

Die Ausbeute der deutschen Chaco-Expedition 1925/26. — Diptera. (Fortsetzung.)

XXIII. Bibionidae and XXIV. Mycetophilidae.

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XXIII. Bibionidae.

1. *Plecia plagiata* Wied.

1824. Analecta Ent., p. 11.

This is perhaps the most distinct species of the genus and is widely distributed in South America. Among its morphological features are the short mouth-parts, hairy face and clypeus, and conspicuously hairy sternopleura, these features being shared by *P. nigerrima* Bell., *P. imperialis* Schin., *P. funebris* F. and other species. The venation is somewhat variable; occasionally (as in one of the present specimens) the short vein r_4 ends in r_1 instead of in the costa.

2 ♂ San José (N.-Argent.), X. 25.

2. *Plecia collaris* Fabr.

1805. Syst. Antl. p. 54.

Another distinct and widely-spread species, belonging to the group or subgenus *Rhinoplecia*, with produced mouthparts folded back under the head in repose; face, clypeus and sternopleura nearly but not quite bare. The flagellum is 7-segmented in the ♂, 9-segmented in the ♀ (including in both cases a small terminal segment).

2 ♂, 1 ♀ Lapango (N.-Argent.), XII. 26.

1 ♂ Motacucito (Bolivia), X. 26.

3. *Plecia confusa* Lw.?

1858. Berl. Ent. Zeitschr., II, p. 109.

Belongs to the same group as the last, but with shorter proboscis. The specimens do not quite agree with Mexican material in the British Museum.

3 ♂, 3 ♀, San José (N.-Argent.), X. 25.

4. *Plecia lindneri* sp. n.

Head blackish, but considerably dusted with grey. Eyes almost or quite bare in both sexes. Ocellar tubercle large. Few

or no hairs on face near antennae or on clypeus. Antennae with scape and basal half of first flagellar segment ochreous-brown, rest darker brown; flagellum 5-segmented in ♂, 8-segmented in ♀. Mouth-parts (with clypeus) bent backwards at rest, almost as long as head. Thorax dull, with grey dusting over the whole surface; colour of integument (beneath the grey pollen) mainly red above, but with a large blackish area on front of mesonotum, pronotal angles remaining reddish. Scutellum in ♂ with a black median line. Pleurae mainly blackish and almost bare; a few very short and pale hairs on sternopleura. Abdomen dull blackish, with short reddish-brown hair. Hypopygium of ♂ normal in size, ninth tergite with a shallow median emargination forming two rounded lobes. Legs dark brownish, femora lighter except towards tips; pubescence short. All femora rather short, but slender except towards tips; all tibiae slender. Wings smoky, somewhat darker in costal cell, stigma indistinct. Venation normal. Halteres with reddish stem and black knob.

Length of body, 6–7 mm; wing 7.5–9 mm.

El Cairo, north-west. Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia).
VIII. 26. 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

This is much like *P. collaris*, differing in the dull instead of shining thorax, and fewer segments in the antennae, as well as in the structure of the hypopygium.

XXIV. Mycetophilidae.

1. *Platyura (Proceroplatus) variventris* sp. n.

♀. Head ochreous, with a large blackish area on vertex, including ocelli. Median ocellus small, almost in line with the other two. Antennae with scape ochreous, flagellum blackish; ventral prolongations of intermediate flagellar segment somewhat longer than diameter of basal portion, so that the antenna appears subpectinate. Palpi ochreous. Thorax uniformly ochreous. Abdomen ochreous; tergites 3 and 4 and sternites 3, 4 and 5 with narrow but conspicuous black basal bands; segments 6 and 7 entirely black, also cerci. Legs ochreous, tibiae and tarsi somewhat darkened. Wings with the tip rather broadly darkened, the brown area sharply defined, but not extending as far back as vein r_4 , though this latter vein is narrowly seamed with brown; a brown spot in base of cell r_5 ,

filling the angle; a rather larger but less intense brown cloud above this towards costa; a small but distinct light brown spot above tip of cu_2 , and another below middle of An. Halteres yellow.

Length of body 4 mm; wing 4 mm.

Villa Montes, Bolivia, V. 26, 1 ♀.

This differs conspicuously from other members of the subgenus in the markings of the wing and abdomen, but is a typical *Proceroplatus*.

2. *Platyura* (*Lyprauta*, subgen. n.) *chacoensis* sp. n.

♀. Head dull brownish; ocelli placed in a triangle and enclosed in a small black spot. Antennae with the scape ochreous, flagellum blackish, segments slightly flattened, deeper than long. Palpi brownish. Thorax ochreous, slightly shining; mesonotum with three brown stripes. Abdomen broad, brownish, posterior margins of segments and cerci ochreous. Legs ochreous. First front tarsal segment somewhat shorter than tibia. Wings nearly clear; a brown spot filling base of cell r_5 , and a rather faint brown area at tip, nearly filling cell r_4 and extending across cell r_3 . Vein m_2 interrupted at base. Halteres broken (knob perhaps dark).

Length of body 3 mm; wing 3 mm.

Tacaaglé (N.-Argent.), X. 25, 1 ♀.

The characters of the new subgenus *Lyprauta* are as follows: Branches of m and cu bare. No spiracular hairs. Tibial setulae in regular rows throughout, no strong differentiation in the rows. No bristles or hairs on mediotergite, pleurotergite or anepisternite. Mesonotum uniformly setulose. Outer spur of middle and hind tibiae present but short; longer spurs unmodified. Costa produced well beyond vein r_5 . Vein an not nearly reaching margin. All three species known to me are Neotropical, and have vein m_2 interrupted at the base, but this last character may not be constant throughout the subgenus. The subgenotype is *P. defecta* sp. n.¹⁾, the nearest relative of the new subgenus seems to be *Lapyruta* Edw.

¹⁾ *Platyura* (*Lyprauta*) *defecta* sp. n. (Adams MS.). Resembles *P. chacoensis*, differing as follows: Antennal flagellum ochreous at base. Thorax dull, not distinctly striped. Second brown cloud of wing not at tip, but crossing cell r_5 below the short vein r_4 .

Balthazar, Grenada, W. I., 1907 (H. H. Smith). Type ♂ in British Museum,

3. *Rhynchosciara*¹⁾ *praecipua* Walker.

1848. Walker, List Dipt. Brit. Mus. 1, p. 103.

1919. Edwards, Mes. Arc. Meridien, Paris, X, p. 143.

1 ♂, 2 ♀ San José (N.-Argent.), X. 25.

4. *Megalosphys*¹⁾ *luteicoxa* End.

1912. Arch. Naturg. 1911, Bd. I, Supp. p. 130.

1 ♂ Pozo del Tigre (Bolivia), 1. IX. 26.

This is the genotype of *Megalosphys*. As stated by Enderlein the wing-membrane carries no macrotrichia, but it may be noted here that *Sciara melanocephala* Fabr., referred by Enderlein to *Megalosphys*, has dense macrotrichia as well as microtrichia on the membrane, and therefore belongs rather to *Trichomegalosphys*. The present specimen of *M. luteicoxa* has the wings distinctly darkened at the tip, but otherwise agrees with the description.

5. *Leia fasciata* Kert.

1902. Term. Fuz. XXV, p. 574.

1 ♀ San José (N.-Argent.), X. 25.

6. *Leia truncatovenosa* End.?

1911. Stettin. Ent. Zeit., p. 199.

1 ♀ Aguarai (Argentina), VI. 26.

Differs from Enderlein's description in having no dark spot above wing-root and no dark marks on under sides of femora; these differences may be only individual or sexual.

¹⁾ Die unter 3. und 4. aufgeführten Arten sind bei der Verteilung des Materials unter die Mycetophiliden geraten. Weitere Arten dieser Gattungen hat Fr. Lengersdorf in Bd. IX (1930) p. 55 ff. als Lycoriidae behandelt.

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Konowia \(Vienna\)](#)

Jahr/Year: 1931

Band/Volume: [10](#)

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Artikel/Article: [Die Ausbeute der deutschen Chaco-Expedition 1925/26. -
Diptera \(Fortsetzung.\) XXIII. Bibionidae and XXIV. Mycetophilidae. 75-78](#)