Article VI.—DIPTERA OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM CONGO EXPEDITION¹

PART II.—ASILIDÆ, CONOPIDÆ, PYRGOTIDÆ, MICROPEZIDÆ, CHLOROPIDÆ, DROSOPHILIDÆ, LONCHÆIDÆ, SAPROMYZIDÆ, MUSCIDÆ, CALLIPHORIDÆ, AND TACHINIDÆ

By C. H. Curran (1978)

In the preceding paper dealing with the Diptera collected by Messrs. Lang and Chapin, members of The American Museum of Natural History expedition to the Belgian Congo, several families were reported upon. In the present paper a number of additional families are covered, leaving only a small number yet to be dealt with. In order to decrease the volume of the report many of the undescribed forms have been characterized in various numbers of the American Museum Novitates, references to the descriptions being given in the present work.

For great assistance in identifying the muscoid Diptera I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. J. Villeneuve and also to Dr. H. Zerny, of Natural History Museum of Vienna, for the loan of type material and other specimens. Owing to the fact that no illustrations have accompanied the descriptions of the numerous species of Sarcophagidæ occurring in Africa it has not been possible to report upon the members belonging to this family but it is hoped that arrangements may be made whereby the satisfactory identification of the species may be carried out.

Since several localities not mentioned in the previous paper are given in the records of species discussed, I present a complete list of the localities where collections were made, together with their location.

Aba, 30° 10′ E., 3° 50′ N. Akenge, 20° 50′ E., 2° 55′ N. Avakubi, 27° 31′ E., 1° 20′ N.

Bafwabaca, 27° 30′ E., 2° 10′ N. Bafwasende, 27° 0′ E., 1° 10′ N. Bagboro, 29° E., 4° 18′ N. Banana, 6° S., 12° 40′ E. Batama, 26° 40′ E., 1° N. Boma, 13° E., 30′ N. Bumba, 22° 28′ E., 2° 10′ S.

Coquilhatville, 15° E., 5° 60' S.

Faradje, 29° 10' E., 3° 40' N.

Gamangui, 27° 30′ E., 2° 10′ N. Garamba, 29° 40′ E., 4° 10′ N.

Kinshasa, 15° 20′ E., 4° 20′ S. Kwamouth, 16° 10′ E., 3° 20′ S.

Leopoldville, 4° 25′ S., 5° 20′ E.

SEG 772

Only the trochanters and front coxe reddish; wings blackish gray; blackish gray species......longicollis Becker. 4.—Arista conspicuously broadened apically; halteres rusty yellow; frontal triangle pointed globuliformis Becker. Arista not broadened apically; halteres white; frontal triangle transverse apically.....tenellus Becker.

Steleocerus lentus, new species

Much darker in color than the other described species. Length, 4.75 mm.

FEMALE.—Head black, the facial orbits, cheeks in front and lateral and interrupted ventral line inside the borders of the facial depression, reddish yellow. Face and occiput thinly grayish pollinose, the orbits with dense grayish yellow pollen except on the upper portion of the front. Proboscis brown; palpi blackish. Antennæ dark reddish, the second segment with a linear blackish border; arista brown, flattened, rounded apically, very short pubescent above and below; face concave, a little prominent below; front produced almost half the greatest eve-width beyond the anterior orbits, frontal triangle densely brownish gray pollinose with the strong marginal ridges steel-blue, the front elsewhere opaque black, bearing three or four short, black bristly hairs on either side. The black occipital cilia are inconspicuous and the whitish hairs on the cheeks are extremely short.

The black thorax is very thinly clothed with grayish pollen which forms a pair of broadly separated, posteriorly diverging, narrow, obscure vitte. The scutellum is sharply rounded apically with a pair of short, erect marginal bristles near the apex.

Legs as described in the key, the front tarsi more intensely black than other parts of legs, the fourth segment only a little broadened, the fifth segment normal, broader than high.

Third vein practically straight, ending almost in the wing-tip. Squamæ with brown border and fringe. Halteres yellowish with the base broadly brownish.

Abdomen subshining black, very thinly gray pollinose; venter brownish; hairs of abdomen inconspicuous.

Type.—Female, Stanleyville, April, 1915.

DROSOPHILIDÆ

There are but two species belonging to this family in the collection. one of them apparently undescribed.

ZAPRIONUS Coquillett

Zaprionus vittiger Coquillett

COQUILLETT, 1902, Proceedings U. S. N. M., XXIV, p. 32.

Eleven specimens of both sexes from Akenge, October, and one female from Stanleyville, March.

LEUCOPHENGA Mik

Leucophenga bella, new species

Length 3 mm.

Female.—Legs brown, the tarsi wholly, bases of tibiæ, apices of femora, bases of posterior four femora and all the coxe and trochanters, yellowish or brownish vellow. Occiput black, the entire orbits whitish; face yellow, the carina low but sharp front rusty brownish red, much narrowed anteriorly, at the vertex slightly wider than eye; several black frontal hairs and a row of tiny ones in front of the orbitals. Proboscis and palpi brown, the latter reddish apically, subtriangular in shape, the hairs black; a conspicuous black bristle near the apex in front. Antennæ reddish; third segment oval, not over one and one-half as long as wide; arista black, with short rays on the whole length below and long ones above. Oral margin bordered with brown on the sides; clypeus brown with a quadrate yellow spot in front.

Thorax brown, the pleura gray pollinose except a broad yellow vitta ca the upper edge between the anterior margin and base of wing; the mesonotum is clothed with brown and gray pollen, the brown predominating and forming a complicated pattern. Humeri pale yellow; notopleura and a lateral, medianly constricted fascia between the suture and base of the scutellum reddish yellow, the fascia appearing as two narrowly connected triangles. Scutellum dark brown with the sides and apex reddish. Prescutellars strong; four marginal scutellars and no hairs; two sternopleurals. Hair of thorax and legs black.

Wings hyaline, the veins luteous; apical cell narrowed from the middle to the apex, the apices of the third and fourth veins, however, much more widely separated than at the base of the cell; posterior crossvein situated a little less than its length from the posterior margin of the wing; second section of the costa two and one-half times as long as the third.

Abdomen dark brown, the first segment and narrow apices of the two following whitish yellow; the first with a large, transverse brown spot on each side at the middle. Sternites yellow except the terminal one or two. Hairs of abdomen black.

Type.—Female, Stanleyville, January-February.

A very beautiful little species, readily recognized by the mostly brown legs.

LONCHÆIDÆ

The collection contains several specimens belonging to the genus Lonchæa including one undescribed species. In order to show the relationship of the new form I have included it in an adaptation of Bezzi's key to the African species. The four species in the collection are without hairs near the stigmatal bristle and the frontal lunule is bare and mostly hidden.