

SHORT COMMUNICATION

A. L. Ozerov. A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *MEROPLIUS* RONDANI, 1874 (DIPTERA, SEPSIDAE) FROM ZAMBIA. – Far Eastern Entomologist. 2011. N 229: 11-12.

Summary. A new species *Meroplus zambianus* sp. n. (Diptera, Sepsidae) is described from Zambia.

Key words: Diptera, Sepsidae, Meroplus, new species, Afrotropical region, Zambia.

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Резюме. Из Замбии описан *Meroplus zambianus* sp. n. (Diptera, Sepsidae).

INTRODUCTION

A new species was found from material of Sepsidae, sent me for determination by Dr. Miroslav Barták, Prague, Czech Republic. The new species belongs to *Meroplus* Rondani, 1874, and was collected from Zambia. The majority of the *Meroplus* species are certainly distributed in the Afrotropical region and at present time 11 species are known in this region. All afrotropical species were not mentioned in others zoogeographical regions (Ozerov, 1999, 2005, 2006). The description of the new species is given below. The holotype is deposited in the National Museum (Natural History), Prague, Czech Republic (NMPC).

TAXONOMY

***Meroplus zambianus* Ozerov, sp. n.**

Figs 1–3

MATERIAL. Holotype – ♂, "Zambia-C, 45 km SE Kitwe, 12.-15.I.2003 J. Halada leg." (NMPC). The holotype is glued to write trapeziform card. Abdomen dissected and stored in glycerine in microvial pinned with the holotype.

DESCRIPTION. MALE. Thorax black. Scutum (including postpronotal lobe) pruinose. Proepisternum, katatergite and anatergite pruinose. Proepimeron shining, but whitish pruinose along lower margin. Anepisternum, anepimeron, katepimeron, metepisternum and metepimeron completely shining. Katepisternum shining, but greyish pruinose along upper margin. Mediotergite greyish pruinose, but with shining spot under scutellum. Scutum with the following paired setae: 1 *pprn*, 2 *npl*, 1 *spal*, 1 *pal*, 1 postsutural *dc*. Scutellum pruinose, with pair of apical setae.

Legs black, but coxa, femur, tibia and basal half of first tarsus of foreleg, trochanters of mid and hind legs, femora of mid and hind legs basally yellow. Fore femur with two black spines ventrally (both fore legs glued on card and the drawing is impossible). Femora and tibia of midleg and hindleg without striking setae. Tibia of hindleg with an osmeterium in basal third anterodorsally.

Wing clear. Veins brown. Calypters and their margins whitish. Halter yellowish.

Abdomen black, shining. Tergites 3–5 with several marginal setae. Sternites 4 and 5 as in Fig. 1. Epandrium and surstylus as in Figs 2, 3.

MEASUREMENTS. Length of body 3.8 mm. Length of wing 2.8 mm.

FEMALE unknown.

DIAGNOSIS. The new species is close to *Meroplius hastifer* Séguéy, 1938 by structure of genitalia, but differing from it by the absence of seta on mid tibia (midtibia of *hastifer* with 1 *av* in apical third) and by the details of structure of male genitalia and by structure of male abdominal sternites 4 and 5 (see Ozerov, 1999, figs. 6–7).



Figs 1–3. *Meroplius zambianus* sp. n. 1 – male abdominal sternites 4 and 5; 2 – epandrium and surstyli, dorsally; 2 – epandrium and surstyli, laterally.

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Author's address:

Zoological Museum,
Moscow Lomonosov State University,
Bol'shaya Nikitskaya 6, Moscow,
125009, Russia
E-mail: ozerov2455@rambler.ru

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