

New Diptera Names in Hawaii.

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Keeping up with entomological synonymy may to some workers be a pleasing and fascinating sport. To most of us it is a delusive drudgery. Each time a taxonomic publication dealing with the insects of the Pacific region appears, I look through it with a sinking feeling, to see how many familiar and long-established names have been pushed into the discard, and what has been perpetrated in their stead.

The most recent publication thus perused was "Diptera Brachycera and Athericera of the Fiji Islands," by the late Mario Bezzi, published by the British Museum, 1928. In this little book are listed 239 species of flies found in Fiji. Of these 27 also occur in Hawaii. But of the 27 the names of 10 have been changed, or at least are different from those by which the species are locally known.

The species common to both Hawaii and Fiji are as follows:

DOLICHOPODIDAE

Medetera femoralis Becker.

Psilopus pallidicorne (Grimshaw) is noted as being in the genus *Chrysosoma* Guer., a Fiji species *C. greenwoodi*, being very close to it.

Chrysosoma patellifer (Thomson), described from Guam, is found in Fiji, but differs from the species known as *Psilopus* or *Gnamptopsilopus patellifer* Thomson recorded by Grimshaw and others from Hawaii. Our species is something else.

SYRPHIDAE

Ischiodon scutellaris (Fab.) is the latest name for the species recorded from Hawaii by Howard, Grimshaw and others as *Xanthogramma grandicornis* (Macquart) and more recently called *Simosyrphus grandicornis* (Macquart) by Curran.

Volucella obesa Fabr. is common in both groups. Although Bezzi had no specimens from Fiji, I collected it there.

Syritta oceanica Macquart.

PHORIDAE

Bezzi records *Aphiochaeta xanthina* Speiser as being bred from diseased pineapple suckers from Hawaii. 19-II-1922 (Simmonds). Our species here in Hawaii has been known as *Aphiochaeta scalaris* (Loew).

ORTALIDAE

Euxesta quadrivittata Macquart—(= *Euxesta annonae* Loew (nec Fabr.) as recorded in Hawaii by Grimshaw and others.)

Acrosticta pallipes Grimshaw, originally described from Hawaii, but subsequently recorded from South America (Bolivia and Peru) by Handel, in 1909.

Scholastes bimaculatus Handel, whose maggots breed in fallen coconuts.

PIOPHILIDAE

Piophilha casei (Linn.), the cheese skipper.

CHLOROPIDAE

Rhodesiella nitidifrons Becker is perhaps the same as *Rhodesiella tarsalis* Adams, found in Hawaii.

DROSOPHILIDAE

Drosophila ampelophila Loew, which we call *D. melanogaster* Meigen.

BORBORIDAE

Leptocera ferruginata Stenhammar. Two other species recorded from Fiji may also be among the undetermined tiny Borborids known in Hawaii.

MILICHIIDAE

Milichiella lacteipennis Loew.

Desmometopa m-nigrum Zetterstedt. Dr. Aldrich has recently decided that our species in Hawaii is *D. tarsalis* Loew. These may or may not be the same.

AGROMYZIDAE

Ophiomyia lantanae (Froggatt) is a new name for the lantana seed fly, introduced from Mexico, and locally known as *Agromyza lantanae* Froggatt.

Liriomyza pusilla (Meigen) is a new name for the serpentine leaf-miner, common in North America, Hawaii, and other localities, and formerly in the genus *Agromyza*.

ANTHOMYIIDAE

Atherigona excisa Thomson var. *trilineata* Stein (= *A. pulvinata* Grimshaw).

Ophyra nigra (Wied.) Malloch.

MUSCIDAE

Synthesiomysia nudiseta v. d. Wulp.

Musca domestica Linn. Bezzi records it as var. *vicina*, but Malloch (*Insects of Samoa*, Pt. VI, fasc. 3, p. 174, 1929) states that he does not accept *M. vicina* as distinct from *M. domestica*, saying that the only difference between the two forms lies in the comparative widths of the frons in the two sexes.

Stomoxys calcitrans Linn.

GASTROPHILIDAE

Gastrophilus nasalis Linn.

CALLIPHORIDAE

Chrysomyia rufacies Macquart (= *Ch. albiceps* Wiedemann).

Chrysomyia megacephala Fabr.

Rhinia testacea Rob.-Desv.

SARCOPHAGIDAE

Sarcophaga dux Thomson.

Sarcophaga fuscicauda Böttcher.

TACHINIDAE

Microceromasia sphenophori (Villen.) (= *Ceromasia sphenophori* Villen.) the valuable little tachinid parasite of the sugar cane beetle borer, introduced from New Guinea.

Dr. Bezzi prefaces his book with some very interesting remarks on the character and origin of the Diptera fauna of Fiji. He states that 60.5 per cent, or 144 species, of flies are endemic; of which he describes 95 per cent as new; 6.3 per cent are listed as species from other Pacific islands; 6.7 per cent are from the east coast of Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand and New Guinea; 5.4 per cent are Austro-Malayan species; about the same number are oriental, chiefly from Java, Formosa and the Philippines; the same number are Ethiopian-Austro-Malayan; and 8.4 per cent are cosmopolitan, or found generally throughout the tropics. Thus, four-fifths are endemic, Pacific or Austro-Malayan, and the remaining one-fifth are of wide distribution, for the most part associated with man.