Host plants of Euperys atropunctata (Goeze) (Hem., Cricetellidae). — The leafhopper Euperys atropunctata is a noted polyphage feeding on a variety of labiates and several other families of herbaceous plants (Stewart, 1988, J. nat. hist. 22: 357-379). So far it has never been observed feeding on betony, Bétonica officinalis L., a fairly ubiquitous labiate in southern England. On 11.viii.1990, while admiring a particularly large stand of this plant in full flower at Beer, south Devon, I noted a few leaves with signs of leafhopper damage. After a considerable search I managed to collect three adult last instar nymphs of an unknown Euperys species. The nymphs moulted into adults a few days later and were subsequently identified as E. atropunctata.

On 10.ix.1990, I discovered nymphs and adults of E. atropunctata in a patch of great mullein, Verbascum thapsus L., near Sittingbourne, Kent. This is a known hostplant of second generation E. atropunctata, although there have been few records to date. Interestingly, nearly all of the nymphs were found on vigorous healthy plants whereas only two individuals were collected from equally aged plants smothered with powdery mildew, Erisiphe echinococcum. It would be interesting to know whether these females can distinguish between healthy and mildew infected plants earlier in the summer when the damage is presumably less apparent. Alternatively the rate of development and survival of nymphs on fungal infected plants may be different from those on healthy plants. It is also interesting to speculate whether the type of feeding damage caused by the leafhoppers (or other sucking insects) contributed in any way to the spread of powdery mildew. — JOHN BADMIN, Coppice Place, Percy Wood, Selling, nr. Faversham, Kent ME13 9RP: November 5th, 1990.

Notes on two Homoptera new to the Isles of Scilly. — The leafhopper Euperys filicium (Neuman) may be separated from closely related species by its lack of promontl and submedian markings, and its predilection for ferns. As a native of the more frequently in the moister, warmer regions of Britain, particularly in Devon and Cornwall where ferns grow profusely and often form the dominant vegetation. It was therefore natural to search for this species among ferns on the neighbouring Isles of Scilly while on holiday there in August 1990. The Isles have a rich fern flora with a total of 26 pteridophytes, excluding horsetails and clubmosses, compared with 28 species from nearby Cornwall. Intermediate Polytopsy. Polytopsy interjectum Stius, one of the preferred hostplants of E. filicium (Stewart, 1988, J. nat. hist. 22: 357-379) was present on walls, rocks and in hedges on the five main islands. However despite numerous searches of likely habitats on all five inhabited and several uninhabited islands, no evidence of E. filicium could be found initially.

A population of 20 to 30 individuals of E. filicium was eventually discovered at Holy Vale on St Mary’s, the largest of the islands, at the end of my visit, on 16th August. This habitat, situated in a sunken valley and surrounded by elm trees, is probably the most protected site on the island and the ideal environment for ferns were feeding on P. interjectum and Dryopteris filix-mas (L.) From this it might be deduced that E. filicium is a native species of the Isles of Scilly, albeit a very local one. Nearly all of the leafhoppers were associated with ferns growing on walls or in gardens, and only a few were disturbed from natural vegetation nearby. It is therefore just possible that filicium is an introduced rather than a native species. A search of the area earlier in the year when nymphs are present might provide a better idea of the extent of the colony.

The highly localised distribution of E. filicium is in itself not a prima facie reason for excluding filicium as a native species. For example, the planthopper Stenocorpus longipes (Curtin) was found only at Higher Moors on the island of St Mary’s, where it was obviously restricted to a few large specimens of tussock sedge, Carex penticulata L. These plants were growing naturally far from human habitation and have been known from this locality for at least 50 years. S. longipes would appear to be a true native of the Scillies. This species is a rather local insect elsewhere in Britain, and has only been recorded from three post-1969 localities, two in southern England and one in north mid Wales. The nearest pre-1970 locality is west of Carmelford in north Cornwall, nearly 100 km away. — JOHN BADMIN, Coppice Place, Percy Wood, Selling, nr. Faversham, Kent ME13 9RP: October 29th, 1990.

NEW SPECIES OF CARNIDAE AND LAUXANIDAE (DIPTERA) FROM SPAIN

BY M. CARLES-TOLRÁ

ABSTRACT

One new species of Carnidae (Hemeromyia longirostris sp. n.) and two new species of Luxanidae (Sapromyza (Sapromyza) parallela sp. n. and Sapromyza (Sapromyza) laevigata sp. n.) are described from Spain.

Among my collection of Spanish Carnidae and Luxanidae I found three species new to science, representing a very interesting genus and subgenus with few known species.

The genus Hemeromyia Coquillett is represented in the palaearctic region by only three species (Papp, 1984). It is easily distinguished from the other two carnid genera, because its posterior transverse vein is well separated from the anterior transverse vein, being in the middle of the wing.

The genus Sapromyza Fallén is actually divided into three subgenera, of which only Sapromyza Lioy has the ocellar bristles placed outside the ocellar triangle. This subgenus is represented by four species in the Palaearctic region (Papp, 1984).

CARNIDAE

Hemeromyia longirostris sp. n.

Male. General color dark brown to blackish. Head (fig. 1): frons and occiput blackish; frontal triangle overlapping the middle of the frons, not reaching anterior margin; anterior margin of the frons with 2 convergent bristles in the middle; 2 or 2 or. Antenna dark brown, arista microspiculate. Pro- boscis brown and very long, labella small, palpus brown and very small. Gena narrow, as high as 1/6 of ocellar height, anterior part protruding and with 2 pairs of strong bristles, 1-3 or other posterior bristles below eye present. Thorax blackish brown, pleura somewhat darker. 1+3 dc, 1 post, 1 proc, mesopleuron slightly hairy, 2 m (1 posterodorsal backwards and 1 posteroventral upwards), 1 st. scutellum blackish brown, 2, 2 ac. Legs dark brown, tarsi somewhat darker. Fore femur with 2 distal posteroventral bristles (anterior smaller), hind femur with 1 distal anteroventral bristle. Right fore leg absent.

Wing as in H. remontinis (Strobol), veins R2, and R3, clearly divergent apically. Haltere white.

Abdomen brown, sternites widening gradually to the postabdomen.

Genitalia (fig. 2): median with 1 black tooth in the proximal middle. Total body length: 1.5 mm.

Female unknown.


30th April, 1992 Vol. 128 (1992)
Hemeromyia longirostris is closely related to H. remotinervis (Strobl); the species differ in the number of dorsocentrales and the length of the proboscis. The specific name refers to the great length of the proboscis.

Figs 1–2. — Hemeromyia longirostris sp. n.: 1, head (lateral); 2, genitalia (posterior).
Figs 3–5. — Sapromyza (Sapromyzosoma) parallela sp. n.: 3, gonites (ventral); 4, aedeagus and basal bifurcation of the gonites (ventral); 5, aedeagus (lateral). Scales = 0.2 mm.

Sapromyza (Sapromyzosoma) parallela sp. n.

Male. General colour reddish-yellow.
Head, antennae and palpi completely reddish-yellow; oc inserted outside ocellar triangle; 2 oes. Arista micropubescent.
Thorax completely reddish-yellow. Chaetotaxy: 1 hu, 2 np, 1 prst, 0+3 dc, ac in 4 rows, 1 sa, 2 pa, 1 prsc, 2 sc, 1 pp, 1 mp and 2 st. Meso- and sternopleura hairs.
Legs completely reddish-yellow. Mid tibia with 2 unequal ventroapical spurs; hind tibia with 1 ventroapical spur slightly curved and without a brush of dense thick black bristles.
Wing uniformly yellowish; ta-ta twice as long as tp. Haltere yellowish.
Abdomen completely yellow. Tergite 6 with 1 pair of lateral brown spots, tergites 3–6 with long posterior bristles.
Genitalia: epandrium yellow. Gonites of characteristic form (fig. 3); basal bifurcation of the gonites very large (fig. 4); aedeagus (fig. 5) very large and long.
Total body length: 4.8 mm.
Female unknown.
Sapromyza (Sapromyzosoma) parallela is closely related to S. (S.) quadricornis Becker; the species differ exclusively in genital characters.
The specific name refers to the parallel disposition of the spikes of the gonites.

Sapromyza (Sapromyzosoma) laevatrispina sp. n.

Male. General colour reddish-yellow.
Head, antennae and palpi completely reddish-yellow; oc inserted outside ocellar triangle; 2 oes. Arista micropubescent.
Thorax completely reddish-yellow. Chaetotaxy: 1 hu, 2 np, 1 prst, 0+3 dc, ac in 4 rows, 1 sa, 2 pa, 1 prsc, 2 sc, 1 pp, 1 mp and 2 st. Meso- and sternopleura hairs.
Legs completely reddish-yellow. Mid tibia with 2 unequal ventroapical spurs; hind tibia with 1 ventroapical spur slightly curved and without a brush of dense thick black bristles.
Wing uniformly yellowish; ta-ta twice as long as tp. Haltere yellowish.
Abdomen completely yellow. Tergite 5–6 with 1 pair of lateral brown spots, tergites 3–6 with long posterior bristles.
Genitalia (figs 6, 9): epandrium yellow. Gonites very large and fused to each other at the middle; left gonite ending in 1 left-curved spine; right gonite bifid, with 2 also left-curved spines (0–1 more basal reduced spikes may be present in any of both sides of right gonite, fig. 9); basal bifurcation of the gonites enlarged (fig. 7), very reduced (fig. 10).
Aedeagus of variable size (fig. 8a–b, 11).
Total body length: 4.4–5.3 mm.
Female unknown.
deposited in the author’s collection, 1 paratype deposited in the Hungarian Natural History Museum (Budapest).

_Sapromyza (Sapromyzosoma) laevarispina._ is closely related to _S. (S.) quadricincta_ Becker, the species differ exclusively in genital characters.

Two little-known wasps: _Homonotus sanguinolentus_ (F.) and _Eudynomys quadri- fasciatus_ (F.) (Hym., Aculeata) in southern England in 1906 and a review of their occurrence in Britain. — During a field meeting of members of the Bect, Wasps and Ants Recording Scheme at Cranes Moor, Burley, New Forest, Hampshire, 8.vii.1906, I found a male of the very rare pompilid _Homonotus sanguinolentus_ running over a sandy heathland path. This species is only known in Britain from about a dozen specimens collected in a few sites in Surrey, Hampshire and Dorset since the discovery by D. Sharp of a ? in the New Forest, 18.vii.1900 (Saunders, 1900, _Entomologist’s mon. Mag._, 36: 206–207 (specimen in UMZC)). The current record is the first for nearly thirty years. Other British records are as follows. SURREY: Holmwood, ?, 1.vii.1907 (Mortimer, _Entomologist’s mon._, 43: 211, NHML); Woking, ?, pre-1918 (G.C. Champion, NHML). DORSET: Studland heath, ?, Piplely Pit, ?, 21.vii.1935 (C.D. Day, NHML); Furzebrook, ?, 25.vii.1943 (H.L. Andrews, Dorset County Museum Dorchester); Morden, 5.C ?, 27.vii.1956 (P. Harwood, NHML); Tadnoll Heath, ?, swept from roadside flowers, 4.viii.1962 (G.M. Spooner, NHML). On the European Continent the wasp preys on spiders in the genus _Cheluraconium_ (Cheloniidae), attacking them in their leaf-roll nests in grass (Hamm & Richards, 1939, _Trans. Soc. Br. Ent._, 6: 105–106), but this has not been confirmed for Britain.