

### *Meromyza balcanica* spec. nov. – a new chloropid species from Bulgaria (Insecta: Diptera: Chloropidae)

With 5 Figures

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**Abstract.** *Meromyza balcanica* spec. nov. is described from the Central part of the Stara planina Mts., Bulgaria. The new species is close to *M. sibirica* FEDOSEEVA, but has well distinguished male genitalia.

#### *Meromyza balcanica* spec. nov.

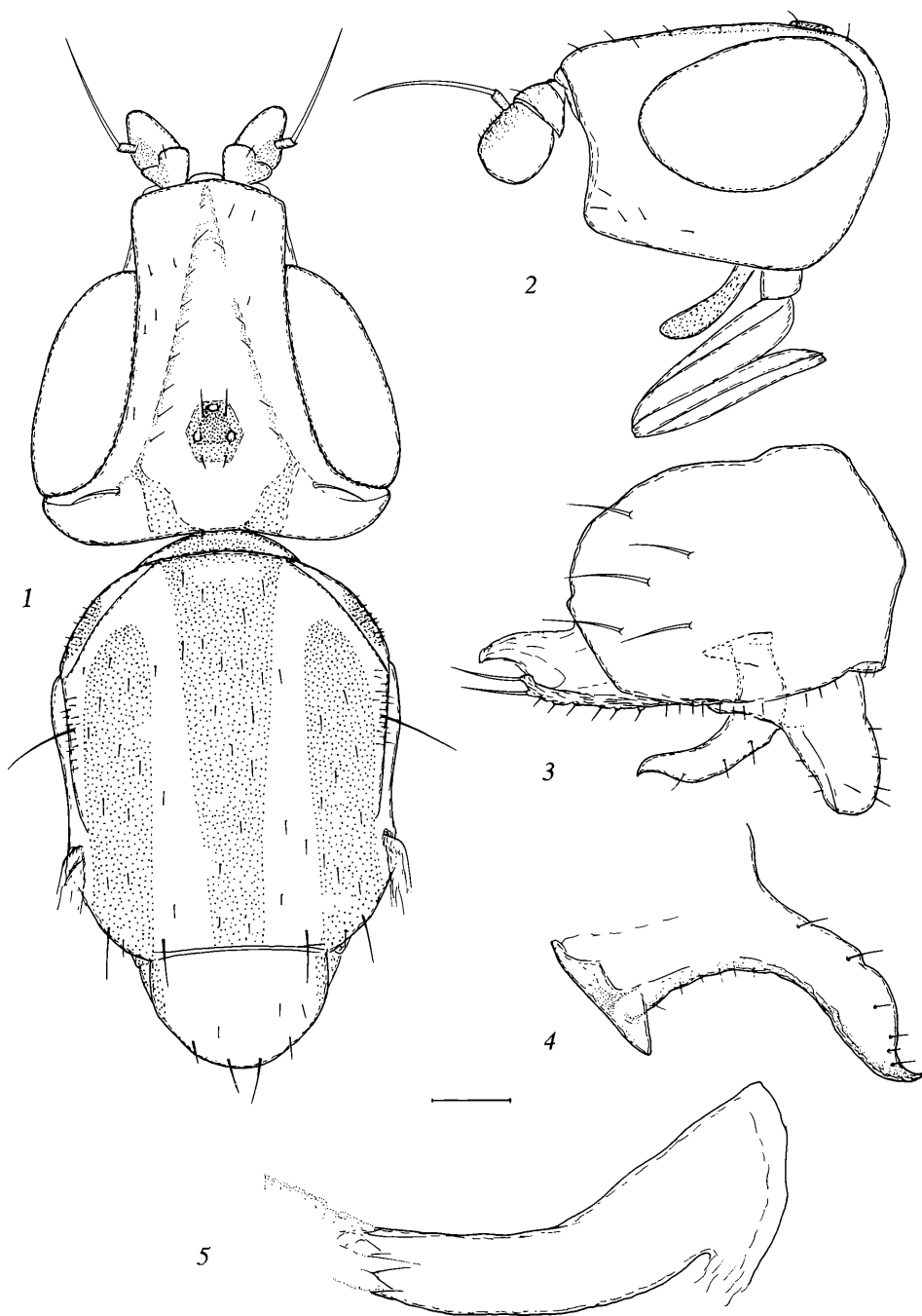
**Diagnosis.** Head longer than high, frons elongated, parafacial orbits equal in length to 3rd antennal segment, peristomal hairs and mesonotal stripes black.

**Description, male.** Head in profile trapezium-like, longer than high, in dorsal view as long as its greatest width (Figs. 1, 2). Antenna predominantly yellow, with dark brownish stripe dorsally; 3rd antennal joint as long as high, with rounded frontal corners; arista brown, comparatively short. Frons almost rectangle, approximately two times longer than broad in back part, with arched front side; frontal triangle elongated, about 1,8 times longer than wide, reaching the front edge of the frons, with short, brown-black hairs on the inner part of the dark brownish side, and with slightly sculptured surface on the first one-third. Ocellar spot black, hexagonal, with short ocellar bristles only two times longer than the diameter of the first ocellus. Frons yellow-brownish, with sparsely black hairs arising from small concave point. Face slightly sloping backward, with almost rectangular vibrissal angle. Parafacial band width equal to the height of the gena and the 3rd antennal joint. Gena as wide as the height of the 3rd antennal joint. Peristomal hairs rear, black, short, the first one a little longer than the rest. Palpi enlarged and black in the apical two-third part. Proboscis yellow. Eyes elongated elliptic, about 1,5 times longer than width, 2,5 times higher than the height of the gena. Occiput grey-yellow, with two black-brown stripes forming a lyre-like figure, with yellow spots just behind the ocellar triangle. Only a pair of the Vte are developed from the head bristles.

Thorax lemon-yellow, with three black stripes reaching the scutellar suture (Fig. 2). Humeral spots narrow. Mesonotum with rare black hairs and a pair of short dorsocentral and supraalar bristles. Scutellum semicircular, with dark elongated spots in the middle, not reaching the mesonotum, and a black spot on each side as continuation of the lateral mesonotal stripes. Dorsal surface of the scutellum with small discal hairs and short apical and lateral scutellar bristles. Pleurae yellow with small black spots: two small points on the notopleura, an elliptic spot on the hind part of the mesopleura; two sternopleural spots (on the front and back part of sternopleura), and comparatively large spots on the hypopleura. A long notopleural bristle and small black hairs around it on the notopleural surface.

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Figs. 1–5: *Meromyza balcanica* spec. nov. 1 – head and thorax dorsally; 2 – head from left; 3 – hypopygium from right; 4 – gonite from right; 5 – aedeagus from right. Scale: 0,14 mm (Figs. 1–3); 0,03 mm (Figs. 4, 5).

Legs yellow; first femora on the dorsal part grey-brownish; the last 3–5 joints of the tarsi brown-black, and dorso-ventrally flattened; third femora 2 times longer than wide, about 3–4 times wider than the diameter of the third tibia. Wings generotypic, lightly grey coloured; third costal part a little longer the second and equal to the length between the top of the *R* 4+5 and the apex of wing; *ta*–*tp* 1,5 times longer than *tp*. Halteres light; with yellow stem and greenish head.

Abdomen yellow with brown-black cross three-dent band on the basis of the each terga, forming together tree longitudinal abdominal stripes. Hypopygium comparatively small. Surstylus small; gonite with small posterior part and elongated curved below and forwarded praegonite (Figs. 3, 4); aedeagus membranous, arched with longer basal part and shorter distiphallus (Fig. 5).

Body length: 3,7 mm.

Female. Unknown.

Material studied. Holotype, ♂, central part of the Stara planina Mts. (Balkan Mts.), hut Kosja stena, 14. VI. 1995, 1 500 m a.s.l., mountain meadow. The specimen is preserved in the author's collection in the Institute of Zoology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia.

Probably a rare species, at the present a true Balcanic endemit.

Discussion. With the elongated head *M. balcanica* spec. nov. likes to *M. pratorum* MEIGEN, 1830, and *M. sororculus* FEDOSEEVA, 1962. But the new species is well distinguished from the other two species by the shape of male genitalia.

By the gonites *M. balcanica* spec. nov. is close to *M. sibirica* FEDOSEEVA, 1971. But *M. sibirica* has light peristomal hairs, rounded ocellar spot, and bicoloured (black and brown) mesonotal stripes; the praegonite of *M. sibirica* is narrow and tube-like. *M. balcanica* spec. nov. has black peristomal hairs, black mesonotal stripes, a hexagonal ocellar spot; the praegonite is almost as wide as the basal part of the gonite and on the apex it is narrowed and bent like a beak.

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