PROCEEDINGS OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

Vol. 99

Washington: 1949

No. 3249

A REMARKABLE NEW SPECIES OF TRYPETID FLY OF THE GENUS CERATITIS (SENSU STRICTO) FROM EAST AFRICA IN THE COLLECTION OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

By H. K. MUNRO

In working over a small collection of flies of the family Trypetidae received for identification from the United States National Museum, the writer found a short series of a new species of the genus *Ceratitis* MacLeay, which is here described.

CERATITIS (CERATITIS) CAETRATA, new species

This small species is the fourth to be placed in *Ceratitis* (sensu stricto), but only the second from the African Continent. The males are characterized by the anterior upper orbital bristle that has a flat expansion at the tip; in this species the bristle is very long, 0.9 width of head, and the expansion small, black, and circular. In the medium-sized capitata (Wiedemann) the bristle is 0.5 width of head, the expansion black and lozenge-shaped; in malgassa Munro from Madagascar, also of medium size, the bristle is 0.5 width of head, the expansion small and white; and in the large catoirei Guérin from Mauritius the bristle is 0.7 width of head, the expansion large, shield-shaped, and white.

This species is characterized also by the absence of inferior orbital bristles and the very elongate vertical plates in the male, and in both sexes by the prominent from and details of coloration, especially of the

dorsum of the thorax.

Holotype male, allotype female, U. S. N. M. No. 58820, and two male paratypes, Nairobi, British East Africa, N. L. H. Krauss, April—May 1936 (Kr. 7), from fruits of *Teclea trichocarpa*; one male paratype, Nairobi, British East Africa, May 1936, N. L. H. Krauss, from fruits of *Brucea antidysenterica*. (Two male paratypes of the first series retained in the South African National Collection of Insects.)

Length, male 4.6 mm. (small male 4.0 mm.), female 4.5 mm.; wing,

male 4.6 mm. (small male 4.3 mm.), female 4.1 mm

HEAD, male (fig. 39, a), length: height: width, 5.5:8:10, short, pale yellow behind and below, deeper yellow above and in front; eye, length 0.7 width, somewhat narrowed below; posteriorly broadly black above, beard short, pale, a row of short, brownish, postorbital bristles, postocellars brownish, inner verticals yellowish, the outers black; from very prominent and swollen anteriorly; seen from above there is posteriorly a large, yellowish, subtranslucent vertical triangle on which is the smaller ocellar dot, black between the ocelli; also translucent are the elongate vertical plates, which extend as far as the anterior edge of the eyes bearing at the front end a moderate tubercle with the very long, flattened, anterior upper orbital bristle, which ends in a relatively small, almost circular, dense black disc set at right angles to the flattening of the stem; the disc is 0.2 mm, in diameter, the total length of the bristle 1.35 mm., 0.9 width of head. The median part of the frons between the vertical plates is opaque, yellow in front, becoming brownish yellow on each side of the vertical triangle; the anterior part before the disc bristles is vertical, and the lower orbital bristles are absent; width of frons 0.7 length at vertex, 0.8 at antennae, 0.35 width of head; ocellars brownish, moderate; very slight, pale pubescence anteriorly and some longer, black on ocellar dot.

Head, female, short, narrowed below, length, at antennae 5.5: at epistome 4.0: height 8: width 10; from yellow, moderately swollen anteriorly and with slight, black pubescence, bristles normal, two lower, two upper orbitals, occllars strong; male and female, lunule very short; antennae (both lost in female) 0.6 face, second joint with pale setae, third rounded at end, its width 0.6 length, arista short-pubescent above; face wide, flat, yellow, grooves short, moderately deep, cheeks and genae narrow, genal bristle very weak or not differentiated in male, normal, black in female; epistome flat; proboscis yellow, in dry specimen labella apparently of moderate length, about 0.8 length of mouth opening which is rather large and squarish in front; palpi yellow, normal, width 0.4 length.

THORAX: Dorsum (fig. 39, b), brown to light ferruginous, moderate gray dust and pale yellow pubescence; dark spots bare, shining, black to blackish brown, yellow areas (dotted) bare, shining; bristles black, normal, one mesopleural, pale hairs on propleura, scapulars pale yel

low; pleura pale ferruginous, gray dust and pale pubescence, hypopleura with a slight, brownish, horizontal, median, weak streak; scutellum moderately swollen, shining black, divided by usual yellow bars, the posterior pair incomplete, apical bristles 0.75 basals, slight pale pubescence on disc; postscutellum, upper part black, lower ferruginous, gray-dusted; squamae pale yellow, of moderate width; halteres yellow; legs yellow, femora deeper yellow, first pair with row of yellow bristles below and yellow hairs above, tibiae paler yellow, yellow clothing, midpair with strong, apical, black spur, tarsi yellow to blackish, with black clothing; wing (fig. 39, c), third vein setose to middle of first posterior cell, basal band pale yellow, with pale black outer margins, marginal band mainly black outwardly, cubital black, the two latter not united to basal or very faintly.

Abdomen short, yellow, brown pubescence, a band of gray dust on posterior 0.3 of tergum 2, narrowed to sides, and on posterior 0.75 of tergum 4, black apical bristles strong, on penultimate tergum as well in female; oviscape short, 0.5 mm., 0.12 wing length, flat in specimen, yellow, pubescence pale brown; male terminalia not examined.

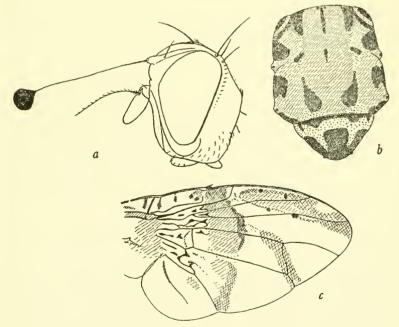


Figure 39.—Ceratitis (Ceratitis) caetrata, new species: a, Head of male in profile, with antenna, arista, and long disc bristle drawn fully extended; b, dorsum of thorax; c, wing.