

SHORT COMMUNICATION

M. G. Krivosheina. FIRST RECORD OF THE SHORE-FLY *CHLORICHAETA ORBA* MATHIS ET ZATWARNICKI, 1993 (DIPTERA, EPHYDRIDAE) FROM THAILAND. – Far Eastern Entomologist. 2011. N 220: 14-16.

Summary. The shore-fly *Chlorichaeta orba* Mathis et Zatwarnicki, 1993 is registered in Thailand for the first time. The species is similar to *Ch. mais* Mathis et Zatwarnicki, 1993 in external morphology, but differing in coloration and sculpture of head, thorax and scutellum, and in the morphology of male terminalia.

Key words. Diptera, Ephydriidae, *Chlorichaeta orba*, Thailand, new record.

М.Г. Кривошеина. Первое указание мухи-береговушки *Chlorichaeta orba* Mathis et Zatwarnicki, 1993 (Diptera, Ephydriidae) из Таиланда // Дальневосточный энтомолог. 2011. N 220. С. 14-16.

Резюме. Муха-береговушка *Chlorichaeta orba* Mathis et Zatwarnicki, 1993 впервые обнаружена в Таиланде. Морфологически вид близок *Ch. mais* Mathis et Zatwarnicki, 1993, от которого отличается окраской и скульптурой поверхности головы, груди и щитка, а также строением терминалий самца.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Chlorichaeta* Becker, 1922 belongs to the tribe Gymnomyzini, subfamily Gymnomyzinae. It includes seven species (Mathis & Zatwarnicki, 1995). Shore flies of this genus are known only from the Old World and distributed mainly in Afrotropical, Oriental and Australasian/Oceanian regions. The only *Ch. albipennis* (Loew, 1848) occurs in temperate regions of Palaearctic also. Three species were registered in Oriental Region: *Ch. albipennis* (Loew, 1848), *Ch. orba* Mathis et Zatwarnicki, 1993 and *Ch. tuberculosa* Becker, 1922. Only one of them, *Ch. tuberculosa*, was known formerly from Thailand (Mathis & Zatwarnicki, 1993).

Representatives of the genus are small (1.5-3.1 mm) mostly black flies with shiny to subshiny body, dorsum of thorax microtomentose, subshiny to dull. Face with many small pits around midfacial protuberance, pits with silvery-white microtomentum; parafacials with a vertical row of shallow horizontal grooves; parafacials near anteroventral margin of eye with silvery white microtomentum. Fore femur significantly more swollen than mid and hind ones and armed with a ridge near midlength, process bearing a row of 4-5 stout setae along anterior half of posteroventral margin. Wing milky white. Basitarsomere colour varying in different species. Abdomen black without microtomentum, more finely granulose than scutum.

Natural history of the representatives of *Chlorichaeta* is studied well enough: adults feed as general scavengers in concentrated organic matter such as manure of terrestrial animals, including tortoise droppings, pig pens near settlements, on rotting seaweed. Adults are attracted to moisture on animals and are frequently associated with livestock (camels, cattle, donkeys, pigs) (Mathis & Zatwarnicki, 1993). We observed *Chlorichaeta* species on open hot sand and stones near streams.

Present paper is a continuation of my taxonomic work on Ephydriidae of East Asia (Krivosheina, 2008, 2009, 2010). The studied materials collected by N. Vikhrev in Thailand are deposited in the in Zoological Museum, Moscow University.

NEW RECORD

Chlorichaeta orba Mathis et Zatwarnicki, 1993

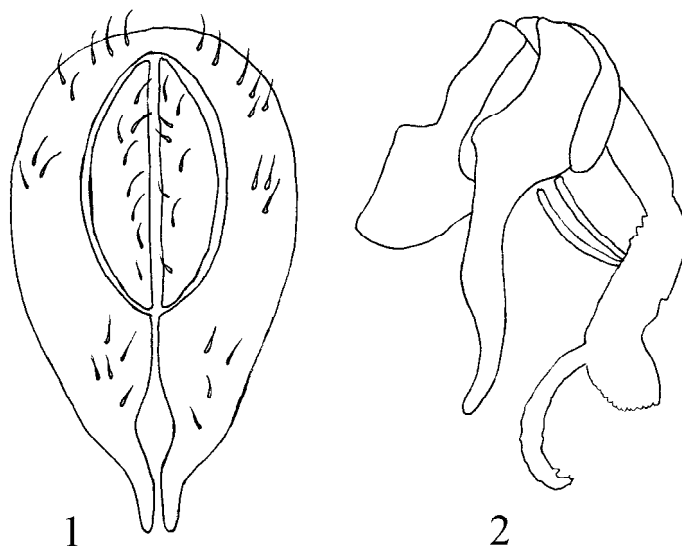
Figs 1–2

MATERIAL. Thailand: Phuket (north part of island), 17-24.II 2009, 2 ♂, 1 ♀ (N.E. Vikhrev).

DESCRIPTION. Very small fly (1.8-2.6 mm). The species belongs to the group with yellow hind basitarsomere as well as tarsomeres 2 and 3 which are yellow too. *Ch. orba* is closer to *Ch. mais* Mathis & Zatwarnicki, 1993 differing from it in the following characters: extended ocellar triangle shiny and smooth similar to parafrons (not granulose), silvery-white microtomentum on parafacials as 2 (not 3) patches; scutum very lightly microsculptured, scutellum more so, appearing granulose, scutum with some metallic bluish (not bronzish-gold) luster, halter yellow.

Male terminalia with surstylus digiform in lateral view, narrowly rounded apically, curved anteroventrally (Figs 1-2). Hypandrium in lateral view L-shaped with anteromedial portion slender, aedeagal apodeme enlarged towards attachment with hypandrium, postgonite linear without a process, distiphallus slightly longer than basiphallus, angulate, dorsal angle acutely produced, rounded, bearing 1 pair of slender lateral processes at base and a single medial process.

DISTRIBUTION. The species was described from Sri Lanka (Mathis & Zatwarnicki, 1993). It was found in Philippines, Australia (Northern Territory) and Papua New Guinea too (Mathis & Zatwarnicki, 1995). Herein this species is firstly mentioned from Thailand.



Figs 1–2. Male genitalia of *Chlorichaeta orba*. 1 – epandrium and surstyli, posterior view; 2 – internal male genitalia, lateral view.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am very grateful to Dr. Nikita Vikhrev (Zoological Museum, Moscow University) who collected and handed me this interesting fly for the study.

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