

Ephydriidae (Diptera Brachycera) from Afghanistan
Contribution à l'étude de la faune d'Afghanistan 15

By

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During his scientific journeys in Afghanistan Dr. K. Lindberg, Lund, has made a small collection of Diptera. Among this material there were some ephydrid specimens, almost all preserved in alcohol.

Ephydra Fall.

afghanica n.sp.

Male, female. *Head*: The segment of antennae dark, arista with ± 10 small rays and third segment without any dorsal bristle. Face greyish pilose except a small central part between the antennae being blue, metallic like the frons. The bristles along the oral margin and obliquely over the face rather small. Vibrissae weak, mouthparts yellow. Three pairs of fronto-orbitals, separated by fine hairs, also directed laterally. Two pairs of verticals, one of ocellars, no other distinct bristles. Neither face, nor frons with an incision or a keel. The head index $^1 5 : 2$.

Thorax: Faintly dusted with greyish, mesonotum and scutellum in their median parts with a metallic shining blue-green colour, especially distinct in two broad stripes along the dorso-central bristles. Two pairs of notopleurals and supra-alars, one of prescutellars, posthumurals, intra-alars, humurals and presuturals. Four pairs of dorsocentrals, scutellum with one strong and one weak pair of bristles. Legs yellow except the mid and hind coxae being greyish-dusted and the tarsi being darkened towards their articulations. Wings with yellow veins, costal index $^2 3 : 1$, fourth-vein index $^3 1 : 1$.

Abdomen: Grey-brown, the bristles of tergites rather weak. Abdominal index $^4 2 : 1$. Male hypopygium of the common *Ephydra* organisation (fig. 1, the female pre-genital plate fig. 2).

Length: body, 4 mm.; wings, 3.3 mm.

Holotype ♂, Dahlah (22 km. North Qandahar), May 6, 1958.

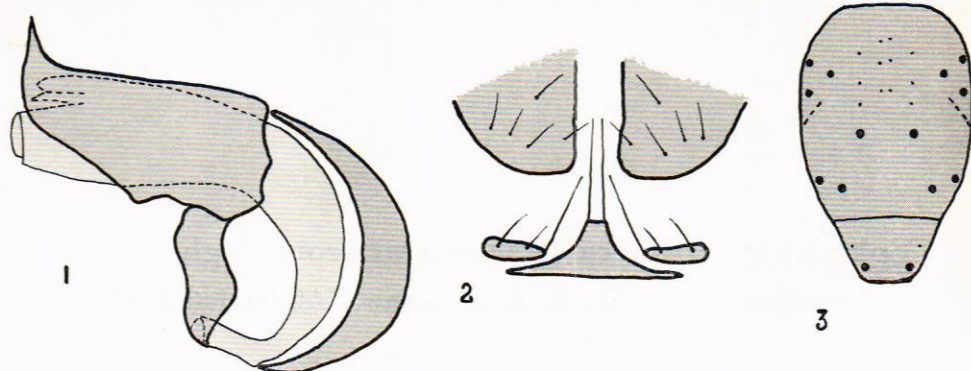
Allotype ♀, one paratype ♂ same data.

¹ Head index: Vertical length of eye: cheek.

² Costal index: Length of the second section of costa — between apices of first and second veins — divided by length of third section — between apices of second and third veins.

³ Fourth vein index: Length of apical section of fourth vein — between posterior cross-vein and margin of wing — divided by length of preapical section — between anterior and posterior crossveins.

⁴ Abdominal index: Length of last segment divided by the length of the segment close by.



Figs. 1—3. — 1. Male genitalia of *Ephydra afghanica* (side view). — 2. The female pre-genital plate of *E. afghanica*. — 3. Dorsal view of thorax, *Scatella pruinosa*.

The species seems to be closely related to *E. macellaria* Egg. known from South Europe, North Africa and Central Asia (Becker 1926). The most distinct common character are the entirely yellow legs but *E. afghanica* has not the median incision of the frons that is characteristic of *E. macellaria* and the abdominal index is 2 : 1 as compared to that of *E. macellaria* 1 : 1.

Scatella R.D.

(*Scatella*) *pruinosa* n.sp.

Female. *Head*: Face and cheeks silvery whitish, frons with a metallic brown colour. The antennal segments dark brown except the light basal part of the apical segment. Oral margin with small yellow hairs, the face with an oblique row of six bristles, no trace of any vibrissae. Two pairs of fronto-orbital and vertical bristles. Ocellars short, not reaching the base of antennae. Head index 7 : 3. *Thorax*: Mesonotum and scutellum dullish dark in dorsal parts, pleurae and sides of mesonotum silvery pollinose. One strong pair of dorsocentral, interalar and presutural bristles (fig. 3). No acrostichal bristles, only a few irregular pre-sutural pairs of hairs. Scutellum with one strong and one small pair of bristles. Legs whitish pruinose with yellow knees. Wings of a light yellow ground colour with no distinct spots. Costal index 3 : 1, fourth-vein index 5 : 3. *Abdomen*: Densely pollinose with a dark ground colour, all bristles very weak.

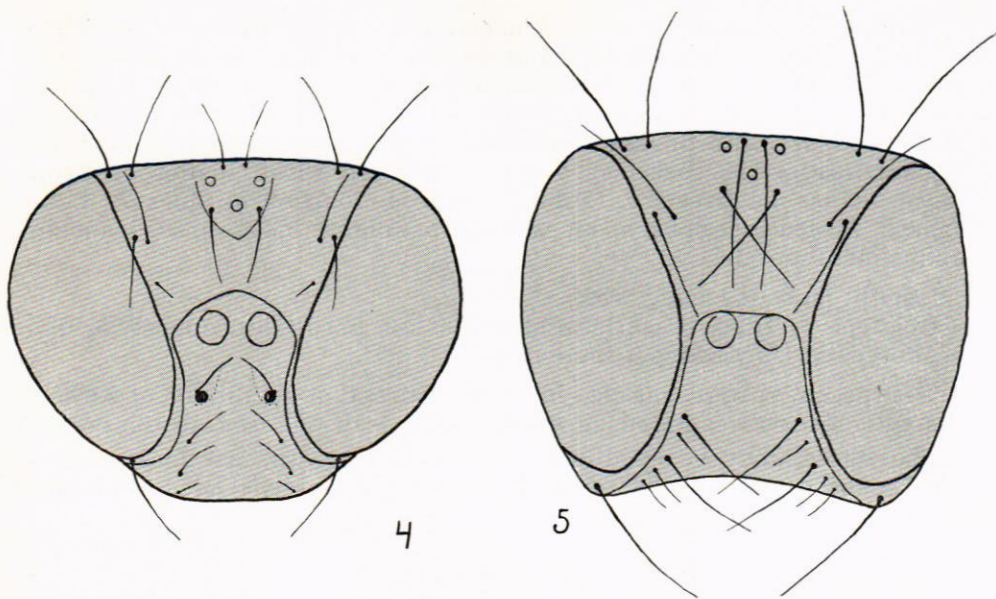
Male unknown.

Length: body, 2 mm.; wings, 2.3 mm.

Holotype ♀, Grotte Nayak (near Pol-Ranga), August 8, 1957.

By its silvery grey face and the existence of only one pair of dorsocentrals this species reminds of *paludum* Meig and *indistincta* Beck. It lacks however, i.a. the strong pair of acrostichals of *paludum*, (known from Europe, North Africa, Sudan, Dahl 1959), nor has it the yellow legs of *indistincta*, nor the short wings of this Hungarian species (length of wing = body length).

(*Scatella*) *stagnalis* Fall. — Yaoulang, Pamir, August 4, 1960, one specimen. — A cosmopolite with records from America, Africa, Europe and Asia.



Figs. 4—5. Face and frons of *Discocerina olma* and *D. hilla*.

Discocerina Macq.

(*Hecamoides* Hend.) *olma* n.sp.

Male, female. *Head*: Frons dullish brown with the distinct ocellar triangle with a more light brown colour: face, including parafacials and cheeks, cinereous and with a distinct median protuberance and three pairs of facial bristles, the upper one on a shining papilla. Antennae black with the dorsal part of second segment greyish, arista with 7—8 rays. Arrangement of facial and frontal bristles *vide* figure 4. Head index 3 : 1.

Thorax: Mesonotum not shining, grey to brown, scutellum and pleurae more greyish. One distinct pair of presutural, inter-alar and supra-alar bristles. Mesonotal setulae indistinctly seriated. No dorsocentrals. Cilia of second costal section uniform, costal index 2 : 1, fourth-vein index 4 : 3. Coxae, femora and tibiae black cinereous, tarsi and the knees of first legs yellow. Hind and mid tibiae with a strong ventral spur at the tip.

Abdomen: Greenish grey, somewhat shining. Abdominal index 1.5 : 1.

Length: Body, 2.2 mm.; wings, 2.4 mm.

Holotype ♂, Doab (130 km. North-West of Kaboul), July 31, 1959.

Allotype ♀, five paratypes same date.

— The species is closely related to *glaucella* Stenh., but the species are quite distinct by a.o. the values of their head index, *olma* 3 : 1, *glaucella* 2 : 1.

(*Discocerina*) *hilla* n.sp.

Male, female. *Head*: Frons and the flattened face dull brownish, antennae yellow, dullish in the upper part of third segment. Arista with five rays. Arrangement of facial and frontal bristles *vide* figure 5. Head index 6 : 1.

Thorax: Mesonotum brown-grey, not as dusted as the frons, no indications of darker stripes, towards sides and scutellum with a metallic lustre. One pair of humeral, presutural and inter-alar bristles. No dorsocentrals. A long and strong posterior supra-alar bristle. Of the legs the coxae, femora and tibiae are black with the knees somewhat paler, while tarsi are yellow with the last three joints darkened. Wings faintly yellowish, ciliation of second costal section not irregular. Costal index 3 : 1, fourth-vein index 7 : 4. *Abdomen*: Dusted especially about base, more shining black at sides and tip. Abdominal index 1.5 : 1.

Length: body, 2.7 mm.; wings, 2.3 mm.

Holotype ♂, Tang-Azao (Hezaradjat, 190 km. Est Hérat), August 20, 1957.

Allotype ♀, six paratypes same data.

The specimens were collected in a cave, situated at an altitude of 2,600 m, one specimen was captured, however, just outside the cave in the ground.

The species may be identified by its dullish-brown, flat face, with its bristles and the colour of the legs. It seems to be closely related to *plumosa* Fall.

Mosillus Latr.

subsultans Fabr. — Darreh-Khochouk (near Darren-Zang), May 27, 1959, five specimens. — The species is known from Europe, North Africa, Central Asia and Formosa.

Psilopa Fall.

compta Meig. — Doab (130 km. North Kaboul), July 31, 1959, nine specimens; Faizabad, July 13, 1959, three specimens, August 15, 1960, one specimen. — One of the most common *Psilopa* species known from throughout Europe, North Africa and U.S.A.

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