AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

Published by THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY New York City

April 12, 1939

THE SPECIES OF MACROMYA DESVOIDY (TACHINIDAE, DIPTERA)

By C. H. CURRAN

During the identification of the specimens belonging to the genus Macromya Desvoidy in the Museum's collection it became obvious that several species having very similar coloration were represented. Because of this it is impossible to identify the type of the genus, pyrrhaspis Wiedemann, so that it will be necessary to examine the type in order to determine its relationship to the two species now described as new. From the description of the type given by Aldrich it is evidently not represented in the material before me. Aldrich makes no mention of the color of the pile.

MACROMYA DESVOIDY

DESVOIDY, 1830, Mem. Acad. Roy. Soc. France, II, p. 322.

Gymnostylia MACQUART, 1850, Dipt. Exot.,

Number 1020

Suppl. 4, p. 227 (f.).

Tropidopsis Brauer and Bergenstamm, 1889, Denkschr. Akad. Wiss. Wien, LVI, p. 132. Xanthohystricia Townsend, 1931, Rev. Ent., Sao Paulo, I. p. 348.

All the species I have seen have the acrosticals 3-3 and the dorsocentrals 3-4. The number of sternopleurals varies from two to three, those species typically having two often having three on one side and rarely three on each side. All have the lower lobe of the squamae pilose exteriorly on the basal half or more. The arrangement of the bristles on the second and third abdominal segments is somewhat variable since there may be adventitious bristles that entirely change the general appearance and rows that are generally straight may become arched, while arched rows may be straightened out. I cannot follow Townsend in considering Xanthohystricia distinct from Macromya.

TABLE OF SPECIES

1.—Abdomen wholly reddish pilose, the fourth segment almost all reddish in ground color......depressa Desvoidy.

Abdomen with black and yellow pile....2. 2.—Mesopleura black pilose.....bassleri, new species. Mesopleura yellow pilose, only the bristles black......3. 3.—Second abdominal segment without black hairs, only the bristles black..... Second abdominal segment with black hairs on the posterior median half...... pachecoi, new species.

Macromya depressa Desvoidy

DESVOIDY, 1830, Mem. Acad. Roy. Soc. France, II, p. 322.

Hystricia dorsalis Wulp, 1888, Biol. Centr. Amer., Dipt., II, p. 17 (f.).

Abdomen rusty reddish, with interrupted black vitta: mesonotum with cinereous-ochraceous pollen and four abbreviated, interrupted black vittae. Length, 15 to 19 mm.

MALE.—Upper half of the head brown, the lower half reddish, in ground color; pollen ochraceous to rich yellow, paler on the posterior orbits. Front rather evenly widening anteriorly, with black hair; bristles numerous in front, ocellars long; outer verticals not developed; occipital cilia black, extending to the oral margin. Occiput with reddish-yellow pile; cheeks wide, with short, sparse, coarse yellow hairs, and with from two to four long black bristles on the lower half. Facial ridges bristled almost half way. Palpi long, with coarse black hair above and with long reddish bristly hairs on the outer edge. Antennae reddish vellow, the third segment brownish; arista black. Eyes with yellowish pile.

Thorax reddish, the mesonotum black in ground color except on the borders. Pollen rather ochraceous, but more cinereous on the dorsum, the black vittae rather narrow. Pile reddish, mostly black on the dorsum except on the anterior and posterior borders. Scutellum reddish, the pile wholly pale; bristles black, moderately numerous, subappressed, tipped, those on the margin acute apically.

Wings pale brownish; squamae pale reddish brown, the lower lobe pale pilose on the outer border of the disc.

Legs reddish, pale pilose, the femora with black hair, all with pale pile beneath, but there is very little on the front pair.

Abdomen rusty reddish, with an interrupted median black vitta formed of elongate spots, this

black stripe sometimes very narrow but usually occupying about the median eighth of the third segment. Pile reddish, the bristles black. Second segment with a transverse row of discals anteriorly and a gently arched row of marginals on the median third; third segment with both rows strongly arched, the anterior one joining the marginals and continuing to the sides of the abdomen; fourth segment with three rows of discals, the anterior strong, the posterior weak and irregular, sometimes with scattered bristles on the preapical third. Terminal sternite and genitalia more or less brown. Upper surface of abdomen dull, the lower surface somewhat shining.

Six males, El Volcan, Chiriqui, Panama, February 18, 22, 24, 1936 (W. J. Gertsch), and one male, March 1, 1936 (F. E. Lutz).

Macromya pachecoi, new species

Abdomen dull yellowish with the apex black; mesonotum cinereous pollinose. Length, 18 mm

Male.—Upper half of the head black, the lower half yellowish in ground color; pollen yellow, whitish on the posterior orbits, cinereous on the front. Front rather strongly widening anteriorly, with about twelve pairs of frontals; hair black, rather sparse. Occipital cilia black, extending to, or almost to, the lower edge of the head; occiput yellow pilose. Cheeks with a few inconspicuous yellow hairs and from one to three bristles on the lower half. Palpi yellowish, with appressed black bristly hair above and some long pale bristly hairs on the outer edge. Antennae reddish yellow, the third segment brown, but more or less reddish on the inner surface; arista black. Eyes yellow pilose.

Thorax mostly blackish in ground color, the pleura in part, the humeri, posterior calli and scutellum yellowish. Pollen yellowish, cinereous on the mesonotum, leaving four interrupted, abbreviated black vittae, the median pair gently diverging posteriorly. Pile reddish yellow, black on the mesonotum except in front of the scutellum and on the sides in front of the wings. Scutellum with pale pile and black bristles, the discals suberect and with blunt tips.

Legs reddish yellow, pale pilose, the femora with black hair except below where it is longer, finer and reddish yellow.

Wings brown; squamae brownish, the lower lobe more grayish, with yellow hair inside the outer border on the posterior half.

Abdomen dull reddish yellow, the fourth segment black, the third with a dark posterior border which expands toward the middle where it is interrupted by a reddish line. Pile reddish yellow, black on the posterior half of the second segment in the middle, on the third except for the large anterior angles and on the whole of the fourth segment. Fifth sternite and genitalia blackish. Second segment with two rows of discals, one anteriorly, the other immediately in front of the gently arched marginal row; the

arched row of discals on the third segment is connected to the marginals by a short, arched row in between; fourth segment with rather numerous discals, all of about the same length but the basal ones more robust.

HOLOTYPE.—Male, Guatemala (M. Pacheco).

Macromya bassleri, new species

Similar in color to pachecoi but distinguished as follows:

The pollen of the head is paler yellow, tending to white on the posterior orbits; the pale hairs on the cheeks are coarse, longer and more numerous; the front is narrower. The mesonotum lacks yellow pile, except for a few hairs in front of the scutellum and on the posterior calli: the mesopleura is almost all black haired; wings pale brownish; squamae yellow; only one row of discals on the second abdominal segment and also on the third, although there may be one or two isolated bristles on these segments. The apex of the third segment is broadly black posteriorly on the median half. There are only two sternopleurals whereas pachecoi has three. but this character may not be of value as some specimens of amisias Walker have either two or three, or two on one side and three on the other.

HOLOTYPE.—Male, Achinamiza, Peru, November 14, 1927 (H. Bassler).

Macromva amisias Walker

Tachina amisias WALKER, 1849, List Dipt. Brit. Mus., IV, p. 734.

The collection contains seven specimens of this species from Chapada, Brazil. It is rather similar in color to the preceding species but the pollen of the head is very pale yellow, the pleura are wholly pale pilose; there is no black pile on the second abdominal segment and the posterior femora are pale pilose on the basal half. The bristles on the second abdominal segment are rather variable: they may form two arched rows or the discal row may be straight: there are usually some scattered bristles more or less connecting the discal and marginal rows. The discal and marginal rows on the third segment are apparently always connected by two to five intervening bristles.

This species was described by Walker without locality but Townsend gives Rio de Janeiro. He also makes it the type of Xanthohystricia Townsend.

Macromya pyrrhaspis Wiedemann

Tachina pyrrhaspis Wiedemann, 1830, Aussereur. Zweifl., II, p. 307.

Macromya analis Desvoidy, 1830, Mem. Acad. Roy. Sci. France, II, p. 322.

Gymnostylia analis Macquart, 1843, Dipt. Exot., II, part 3, p. 88.

Tropidopsis pyrrhaspis Brauer and Bergenstamm, 1889, Denkschr. Akad. Wiss. Wien, LVI, p. 132.

Townsend gives the type locality as Bahia, Brazil. I have not been able to identify the species in the material before me. Mexican records of this species are probably erroneous.