

A Bromeliad-inhabiting crane-fly (Tipulidae, Dipt.)

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preapical ventral bristles, hind tibiae dilated towards apices, with numerous short hairs but no distinct bristles, basal joint of hind tarsus distinctly thicker and shorter than second joint; wings yellowish, costa very much short of apex of wing, first section longer than second, second nearly twice as long as sections 1 to 3, third longitudinal vein very obtusely bent at turn and joining costa at nearly a right angle, costa not extending beyond end of third vein, both cross veins very close together, fourth vein obsolete beyond cross vein, fifth barely traceable; halteres brown. Length $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

Resembles in some particulars *perparva* Will., but very different in venation of wings. Seven specimens, males and females, reared from arboreal bromeliads, March 17-21, 1908.

Córdoba, Mexico. (F. Knab).

Type.—Cat. No. 14,913, U. S. Nat. Mus.

A Bromeliad-Inhabiting Crane-fly (Tipulidae, Dipt.)

By CHAS. P. ALEXANDER, Ithaca, N. Y.*

To the rather long list of inhabitants of the Neotropical epiphytic, water-bearing Bromeliaceous plants, (as given by Dr. Calvert in ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS, Nov., 1911, pp. 402-411), there should be added the family *Tipulidae*. I have recently received specimens of a Costa Rican *Mongoma* that were bred from Bromeliads by Sr. C. Picado. I am indebted to Mr. Frederick Knab, of the U. S. National Museum, for the privilege of examining these specimens.

Mongoma bromeliadicola sp. n.

Brown; thorax indistinctly striped; femora with a subapical black ring; apices of femora and tibiae and bases of the tibiae, white.

Length, ♂, 7.4 mm.; ♀, 8.4-9.2 mm.

Wing, ♂, 7.6 mm.; ♀, 8.5-9.2 mm.

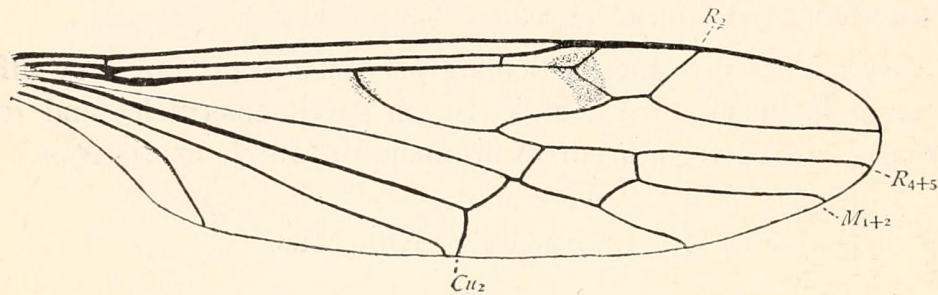
Legs all detached and almost impossible to separate; femora, 8.4-9.8 mm.; tibia, 7.6-10.1 mm.; tarsus, 7.2-8.9 mm. What is probably the fore-leg measures, femora, 8.4 mm.; tibia, 10.1 mm.; tarsus, 8.9 mm. Middle leg: supp. 9-9 mm., tibia 7.6-8.1 mm., tarsus 7.2-7.3 mm. Hind leg, supp., femora 9.6-9.8 mm., tibia 9.8-9.4 mm.

Head: rostrum and palpi yellowish-brown; antennae dark brown the basal segments rather paler; front vertex and occiput light brown-

*Contribution from the Entomological Laboratory of Cornell University.

ish yellow; a brown stripe along the inner margin of the eye, running from the narrowest portion of the front back to the genæ.

Thorax: mesothoracic præscutum light yellowish-brown with brown longitudinal stripes on either side of the narrow middle line; these stripes begin as two dark dots at a considerable distance caudad of the anterior margin of the sclerite, running backward to the suture and becoming more distinct behind; outer caudal margins of the sclerite rather dark brown, which color is continued backward onto



Wing of *Mongoma bromeliadicola* n. sp.

the sides of the scutum; middle line of the scutum yellowish-white; scutellum purplish-brown with a broad pallid caudal edge; post-notum deep purplish-brown; pleuræ dull pale whitish-brown; sclerite just anterior to the wing-basis darker, brownish. Halteres pale, whitish, throughout. Legs: coxæ and trochanters light brown; femora light yellowish-brown, darkening abruptly to form a sub-apical blackish ring; extreme tip abruptly cream-white in color; tibia: extreme base and tips, whitish, the tip being the broader; remainder of the tibiæ and the tarsi, dark brown. Wings faintly tinged with yellow; veins C, Sc and R brownish-yellow; remaining veins, brown; stigma somewhat triangular, dark brown; a distinct brown cloud at the origin of Rs; tip of wing indistinctly darker. Venation (See Figure). R^2 longer than that portion of R^2+^3 between cross-vein r and the fork of R^2+^3 ; cross-vein r longer than that portion of R^2+^3 beyond it; basal deflection of Cu^1 before the fork of M; Cu^2 close to 1st A at their tips, the distance separating the two veins at the wing margin being only about as great as Sc^2 .

Abdomen: tergum brown, the lateral and caudal margins of the two basal and the apical segments paler, yellow; in the ♂, the 8th and 9th segments are darker, blackish; the hypopygium brown. In the ♀, the last two segments of the abdomen are narrow, tubular with the valves of the ovipositor very long, slender, acicular. Sternum brown; the margins of the sclerites light colored.

The data for the specimens is a trifle confusing; the following localities were given by Sr. Picado:

Cartago, Costa Rica—1500 meters—Nov.-Feb.; Estrella,

Costa Rica—2000 meters—Sept.; Orosi, Costa Rica—1200 meters—Nov.-Feb.

It is difficult to say just where the specimens were taken. Holotype, ♂ — Costa Rica (Sr. Picado, coll.) Allotype, ♀ — with the type. Paratypes, 4 ♀'s—with the type.

All of the types in U. S. Nat. Mus. Coll. (Type No. 14,957). The species is conspicuously different from the six Neotropical species of *Mongoma* that are known to me in its striking leg-pattern. Whether or not the long ovipositor has a significance in the manner of egg-deposition is a question for the collector to verify; a similar condition exists in the females of other species and it is possible that these may, likewise, have this peculiar larval habitat. But one *Mongoma* has ever been reared hitherto. De Meijere has recently¹ described the larva and pupa of the East Indian *M. pennipes* O. S. (l.c.; p. 50, 51; fig. 41, pupa). He states that Mr. Jacobson found the larvæ at Semarang (Java), Jan., 1906, in decaying plant-stems.

In conclusion, I would mention the rearing from *Bromeliads* of one of the "false crane-flies" by Sr. Picado, and its recent characterization as *Anisopus picturatus*² by Mr. Knab.

A School of Entomology in New York City.

PARK COMMISSIONER STOVER, of New York City, has decided to establish a school of entomology in Central Park, so that old and young nature lovers may take a practical course in the study of butterflies, bumble bees, dragon flies, beetles and other insects.

The place of study is to be in the Swedish schoolhouse. This building was prepared in Sweden for the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia in 1876, as a model of the national schools of that country. After the exhibition the park board bought this building and transferred it to Central Park.

The building will immediately be fitted up. Dr. Edmund B. Southwick, the entomologist of the park department, will be in charge.—*The North American*.

¹ Studien über sudostasiatische Dipteren. Pt. 5. Ostindische Tipulidæ, von Dr. J. C. H. De Meijere. Tijd. von Ent. Apr., 1911; p. 21-79; pl. 4; f. 1-49.

² New Species of Anisopidæ (Rhyphidæ) from Tropical America (Diptera; Nemocera), by Frederick Knab. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.; Vol. 25, p. 111-114; reprint dated June 29, 1912.