

Speciei novae Tachinidarum descriptio

a R. H. Meade in Bradford.

Aphria angustifrons.

♂ *Oblongo-subcylindrica, fusco-cinerea, thorace quadri-striato, abdomine nigro-fasciato lateribus rufescentibus, macrochaetis discoidalibus in dorso segmentorum intermediorum instructo. Frontalia angusta, vitta nigra. Antennae fuscae articulo tertio secundo parum longiore. Arista articulo penultimo subelongato. Palpi nigri, tenues, longiusculi, apice setosi. Proboscis picea, cornea, elongata angustaque. Alae spinula costali magna, vena tertia longitudinali basi parce setulosa. Pedes nigri. Long. 8mm. Patria: Britannia.*

♂ **Head.** Front slightly prominent; frontalia narrow, central stripe black and wider than the sides which like the face are white, having blue-black reflexions. Eyes nude; fronto-orbital bristles in a single row on each side and extending down the face as far as the apex of the second joint of the antennae; cheeks bare and divided from the chin (mentum) by a transverse groove of a yellow-brown colour; chin ciliated with a few long bristles; epistome very prominent and testaceous in colour; vibrissae few in number having one long seta on each side; facialia with a few short ciliae at the bottom; antennae gray, the first joint very short, the second about twice as long as broad, the third about half as long again as the second, rather dilated, and rounded at the end; arista with the second joint distinct and a little prolonged, and the third rather long and slender, with the base dilated, and a little pubescent along its whole length; proboscis piceous, long, slender, horny, and narrowed towards the apex, where the suckers are very minute; palpi long, filiform, slender, with the points a little thickened, and furnished with several projecting long bristles. Thorax covered (more thickly on the front) with yellowish gray tomentum, and marked with four moderately wide black longitudinal stripes, which are interrupted at the transverse groove; behind the

groove are three external dorso-central bristles. Scutellum gray. Calyptra large and white. Halteres yellow. Abdomen conico-cylindrical, the first segment narrow and black, the second, third, and fourth segments, cinereous, with an irregular interrupted black band on the sides of the hinder margins of each segment; the under sides of the second and third segments are a little rufescent and translucent; there are large macrochetae both upon the margin and disk of the three last segments. Wings slightly brunescent, rather short, with a long costal spine, and with the fourth longitudinal vein curved at the angle; the apical cross vein is also a little bent outwards, the outer cross vein is rather sinuous, and the third longitudinal vein has two or three rather long bristles at the base. The first posterior cell is open at the end and terminates a little before the apex of the wing. Legs black, tarsi long, with large pulvilli and some long hairs at the end; hind tibiae with a few long bristles of unequal lengths on their outer sides.

A single male of this well marked species was found by Mr. Pascoe at Folkestone on the sea coast of Kent in England.

This insect is rather anomalous for it differs in two points from those given as characteristic of the Genus *Aphria*, firstly the frontalia in the male are narrow so that the eyes are approximated, while they are described as being nearly equally wide apart in both sexes; secondly the middle abdominal segments have discal setae instead of being unarmed in the middle. R. Desvoidy in his first diagnosis of *Aphria* does not mention either of these points, and Meigen in his description of *Tachina longirostris* in his 4th Vol. says nothing about the abdominal macrochetae; the later characters, given to the genus have evidently been taken from one or two species only, but if new ones occur possessing the chief points of structure but differing in one or two minor points. I think it is better to retain them in the same genus than to form a new one for their reception.

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