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A NEW SPECIES OF THE FAMILY TABANIDÆ FROM THE BELGIAN CONGO, WITH NOTES ON THE GENERIC POSITION OF RELATED SPECIES¹

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The two generic names proposed by Grünberg, *Orgizomyia* and *Thriambeutes*, and one proposed by Surcouf, *Guyona* are separated on antennal, palpal and other minor characters which it seems are more properly specific than generic. At least there are more pronounced differences, in the structures named, within other single genera of the Tabanidæ than in these three taken collectively. True, the three species considered as genotypes may be separated by the characters given as generic, but when it becomes a matter of including the other species which have been discovered, some of them are as properly classified under one as the other. For example, Surcouf described *Pangonia v-album* in 1908 and afterwards transferred it to *Orgizomyia* in his paper in 'Genera Insectorum,' while Austen described *Thriambeutes fuscus* in 1920 and later wrote in a letter that he considers *v-album* and *fuscus* synonymous names for the same species, with the statement that Surcouf's description was overlooked for a time.

At least five species have now been referred to *Orgizomyia*, *Thriambeutes* and *Guyona*, namely: *O. zigzag* (Macquart), the genotype of the first, *T. singularis* Grünberg, the genotype of the second, *G. mesembrinoides* Surcouf, the genotype of the third, *O. v-album* Surcouf and *austeni*, new species, described below, besides *T. fuscus* Austen, now considered a synonym of *O. v-album* Surcouf. We originally wrote the description of *austeni* under *Thriambeutes* but later found characters somewhat intermediate so it was difficult to maintain this conclusion.

The species named may well be considered as a rather compact group of nearly related forms and, in our opinion, all included under one genus. A review of the literature and reference to the material at hand merits the following remarks: *singularis*, *zigzag* and *austeni* are known from both sexes, *mesembrinoides* from the female only, and *v-album* and its synonym *fuscus* from the male only. Slender palpi is one of the char-

¹Scientific Results of the American Museum Congo Expedition. Entomology No. 15.

acters which Grünberg used to designate *Orgizomyia*, while *Thriambeutes* is given as having enlarged palpi. Both sexes of *austeni* have narrower palpi than *singularis*, the male especially having palpi less than half the size of the palpi of the male of that species. Austen describes the palpi of *fuscus* as "elongate and curved but not conspicuously swollen, considerably smaller and narrower than in the male of the genotype," by which he means *singularis*. Surcouf figures the palpi of the male of *v-album* as rather long and slender. Another character used to distinguish *Orgizomyia* is enlarged antennal segments. The facts at hand show that *zigzag* has enlarged antennal segments and *singularis* has slender antennal segments. Austen says of *fuscus*, "first joint of antenna blackish brown, short, swollen, cylindrical" and "expanded portion of the third joint rather broad." In *austeni* the first antennal segment is swollen and the third segment is wide basally in both sexes; moreover there is a slight variation in the various specimens of the series in this regard, for in some there is shown along the dorsal side of the third antennal segment a slight prominence, somewhat suggestive of what Grünberg figures for *zigzag*. Grünberg gives ocelli developed for *Orgizomyia* and ocelli lacking for *Thriambeutes*. Austen says, "ocelli present" in *fuscus* and Surcouf says "vertex portant trois ocelles" for *v-album*. All the specimens of *austeni* studied in both sexes have three well-developed ocelli present. Lastly we find ocelli present in our specimens of *singularis*, the male especially having them very well developed. We note that Grünberg says of the tibia of *Thriambeutes*, "Vorderschienen gebogen und verdickt," but is not definite in this particular with *Orgizomyia*. Enderlein, in his newly proposed system of Tabanidæ, in some way, whether from specimens or from literature is not apparent, puts in his key "Schienen wenig verdickt" for *Thriambeutes* and "Vorderschiene besonders verdickt" for *Orgizomyia*. This indicates that it is doubtful if any distinctive characters are to be found in the front legs. The specimens we have studied show nothing in this particular we can consider generic. Grünberg figures the anal cell of *Orgizomyia zigzag* as narrowly open, Surcouf figures the same species as having it closed and petiolate and likewise for *T. singularis* and *O. v-album*. In our specimens we find this cell closed and petiolate in both wings.

Surcouf's description of *Guyona* is rather brief and freely translated is as follows: Style of the third antennal segment composed of four annulations, basal or first annulus of this segment forming a large flat expansion, one and one-half times as long as wide, bearing a sharp tooth at its middle and diminishing in width gradually to its extremity or to

the beginning of the pleursegmented style. Palpi long, large, thick, convex above and sinuous beneath. All the marginal cells of the wing wide open.

The situation may be stated as follows perhaps: Either we must construe genera more widely or else erect a genus for nearly every species in this section of the family Tabinidæ.

Orgizomyia austeni, new species

Both sexes with the head and its appendages, entire thorax and wings, anterior legs and middle femora, black. Abdomen, middle tibia and tarsi, and posterior legs, yellow.

FEMALE.—Length of body (several specimens), 12 to 16 mm.; width of head, 3 to 4 mm.; width of front at vertex, scarcely half a millimeter in the largest specimens; length of wing, 11 to 14 mm.

Head: front black, somewhat shiny, slightly wider below than at vertex; ocelli distinct and somewhat elevated, surrounding region of the same color as the rest of the front; face and cheeks black, somewhat shiny; antennal protuberance very prominent, much larger and more protuberant than in the female of *singularis*, shiny black; first antennal segment shorter and more slender than the protuberance, somewhat swollen; second antennal segment about one-fourth as long as the first, small; entire third segment distinctly longer than the first two together, plainly divided into basal and annulate portions, of which the former is wide at base and narrowed to apex and distinctly longer than the latter. The second and third antennal segments are opaque brownish black, while the first is shiny black. Palpi opaque brownish black, rather large, curved, and plainly shorter than the rather slender black proboscis. Thorax and scutellum black, shiny. Abdomen entirely brownish yellow above and below. Wings entirely black. Halteres brown. Legs: front pair black throughout, middle femur black, but not so intense toward apex where this color is softened by yellowish; front tibia and tarsi yellow; hind legs yellow, except the extreme base of each femur is slightly infuscated.

MALE.—Length of body (several specimens), 10 to 13 mm.; width of head, 3 to 4 mm.; length of wing, 10 to 12 mm.

This sex is colored exactly like the female. Head with the eyes widely in contact, area of enlarged facets extensive and practically surrounded by the small facets which are very few at vertex; but the encircling band of them widens toward the inferior outer angles of the eyes and narrows again as the antennæ are approached. In some dry specimens of this sex the area of enlarged facets is nearly black in color, but in most it is distinctly light brown and in evident contrast with the color of the area of small facets which is invariably black. However this condition may be seen in many other species of Tabanidæ after they become dry in collections. Palpi short and much smaller than in the male of *O. singularis* (Grünberg).

Holotype female and sixteen paratype females, allotype male and eleven paratype males from Stanleyville, Belgian Congo, March, 1915 (Lang and Chapin Coll.), taken from *Bembix*. Seven paratype females and ten paratype males taken April 9, 1915. Four female paratypes and two male paratypes, taken April 7, 1915. Two paratype females and three paratype males, taken May, 1915. Nine paratype fe-

males and six paratype males without date. All collected at Sanleyville, Belgian Congo, by Lang and Chapin and all taken from *Bembix*. 72 specimens in all, 39 females and 33 males.

I take pleasure in naming this species for Major E. E. Austen of the British Museum. He has described a large proportion of the Tabanidæ of the African Continent and has published much on their distribution and habits.