Results of the Armstrong College expedition to Siwa Oasis (Libyan Desert), 1935, under...

This species evidently resembles *E. graeca* Beck., which however (according to Becker) has the end of scutellum yellow, and last portion of postical vein twice as long as crossveins are apart, whereas in *lenis* it is not quite one and a half times as long. Also, according to Duda, *graeca* has the jowls below eyes rather wider than third antennal joint, and darkened on lower margin, the upper part of occiput brownish, and palpi brown.

The British species to which Duda's varietal name of *rufifrons* has been applied, differs from *lenis*, *inter alia*, in having more extensively darkened occiput, entirely black (though dusted greyish) humeri, and two (lateral) shining black stripes on the otherwise dusted thorax.

CARNIDÆ.

Desmometopa M-nigrum (var. *niloticum* Beck.)

270 specimens from Siwa (Arm. Coll. Exp.). This variety is a somewhat blacker insect than the type form, with frontal orbits not so distinctly dusted, the black "M" on frons more glistening, all bristles and hairs of whole insect shorter, labellae of proboscis shorter, legs shorter (especially tarsi) and all shorter haired.

Becker (1907) professed to recognise *D. tarsalis* Lw. (originally described from Cuban specimens with entirely black palpi and pale tarsi), from among his specimens of *niloticum*, and Hendel 1907 considered that *D. singaporensis* Kertz. (1899) was a synonym of that species. There is a considerable amount of variation in Egyptian specimens in the extent and intensity of darkening at tip of palpi, but I have seen none with entirely black palpi. The tarsi often have a reddish tinge. I suspect that Becker's *tarsalis* was only an extreme form of what appears to be a very common Egyptian species. I have seen no specimen from Egypt agreeing with Kertesz's figure of wing venation of his *singaporensis*, or any specimens with the *very narrow jowls* of that species.

Leptometopa rufifrons Beck.

Also extremely common (42 males and 53 females) at Siwa, and found elsewhere in Egypt.

Leptometopa latipes Mg.

6 ♂♂ and 10 ♀♀ from Siwa, 13th to 28th August 1935 (Arm. Coll. Exp.).

Note: There is a pteropleural bristle present in both *Leptometopa rufifrons*, and *latipes*, which is not present in *Desmometopa*.

Hemeromyia anthracina sp.n., ♀.

An entirely shining black species with somewhat whitish wings, and indistinctly yellowish tarsi.

Head generally resembling that of *Meoneura*, shining black; frontal triangle not quite reaching front of frons, its front part microscopically punctate, laterally a few very small hairs; front of frons with a pair of crossed bristles, postvertical bristles small, close together and parallel. Facial orbits (or cheeks) very narrow; jowls below eyes quite half as deep as vertical diameter of eye; vibrissal angle with 3-4 strong bristles arranged fan-like, no continuous row of bristles towards back of head. Antennae widely separated at base, lying in deep foveae separated by a continuous band about as wide as second antennal joint, first joint hidden, second with a small upward- and outwardly-curved bristle, arista rather short and bare. Proboscis somewhat elongate but labellae quite small and terminal, not bent back as in *Desmometopa*.

Thorax shining, only very finely punctate with 1+3 pairs of dorsocentrals, no prescutellar acrostichals, one humeral, 2 notopleural, one presutural, one supra-alar, two postalar, and four scutellar bristles. No prothoracic or pteropleural bristle (the genotype, was described as having a small pteropleural bristle). Other hairs on disc of thorax comparatively short and inconspicuous, especially scanty on hinder part. Mesopleura (as in *Meoneura*) with an upturned bristle on lower front part, and a bristle pointing backwards at upper hind corner. One sternopleural bristle.

Abdomen shining and only very finely punctate. Second to fifth segments almost equal in length, sixth much shorter. No very distinct hind-marginal or lateral bristles.

Legs normal, black with only tarsi more or less yellowish, most distinctly so on first 1-2 joints of hind tarsi, less distinctly so on front tarsi. Front femora with a row of 3-4 short bristles both posterodorsally and posteroventrally towards tip; middle femora with 4-5 still shorter bristles anteroventrally towards tip, hind femora with a single distinct anteroventral bristle shortly before tip. Tibiae without preapical bristles and only middle tibiae with apical spur.

Wings whitish with yellowish veins; alar squamae well developed pale yellowish-white, thoracical squamae vestigial. Costa extended to end of discal vein, discal cell ending far beyond middle of wing, the last section of postical vein about equal to length of outer crossvein, discal vein equally distinct for its whole length, second basal and anal cells small but quite distinct. Halteres very pale yellow, with brownish base to stem.

Length about 2.25 mm.

Described from a single female captured at Mariout on the 15 February 1923, by Prof. Efflatoun, which will be returned to him.

The wider jowls without a row of bristles, and the venation will distinguish this species from the *Agromyza remotinervis* Strbl. placed in

Collin, 1949.

Coquillett's American genus *Hemeromyia* by Hendel in 1920 (Verh. z.-bot. Wien, p. 72). The American *H. washingtona* Mel. (*nitida* Mall.) appears, from the descriptions to bear a greater resemblance to *H. anthracina*, but according to Malloch's figure of the head, the proboscis is shorter and stouter and there is a continuous row of bristles on jowls from vibrissae to lower hind corner of eye.

Meoneura nitidiuscula sp.n., ♂♀.

A species resembling *vagans*, *exigua* and *freta* in having only one pair of dorsocentral bristles on thorax, but front of frons usually distinctly reddish, all head bristles shorter, and thorax more distinctly shining.

♂, ♀. Ocellar triangle not, or very little, differentiated from rest of frons. Antennae small and situated in deep foveae which are smaller than usual, the triangular lower part of face consequently large, the upper point of triangle quite halfway up face and black, not yellowish as in *freta*. Frontal bristles and hairs *very short*, the two pairs of upper (outcurved) orbitals, for instance, not longer than a side of the triangle made by ocelli.

Thorax and scutellum in no way dusted though microscopically somewhat punctate, and *more sparingly haired than usual*.

Abdomen shining, the first three tergites practically bare except at sides. Genitalia of male similar to that of *freta*, but without the strong bristles on shell, side lamellae similarly simple in outline but rather longer and larger with sides more parallel and end more truncate (in fact more strap-like).

Legs black with yellowish tarsi.

Wings white with pale veins. Halteres pale yellow.

Female remarkable for shortness of anal papillae, or cerci, rendering it very difficult (the male hypopygium being small) to distinguish the sexes.

Length, scarcely 1 mm.

Nine specimens taken at Siwa 21st August 1935, and one on 15th July 1935 (Arm. Coll. Exp.).

HIPPOBOSCIDÆ.

Hippobosca camelina Leach.

A female was taken by Mr. R.L. Coe at Helwan in November 1944, and a male at Lake Karoun in September 1945.

There appears to be a sexual difference in the chaetotaxy of scutellum. In both sexes there is a fringe of short yellowish bristly hairs on the lower surface of apical margin; in the male there is another fringe (or irregular

row) of much stronger, darker bristles *on upper apical margin*, the bristles at middle of the row being shorter and paler; in the female this upper row is composed of only 5-6 bristles which are *much further from margin* (more on disc) of scutellum.

Lynchia maura Big.

A specimen taken at Alexandria in November 1944 by Mr. R.L. Coe.

CORDYLURIDÆ.

Scatophaga stercoraria var. *merdaria* F.

One male from Siwa 13th August 1935 (Arm. Coll. Exp.).