

# Notes and Descriptions of Egyptian Acalyptate Diptera

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George C. Steyskal

Holotype, Geneifa, Suez Mudur., Egypt. 23 September 1925 (Kasim) in FS. Paratypes: 3, same data as holotype, in USNM; 3, Geneifa, 12 Oct. 1926 (Selim and Tewfik), in FS; Ismailia, 28 July 1924 (Mistkawi), on tamarisk, in FS and USNM; 1, Fayid, Suez Mudur., 24 Sept. 1925 (Kasim), in FS.

## *Scotiocephalus pallidisetis* Becker (Fig. 1C<sub>2</sub>)

1903 Mittell. Zool. Mus. Berlin 2: 174, pl. 4c, figs. 30-31; 1926. in Lindner, H., Die Fliegen d. pal. Reg. 6, (fam. 56): 51, figs. 69, 70; Collin, 1949. Bull. Soc. Fouad 1er Entomol. 33: 214; Soika, 1957 Ann. Mus. Civ. Stor. Nat. Genova 69: 100.

Becker described the species from Alexandria, Collin recorded it from Helwan and Lake Qarun, and Soika added the only extra-Egyptian record, Giarabub Oasis, just west of Siwa in Libya. I have seen the specimens on which Collin based his report and can confirm that no *S. monochaeta* is among them. I have also seen specimens in MA from Wadi Arish, North Sinai; Fayid; and Geneifa. All this material shows 3 or 4 rays on the arista and has longer apical part of wing than in *S. monochaeta*. Figure 1C<sub>2</sub> shows the part of the wing that projects when the basal half is coincident with that of *S. monochaeta*. Since the figures given by Becker are quite inaccurate, it may be remarked that the profile of the head is as shown for *S. monochaeta* in figure 1D, only the arista being different.

## Family Milichiidae

The genera of the family Milichiidae that have been found in Egypt may be separated as follows:

- 1 (2) Face with pronounced median tubercle; *tp* lacking ... *Risa* Becker
- 2 (1) Face without median tubercle; *tp* usually present.
- 3 (4) *tp* lacking; wings present only in very young adult, soon breaking off; tergites of abdomen reduced, appearing as isolated sclerites in membranous abdominal wall; found in bird nests ... *Carnus* Nitzsch
- 4 (3) *tp* present; wings retained; abdominal tergites well developed, contiguous to each other.
- 5 (6) Costa distinctly ciliate with several setae much longer than others (costal break at end of *Sc* with a deep notch, 2nd section of *C* overlapping base of 3rd section; postocellars small, not convergent, chequering base of eyes height ... *Horaismoptera* Hendel

- 6 (5) Costa with short even setulae or nearly bare.
  - 7 (10) Wings with costal notch, *Sc* ending in bottom of notch and one section of *C* overlapping the other; cheeks very narrow (Milichiinae).
  - 8 (9) Posterior margin of eye evenly arcuate ... *Milichia* Meigen
  - 9 (8) Posterior margin of eye with angular emargination ... *Milichiella* Giglio-Tos
  - 10 (7) Wings with costal break but notch at end of *Sc*.
  - 11 (18) Postocellar bristles convergent; labellae lengthened; vibrissae stronger than adjacent bristles (Madizinae).
  - 12 (15) Mesonotum and front evenly shining.
  - 13 (14) Head and thorax wholly black; 1 pair of dorsocentral bristles ... *Madiza* Fallen
  - 14 (13) Head and thorax partly yellowish; 2 pairs of dorsocentrals ... *Aldrichomyza* Hendel
  - 15 (12) At least front partly dull.
  - 16 (17) Front with gray longitudinal interfrontal stripes contrasting with darker remainder or front ... *Desmometopa* Loew
  - 17 (16) Front without contrasting interfrontal stripes ... *Leptomotopa* Becker
  - 18 (11) Postocellars parallel to divergent; labellae not lengthened; vibrissae not stronger than adjacent peristomal bristles (Carninae).
  - 19 (20) Costa distinct as far as tip of 4th vein; *ta* and *tp* farther apart than length of last section of 5th vein ... *Hemeromyia* Coquillett
  - 20 (19) Costa distinct only to tip of 3rd vein; *ta* and *tp* separated by less than length of last section of 5th vein ... *Meoneura* Rondani
- The subfamilies of Milichiidae are rather poorly defined. Their composition in the Egyptian fauna is indicated above, but it is not practical to bring the genus *Carnus* in a key near the other members of the Carninae, and it is still doubtful where *Risa* and *Horaismoptera* should be placed. The following notes are therefore arranged alphabetically.

## *Aldrichomyza longirostris* Hendel

1931. Bull. Soc. Roy. Entomol. Egypte 15: 71.

The types of this species are in FS; and other specimens are in FS and MA, all from the Gebel Elba area (Wadi Beida, W. Edeib, W. Um Biar Qoseir). The male is not essentially different from the female. Hendel stated that there are 2 dorsocentrals, but the specimens frequently show 3

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plus another short one; strong pre-scutellars are always present; and posterior mesonotum and most of scutellum are sometimes yellowish.

*Carnus hemipterus* Nitzsch

1818. German Mag. Entomol. 3: 305.

This species is found in nests of a number of different kinds of birds in Europe, northern India, and North America. Specimens were taken from a nest of raven, *Corvus corax tingitanus*, 25 kms. west of Mersa Matruh; 28 April 1950 (M. N. Kaiser), and are deposited in USNM.

Genus *Desmometopa* Loew

The 2 species of this genus known to occur in Egypt may be separated as follows:

Cheek largely black, at most reddish in triangular area immediately below eye, 1/3 as high as eye; palpus yellowish, only apically blackened, not greatly enlarged in male; tarsi brown to black .....

..... *D. m-nigrum* (Zetterstedt)

Cheek uniformly reddish, 1/5 as high as eye; palpus in male greatly enlarged and mottled, in female darkened below and apically; tarsi yellowish except apical 2 segments .....

..... *D. sp.*, near *singaporensis* Kertész

Both of these species are of very wide distribution. The Egyptian records are listed below.

*Desmometopa m-nigrum* (Zetterstedt)

1818. Dipt. Scand. 7: 2713.

Abu Kir (FS, MA); Abu Rauwash (MA); Abu Zeneima, Sinai (MA); Aswan (FS); Cairo (Gazira; Giza; Shubra) (FS, MA); Dakhla Oasis (FS); Helwan (FS); Idfina (MA); Ismailia (MA); Kharga Oasis (MA), Manshiet Radwan, Giza Mudur. (MA); Mansuria (USNM).

*Desmometopa sp.* near *singaporensis* Kertész

Research is necessary to establish the valid name for this species, according to C. W. Sobrosky. Aswan; Cairo (Giza; Doqqi); Matqana; Sinnures (all in MA).

Genus *Hemeromyia* Coquillett

*Hemeromyia remotinervis* (Strobl) (1902, Glasnik Zem. Mus. Bosn. Kherts, 14: 502; *Agromyza*) and *H. anthracina* Collin (1949, Bull. Soc. Fouad 1<sup>re</sup> Entomol. 33: 222) are both known in Egypt only from Maryut, 14-15 Feb. 1923. Specimens are in FS bearing an unsigned determination label as *H. remotinervis* (Strobl). The Collin species was described from a single female. It would seem that the status of these 2 names needs investigation.

*Horismoptera vulpina* Hendel

1937. Wien. Entomol. Ztg. 28: 240.

This characteristic species was described from the island of Sokotra and Abd-el-Kari, a small island near it. The only other known collections are from Iran (Makran Chahber coast) and Egypt (Ghardaqa = Hurghefa), 20 July 1935, 25 July 1938, 20 May and 14 Nov. 1951, all collected by H.C. Efflatoun and in FS).

*Leptomelops rufifrons* Becker

1903. Mittell. Zool. Mus. Berlin 2: 189.

This species may be distinguished from others in the genus by having its head longer than high, with cheeks approximately half the eye-height, and front with reddish anterior area. The type locality is Suez, and specimens are in MA from the following Egyptian localities: Abu Rauwash; Ismailia; Kafr Hakim; Kerdasa; Wadi El-Gobo; Wadi Gharaghid. It is also known from the Canary Islands, northern Africa, southern Europe, and Central Asia.

*Madiza glabra* Fallén

1870. Dipt. Suec., Oscinides: 9.

This is a nearly cosmopolitan species known in Egypt only from Wadi Carawi, 6 May 1925 (MA).

Genus *Mesonura* Rondani

The flies of this genus are very small, and the species are difficult to distinguish. Only the following 2 species are known from Egypt.

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*Meoneura nitidiuscula* Collin

1949. Bull. Soc. Foud. Entomol. 33: 224.

According to Collin, this species may be distinguished by the following combination of characters: 1 pair of dorsocentral bristles; pale yellow halteres; anterior part of front distinctly reddish; ocellar triangle not distinct from rest of front; thorax more shining and sparsely haired than in *M. obscurella*. It was described from Siwa Oasis and no other specimens are known.

*Meoneura obscurella* Fallén

1823. Dipt. Suec., Agromyzidae: 6

This species is the type species of the genus and was reported from Egypt as *Psaltotus primus* Becker (syn.) from Cairo and Faiyum. It may be distinguished from the preceding species by the following characters: 3 pairs of dorsocentral bristles; ocellar triangle attaining middle of front; mesonotum and abdomen matt with relatively dense brownish gray pruinosity. The presence of this species in Egypt needs confirmation.

Genus *Milichia* Meigen

The palaearctic species of *Milichia* :smofoj se poustnauisp eq Avu

- 1 (16) Males.
- 2 (13) Abdomen silvery white or with silvery bands or spots.
- 3 (8) Tergites 2-5 wholly silvery.
- 4 (5) Tergites with longish dark hairs on whole surface; mesonotum wholly black ..... *M. segugi* Hennig
- 5 (4) Tergites with 1-4 rows of hairs posteriorly only; mesonotum often more or less whitish anteriorly.
- 6 (7) Tergites with only a single posterior row of hairs; mesonotum wholly blackish gray pruinose; wings whitish, eyes entirely bare ..... *M. integra* Becker
- 7 (6) Tergites with 2-4 rows of hairs, with more than 2 rows only in middle part of tergite; wing with anterior dark marks, eyes lightly and indistinctly haired ..... *M. speciosa* Mg. and ? sp. *decora* Lw.
- 8 (2) Silvery areas of abdominal tergites restricted.

- 9 (10) 3rd, 4th, and 5th tergites wholly silvery ..... *M. nitida* Becker
- 10 (9) 3rd tergite not wholly silvery.
- 11 (12) 4th and 5th tergites wholly silvery, only sides of 2nd and 3rd tergites silvery ..... *M. mixta* Becker
- 12 (11) 2nd, 3rd, and 4th tergites silvery only in middle and at sides ..... *M. albomaculata* Strobl
- 13 (2) Abdomen without silvery areas, with more or less distinct pairs of brown, haired spots on intermediate tergites; mesonotum ashy gray.
- 14 (15) Incurved lower orbital bristles very small, hairlike; halteres blackish; 1 pair of dorsocentral bristles ..... *M. pubescens* Becker
- 15 (14) Incurved lower orbital bristles long and strong; halteres whitish, 4 pairs of dorsocentral bristles decreasing in length anteriorly ..... *M. sinaiensis* new species
- 16 (1) Females (female of *M. integra* not known).
- 17 (18) Abdominal tergites with white to yellowish pruinose spots. .... *M. speciosa* Mg. and ? sp. *decora* Loew
- 18 (17) Tergites without such spots.
- 19 (22) Incurved lower orbital bristles small, hairlike, lunule bare or with minute setae, halteres blackish.
- 20 (21) Abdominal tergites wholly dull blackish brown, not shining; mesonotum ashy gray ..... *M. pubescens* Becker
- 21 (20) Tergites more or less shining, at least apically; mesonotum more or less strongly shining ..... *M. albomaculata* Strobl  
*M. mixta* Becker; *M. nitida* Becker
- 23 (24) Mesonotum dull brown; legs black; halteres black (Europe) ..... *M. ludens* (Wahlberg)
- 24 (23) Mesonotum ashy gray; legs black, but distinctly reddish at base of tibiae; halteres whitish (Sinai) ..... *M. sinaiensis* new species

*Milichia integra* Becker

1922. Denkschr. Akad. Wiss. Wien, Math.-Naturwiss. Klasse 98: 71.

This species was described from Tonga and El Obeld, Sudan and erroneously listed as from Egypt by Hennig (Hennig) (1937, Die Fliegen d. Pal. Reg. 6 (fam. 60a): 21).

Bull. Soc. ent. Egypte. L. 1946.



*Milichia nitida* Becker

1907. Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung. 5: 520.

The type is a female from the Canary Islands. The species has not been recorded since. In the FS. collections are 2 females and 3 males from Wadi Um Girfan, 22 April 1927 (Eiffeloun and Tewfik) and in MA 1 male from El Timid, 25 May 1935 (Kasim). Both localities are in Sinai. The associated sexes in the Wadi Um Girfan material enable me to describe the male.

Male. Silvery white on posterior margin of tergite 2 and all of tergites 3, 4, and 5 when viewed from rear; tergites 1 and 2 lightly grayish pruinose when viewed from front; tergites 3 and 4 each with 3 rows of small bristles in entire width; tergite 5 with 4 rows of similar bristles, apical and lateral bristles not markedly enlarged or elongated; frons lightly gray pruinose when viewed from front, about 1/3 width of an eye, wings virtually hyaline, veins a little brown in apical half; halteres black; squamas and fringe white.

In as much as no characters are available to separate the females of *M. albomaculata* Strobl, *M. mixta* Becker, and *M. nitida* Becker and the above-described male differs from *M. mixta* and *M. albomaculata* apparently only in extent of silvery vestiture of the abdomen, it is possible that both *mixta* and *nitida* are synonyms or variations of the earliest-described of these 3 species, *M. albomaculata* Strobl. However, dissections of the male postabdomen should be made in order to arrive at a firm decision.

*Milichia pubescens* Becker

1907. Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung. 5: 519.

This species was described from the Canary Islands. Becker stated in the original description that he had also reported it from Cairo and Luxor as *Lobioplectra ludens* (Wahlberg) in 1903.

*Milichia sinaiensis*, new species (Fig. 3A)

Male. Length of wing, 2.3-3.1 mm.

Color of body black, abdomen sometimes a little brownish medially, base of all tibiae yellowish; tegula and palpus yellowish; huller with stem yellow, knob white; very faintly brown-tinged apically, basally hyaline; squamae and fringes white. Thorax, head, and femora gray pruinose; tibiae

♀ 3.1 mm: 401, 5 dc  
Abdomen silvery yellow

and tarsi subshining; abdomen mostly subshining with narrow complete median stripe, expanded basally, and more or less of base and narrow apical margin of each segment lightly gray pruinose.

Head as in figure 3A, bristling strong and long, lunule with 2 small proclinate median bristles; front 0.237 of total head width.

Mesonotum with 4 pairs of dorsocentral bristles decreasing in length anteriorly, 1 strong pair of prescutellar acrostichals, about 10 irregular rows of anterior acrostichal hairs. Scutellum without hairs, with 2 pairs of marginals only. Middle femur with posteroventral fringe longer than width of femur. Wing with costal incision as long as 1/4.

Abdomen with 3rd and 4th tergites of equal length, 5th tergite 1/4 longer, without long bristles; 3rd and 4th tergites with approximately 6 rows of hairs in apical 1/4, 5th tergite nearly wholly covered with small hairs; apical hairs of segments larger, bristly.

Female. Length of wing, 3.2 - 3.6 mm; front 0.39 of total head width; otherwise similar to male, but somewhat paler at base of abdomen.

Holotype and allotype, Wadi Ilak, near Rabba, South Sinai, 26 - 31 July 1943 (Eiffeloun). Paratypes: 4 females, 1 male, same data as holotype; 3 females same locality, 5-10 July 1943 (HCE and Sh. M.); 1 pair, Wadi El-Arbeine, South Sinai, Aug.-Sept. 1940 (HCE and Sh. M.); 5 females 1 male, Wadi El-Lega, South Sinai, June-Sept. 1941 (HCE); 1 female Wadi El-Ehsah (Wadi Esh-Sheikh), South Sinai, 21-27 April 1939 (HCH); all in FS, except 3 females and 1 male paratypes from type locality in USNM.

The relationships of this species may be gleaned from the preceding key to the genus. It is apparently closely related to *M. pubescens* Becker, but probably even more closely to *M. apicalis* Sabrosky (from Tanganyika) and *M. mediceis* Sabrosky (from Somalia), but both of these latter have small and fine lower orbital bristles.

Genus *Milichiella* Giglio-Tos

The 2 species recorded from Egypt may be separated as follows in the male sex; distinctive characters for the females are not known.

Whole abdomen silvery shining above; tarsi yellowish, except last segments ..... *M. argentiventris* Hendel

Abdomen wholly shining black; tarsi wholly black. .... *M. lacteipennis* (Loew)



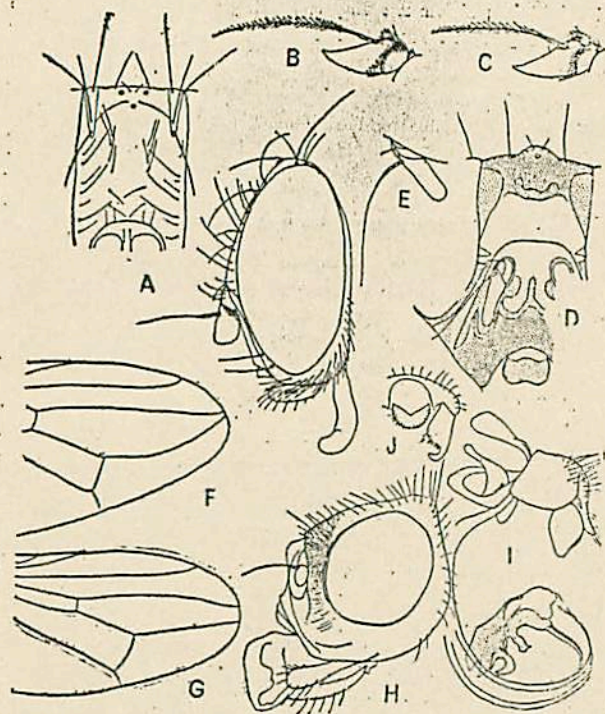


Figure 3: Milichiidae: *Milichia sinuensis*, n. sp. - A, anterior view of front and lateral view of entire head; Otitidae: *Melieria omisa misrica*, n. subsp. - B, lateral view of antenna of male from Wadi Saiyali; C, ditto of female from Helwan. *Physiphora elbae*, n. sp. - D, anterior view of middle part of head; E, lateral view of antenna; F, apical part of wing. *Uridia wadicola*, n. sp. - G, apical part of wing; H, lateral view of head (reddish area stippled); I, rear view of male epandrium, cerci, and surstylus of one side; J, lateral view of male andrium.

*Milichiella argenteiventris* Hendel

1931. Bull. Soc. Roy. Entomol. Egypte 15: 72.

The type and other specimens are in FS and a few are in MA; all are from the Gebel Elba region.

*Milichiella lacteipennis* (Loew)

1866. Berlin. Entomol. Zts. 9: 185 (Cent. 6, no. 97).

This species is nearly cosmopolitan. A specimen in MA is from Isma-  
ilia and one in USNM is from Alexandria.

*Risa longirostris* Becker

1907. Zts. Hymenopterol. Dipterol. 7: 404.

This very distinctive species was described from Biskra, Algeria; and  
not since recorded. A specimen from Wadi Gharaghid, 24 Oct. 1925 (Kasim)  
is in MA.

Family Otitidae

*Ceroxys urticae euzonus*, new subspecies

*Mechelia urticae* (L.) Becker, 1903. Mitteil. Zool. Mus. Berlin 2: 130.

*Ceroxys urticae* (L.) Hennig, 1939, in Lindner, E., Die Fliegen d. pal. Reg. 5 (fam.  
46-47): 58, in part Egyptian material).

Male. Very similar to typical form from Europe, but gray pruinose band  
on base of 4th tergite of abdomen complete in nearly equal width to later-  
al margins and across middle of segment; base of third tergite also with  
narrow gray band; apex of abdomen with yellow equilateral triangle ext-  
ending to lateral margins of tergite; basal wing band scarcely attaining costa  
(though brown markings generally a little broader); head a little paler, with-  
out infuscation along frontal orbits; posterior tibia sometimes mostly brown.  
Postabdomen same as in typical subspecies, as shown by specimen from  
Vienna, Austria.

Female. Similar to male; ovipositor wholly black.

Bull. Soc. ent. Egypte, L, 1966.