TWO NEW AND TWO KNOWN SPECIES OF DROSOPHILA FROM RIMBICK, WEST BENGAL, INDIA

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Taxonomic account of four species of Drosophila is given. Two of them, D. paralongifera and D. neomakinoi are described as new, while D. pentastriata Okada and D. acutissima Okada are recorded for the first time from India.

(Key words: new Drosophila)

Accompanying the development of genetic and evolutionary knowledge in the genus Drosophila, taxonomic studies in this genus have also taken rapid strides during last few years and accumulated considerable data on the species inhabiting the subcontinent of India (See the review of Gupta, 1974 and other recent papers; Dwivedi, 1979; Dwivedi and Gupta 1980; Gupta and Dwivedi, 1980; Gupta and Singh, 1977, 1979; Prakash and Reddy, 1977, 1978, 1979 a, 1979 b; Sajjan and Krishnamurthy, 1975; Sajjan and Reddy, 1975; Singh and Gupta, 1977 a, 1977 b, 1980). These studies have indicated that the members of the genus Drosophila are fairly distributed throughout the subcontinent of India. However, in view the great size of the country and its considerable variety of habitats it is believed that there are undoubtedly more species awaiting discovery. The present paper embodies the results of several surveys undertaken at and around Rimbick.

Material for the present study was collected from Rimbick and its surrounding areas in the month of September 1979, Rimbick, a wild hilly area in Darjeeling district, West Bengal, India is located at an elevation of about 7500 feet above sea level. The area is characterized by having dense evergreen, coniferous forest covering medium to very steep slopes and extremely moist condition due to heavy rainfall. The flies were collected both by using different fermenting fruits as baits and also by net-sweeping over fallen flowers, fruits and wild vegetation.

Genus Drosophila Fallen

1. Drosophila (Drosophila) paralongifera sp. nov.
Body length: 2.34 mm (♂); 2.75 mm (♀).


Legs dull yellow, each with last tarsal segment brown, preapicals on all three tibiae; apicals on first and second tibiae.

Wings ♂ and ♀ (Fig. 3) Dusky. Length about 2.64 mm. Approximate indices: C-index 2.78; 4V-index 1.5; 4C-index 0.78; 5X-index 1.34. Two equal setae at the apex of first costal section; heavy setae on about basal 2/7 of third costal section. Halteres white.

Abdomen, ♂ and ♀: Abdominal tergites shiny yellow, 1–2T with broadly interrupted and the remainder tergites with mildly interrupted broad black bands.
**NEW DROSOPHILA SPECIES FROM RIMBICK**

Periphalic organs (Fig. 2): Epandrium dark brown, broad, truncate below, with upper portion bare and lower portion with about 28 long setae. Sustylus quadrate, distal margin broad, with ten pointed teeth on entire margin, and a few fine setae on either side of the teeth. Cerci oblong, yellowish brown, separated from genital arch and with 25 long setae.

Phallic organs (Fig. 1): Aedeagus yellowish orange, short and basally with two apically pointed curved processes. Basal apodeme of aedeagus twice as long as aedeagus. Anterior gonopophyses brown, elongate, basally contiguous with aedeagus and with a row of 7-8 sensilla along outer margin. Posterior gonopophyses yellowish brown, large and fused together giving an arch-like appearance. Caudal margin of hypandrium without submedian spines. Ventral fragma weakly quadrate.

Egg-guides (Fig. 4): Lobe yellowish brown, narrowing distally, with 26 small marginal and 2 discal black teeth. Basal isthmus broad and short.

Holotype ♂, INDIA: WEST BENGAL, Rimbrick, Darjeeling district, September 1979 (Gupta and Singh). Paratypes: 1 ♂, 1 ♀ same locality and collectors as holotype. Deposited in Museum of Department of Zoology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.

Relationships: D. paralongifera a member of the subgenus Drosophila appears to be an unique species in having elongate anterior gonopophyses with a row of 7-8 sensilla along outer margin, posterior gonopophyses large and fused together giving an arch-like appearance, sustylus quadrate, with ten pointed teeth on entire margin and its unusually long egg-guide. It superficially resembles D. trizonata Okada (member of the bizonata species group) in having fused posterior gonopophyses, but differs remarkably in several other important taxonomic characters.

Distribution: India.

2. Drosophila (Drosophila) neomakinoi sp. nov.

Body length: 2.85 mm (♂); 3.02 mm (♀).

Head, ♂ and ♀: Arista with 3-4 minute branches above and 1 below in addition to terminal fork. Antennae with second segment dark brown; third segment pale brown. Frons tanish brown, ocellar triangle brownish black. Orbitals in ratio 5:3:7. Vibrissa well developed large and stout; second oral not differentiated. Palpi orange, with one prominent apical and one marginal setae. Carina yellowish brown, narrow and high. Face and cheek yellowish brown, greatest width of cheek 1/5 greatest diameter of eye. Postvertical long. Ocellars long inserted well outside ocellar triangle. Clypeus brown. Eyes dark red.

Thorax, ♂ and ♀: Acrostichal hairs regular, in six rows between dorsocentrals. Anterior scutellars convergent; posterior scutellars crossed. Distance between anterior and posterior dorsocentrals half distance between anterior pairs. Mesonotum and scutellum unicolorous, shiny yellow to yellowish brown. Thoracic pleura yellow. Sterno-index about 0.7.

Legs pale yellow, prepacipals on all three tibiae; apicals on first and second tibiae.

Wings ♂ and ♀ (Fig. 8): Hyaline. Length 2.16 mm. Approximate indices: C-index 2.97; 4V-index 1.54; 4C-index 0.76; 5X-index 1.59. Two subequal setae at the apex of first costal section; heavy setae on
about basal 2/5 of third costal section. 
Halteres whitish yellow.

_Abdomen_ ♂ and ♀: Abdominal tergite 
shiny yellow, with medially interrupted 
and laterally projected apical black bands.

_Periphalic organs_ (Fig. 5): Epandrini 
brownish black, pubescent, broadened 
dorsally and narrowly projected below, 
upper portion with 8 long setae; lower 
portion with about 35 similar setae. 
Surnstylus brown, large, apically divided 
into two, lower part with 11-13 stout, 
black teeth and 10-12 thick setae; upper 
part smaller, with 5-6 thick and pointed 
teeth. Cerci brown, oval, pubescent, with 
32 setae and 28 pointed short teeth 
ventrally.

_Phallic organs_ (Fig. 6): Aedeagus pale 
yellow, rod shaped, apically with lateral 
processes. Basal apodeme of aedeagus 
nearly equal. Anterior gonopophyses small, 
conical, each with two apical minute 
sensilla. Posterior gonopophyses obscure. 
Caudal margin of the hypandrium with 
a pair of small submedian spines. Ventral 
fragma quadrate.

_Egg-guides_ (Fig. 7): Lobe yellowish 
brown, apically narrowly rounded, with 
13 marginal and 4 discal teeth. Basal 
ischmus long and narrow.

_Holotype_ ♂, INDIA: WEST BENGAL, 
Rimbick, Darjeeling district, September 
1979 (Gupta and Singh). _Paratypes:_ 
1 ♂, 3 ♀♀, same locality and collectors 
as holotype. Deposited in the Depart- 
ment of Zoology, Banaras Hindu Uni-

_Verification_ : The characteristic fea-
tures of its periphalic organs suggests its 
inclusion in the _melanderi_ species group. 
Where it closely resembles _D. makinoi_ 
Okada in having identical pattern of 
periphalic and phallic organs, but distinc-
tively differs from it in having 11-13 stout 
black teeth on lower part of surstylus 
(numerous recurved setae in _makinoi_), 
creci with about 28 thick pointed teeth 
ventrally (20 short but strong setae in 
makinoi), and in many other taxonomical 
characters. However, _D. neomakinoi_ also 
resembles slightly _D. cameraria_ Haliday 
(=pallida Zetterstedt) superficially, but it 
diffs drastically from it in male geni-
talia. The other members of the _melanderi_ 
group, _D. melanderi_ Sturtevant, _D. magna-
fulosa_ Stalker and Spencer and _D. ordinaria_ 
Coquillet have no significant resemblance 
with _D. neomakinoi_.

_Distribution_: India.

3. **Drosophila (Drosophila) pentastriata** 
Okada 

_Head, ♂ and ♀: Palpi yellowish brown, 
with one prominent apical and one marginal 
setae. Orbital in ratio 7:3:11._

_Thorax, ♂ and ♀: Acrostichal hairs 
regular, in six rows between dorsocentals. 
Scutellum reddish yellow, with two longi-
tudinal dark brown stripes._

_Wings, ♂ and ♀: (Fig. 9): Clear pos-
terior cross vein mildly fuscous. Approxi-
mate indices: C-index 3.44; 4V-index 1.56; 
4C-index 0.61; 5C-index 1.15. Other 
details as described by Okada (1966)._ 

_Periphalic organs_ (Fig. 12): Epandrium yellowish brown, pubescent, narrow, sligh-
tly swollen below, upper portion with 2 
long setae; lower portion with 15 similar 
setae. Surnstylus large, with 9-10 stout 
teeth and several ventral setae. Cerci
large, pubescent, with about 25 long setae, and a tuft of few small black setae ventrally.

Phallic organs (Fig. 10): Posterior gonopophyses obscure. Caudal margin of hypandrium with a pair of long spines. Ventral fragma quadrate. Other details as described by Okada (1966).

Egg-guides (Fig. 11): Lobe yellowish brown, medially swollen, apically narrow and rounded, with 21 marginal and 4 discal teeth. Basal isthmus short and narrow.


Distribution: Nepal and India (new record).

4. Drosophila (Drosophila) acutissima Okada


Head, ♂ and ♀: Arista with 4 branches above and 2 below in addition to terminal

Thorax, ♂ and ♀: Acrostichal hairs regular, in six rows between dorsocentals. Distance from anterior dorsocentral to posterior dorsocentral 3/7 distance between two anterior dorsocentrals.

Wings, ♂ and ♀ (Fig. 16): Clear, cross veins mildly fuscous. Approximate indices: C-index 3.5; 4V-index 1.88; 4C-index 0.72; 5X-index 2.11. Other details as described by Okada (1956).

Periphallic organs (Fig. 15): Epandrium pubescent, upper portion with 2; lower portion with 16-18 setae. Surstylus oval, apical margin concave, with a row of 10 pointed teeth, and a few ventral setae. Cerci brown, somewhat oval and with 16 setae.

Phallic organs (Fig. 14): Aedeagus pale brown, medioventrally swollen, apically hooked. Basal apodeme of aedeagus slightly longer than aedeagus, Anterior gonopophyses oval, with 2-3 minute apical sensilla. Posterior gonopophyses obscure, Caudal margin of hypandrium with a pair of submedian spines. Ventral fragma dark brown, Y-shaped, marginally black.

Egg-guides (Fig. 13): Lobe orange brown, medially broad, apically conical, with 15 marginal and 2 discal teeth, apical tooth largest. Basal isthmus narrow and long.

Specimens examined: India: West Bengal, Rimbick, Darjeeling district. 4 ♂♀; 11 ♀♀ September 1979.

Distribution: Japan, Nepal and India (new record).

Remarks: The Indian strain of *D. acutissima* strictly resembles the Nepalese form in having medioventrally swollen aedeagus, but differs from the original Japanese form in not having distinct lateral lobe of aedeagus.

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REFERENCES


NEW DROSOPHILA SPECIES FROM RIMBICK


