

A NEW SPECIES OF CHIRONOMUS FROM JAMAICA
(CHIRONOMIDÆ)

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While examining some chironomid material, collected in Jamaica by W. S. Brooks and donated to the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University, my attention was drawn to several specimens which appeared to be representatives of *Chironomus varipennis* Coquillett, with a somewhat modified wing spotting.

Since the original description of *C. varipennis* is rather meager, and neither the male genitalia figured nor the ratio between fore tibia and fore metatarsus mentioned; one must rely, almost entirely, upon the wing characters in identifying this species.

Malloch (1915) attempted to add to the original description but since the specimens in his possession, apparently, were badly mutilated, he succeeded in contributing but a single salient fact, namely, that the fore tarsi were much elongated—the basal segment being twice as long as the fore tibia.

Fortunately, I succeeded in finding in the Harvard collection additional material (collected by Professor Nathan Banks at Falls Church, Virginia), which coincided with the original description of *C. varipennis* from the standpoint of wing venation, and with Malloch's statement that, in this species, the fore metatarsus is twice as long as the fore tibia.

This, I believe, definitely establishes *C. varipennis* which I have redescribed in this paper. The material from Jamaica, which differs from *C. varipennis* in respect to body and leg markings; wing spotting, ratio between fore tibia and fore metatarsus, and structural characters of the male genitalia, I hereby submit as a new species.

Chironomus varipennis Coquillett

Male.—Dark brown. Head brown; antennæ yellow, plumes concolorous, scape dark brown; palpi yellowish. Thorax brown, mesonotum and pleuræ with uneven silvery pruinescence; scutellum brown; postnotum brown with two lateral pruinescent spots; halteres yellowish white. Abdomen fuscous, the posterior margin of segments narrowly pruinescent; sixth, seventh and eighth blackened dorsally. Legs brown with whitish tarsi; fore femora brown with wide central yellow bands; fore tibiæ brown with distinct pre-apical yellow rings; fore metatarsi whitish, apices narrowly brown, more than twice as long as fore tibiæ (34-15). Mid and hind legs clothed with long yellow hairs; femora yellow, bases brown; tibiæ yellow with narrowly brown apices; tarsi yellowish white, all segments narrowly brown at apices. Wings whitish, with eleven pale blackish spots, iridescent in reflected light and located as follows: three in a row behind the cubitus, one before middle and another in middle of apical margin of (Cu_1), one in base of cell (R_{4+5}), another in cell below it, a third midway between the latter and base of this cell, one in middle and another at apex of cell (R_{4+5}), and a small spot at apex of cell (M_1). Hypopygium with side piece terminating in large blunt cylindrical appendage, not densely clothed with long hairs, the dorsal spine short and inconspicuous.

Female.—Similar to the male in coloration, but in some specimens the thorax may be almost black and the abdominal segments more extensively pruinescent.

Length.—3 mm., coll. by Nathan Banks, Falls Church, Va. June.

Chironomus pseudofasciata sp. nov.

Male.—Blackish brown, shining. Antennæ dark brown; plumes fuscous, scape blackish. Thorax dark brown, shoulders with silvery pruinescence; a median silvery stripe extending half way from prescutum to scutellum; on either side of mesonotum, a narrow silvery stripe extending from silvered shoulder to base of scutellum. The thoracic markings obscure in some specimens. Halteres yellowish white. Abdomen blackish; segments with narrow silvery apical bands, widened medially to form V-shaped spots. Legs

brown, banded with yellow; coxæ blackish; femora brown with subapical yellow ring; tibiæ predominately yellow, a narrow brown subbasal ring and a second narrow brown ring half way between mid-point and apex; tarsi brown with yellow bands, basal segment brown with wide central yellow band, remaining segments brown with yellow apical ring, these rings often extending beyond joint and involving base of following segment. Fore metatarsi, less than one and one-half times length of fore tibiæ (18-14). Wings with nine black spots; the five large spots at middle forming two false fasciæ, two of the remaining spots at apex (one on either side of media), the other two at base. Distal fascia, located half way between cross-vein and apex; consisting of large squarish spot below apical portion of vein (Cu_1), the second spot directly above in cell (R_{4+5}), the fascia completed centrally by distal portion of large rectangular spot in cell (M_1). Proximal fascia, immediately beyond cross-vein, consisting of squarish spot involving junction of veins (Cu_1) and (Cu_2) and extending to posterior margin of wing, the second spot directly above in basal portion of cell (R_{4+5}), completed centrally by proximal portion of large rectangular spot in cell (M_1). The basal spot in anal area usually circular, the other triangular in outline. Hypopygium with side piece terminating in sickle-shaped appendage, densely clothed with numerous long hairs. A long dorsal spine, ventrally curved.

Female.—Similar to the male in coloration.

Length.—2.50 mm. to 4.00 mm.

Coll. by W. S. Brooks, Moneague, Jamaica. February.

Faded specimens may sometimes resemble *C. varipennis* but the two species are easily separated on the basis of structural characters found in the male genitalia.

REFERENCES

- Coquillett, D. W. (1902) Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., vol, 25, p. 94.
Malloch, J. R. (1915) Bull. Ill. Sta. Lab. of Nat. Hist., vol. X, art. VI, p. 427.



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