Specimens of a *Phronia* taken at Wytham Wood, Berkshire, in August, 1967 (D.M.A.) were originally determined as *Phronia sinuata* Freeman, 1956. Subsequently, further males were taken

in Bagley Wood, Berkshire, on 30.9.1967 (D.M.A.) which were run down as *P. siebecki* Dz. and a comparison with the Wytham material proved them to be identical. Reference to the figures in Dziedzicki (1889), pl. xiii, fig. 37; pl. xiv, fig. 38, leaves little doubt that *P. sinuata* Freeman is synonymous with this species. The name *P. siebecki* Dz. should therefore be substituted on the British list for *P. sinuata* Freeman **syn. nov.**

Our thanks are due to Mr. A. Brindle of the Dept. of Entomology, Manchester Museum, and to Mr. L. Parmenter, who have provided much useful material for our studies, and also to Mr. K. G. V. Smith of the Department of Entomology, British Museum (Nat. Hist.) for the loan of a specimen of *L. strobli* from the museum collection.

References

DZIEDZICKI, H., 1889. Revue des espèces européennes du genre *Phronia* Winnertz, *Trudy russk. ént Obshch.*, XXIIII: 404-532; 1915, Atlas des organes génitaux des types de Winnertz et des genres de sa collection de Mycetophiles, *Pr. Tow. nauk. warsz.*, III: 1-16, pl. I-XXI. EDWARDS, F. W., 1925. British Fungus-Gnats. With a revised Generic classification of the family, *Trans. ent. Soc. Lond.* (1924), **57**: 505-670; 1941, Notes on British Fungus-Gnats, *Entomologist's mon. Mag.*, **77**: 21-32, 67-82. FREEMAN, P., 1956, Two new species of Mycetophilidae from Britain, *Proc. R. ent. Soc. Lond., B*, **25**: 26-28. KLOET, G. S., and HINCKS, W. D., 1945, *A check list of British insects*, Stockport. LACKSCHEWITZ, P., 1937. Die Fungivoriden des Ostbaltischen Gebietes, *Arb. Nat. Forsch. Ver. Riga*, XXI: 1-47. LANDROCK, K., 1925. Dipterologische Miszellen, *Wien. ent. Ztg* XLII: 179-182; 1927, Fungivoridae (Mycetophilidae) in E. Lindner, *Die Fliegen der Palaearktischen Region*, pp. 1-195.

L. N. Kidd, Werneth Park Study Centre and Natural History Museum, Frederick Street, Oldham.
D. M. Ackland, Hope Dept. of Entomology, University Museum, Oxford.

Review

Diptera from Nepal, Anthomyidae **Ackland, D. M., 1967.**
Vol. 20, No. 4, pp. 105-139, 83 text-figures. 15/-.

This appears to be the first publication recording any species of the Anthomyidae from Nepal. A total of 11 genera and 16 species are included, 11 of the species being new and these are fully described. A key to the genera of the family known from Nepal is given, and keys to species, where necessary, are also included.

The figures mainly illustrate the genitalia, and are of the usual high standard of the author. The publication is based on material collected on four expeditions to Nepal; but one new species from Tadzhikistan is also included.

An adequate bibliography is included.

A. Brindle.