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**AN UNDESCRIBED NET-WINGED MIDGE
FROM JAPAN**

(Diptera, Blepharoceridæ)

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There has been but a single species of net-winged midge described from the Japanese Empire. It was with great interest, therefore, that the writer discovered a second species in a collection of Tipuloidea sent to the writer for determination by Dr. T. Shiraki, Chief Entomologist of Formosa. The writer is indebted to Dr. Shiraki for the privilege of studying this fly,

the type of which has been returned to the Agricultural Experiment Station at Taihoku.

***Blepharocera shirakii*, new species.**

General coloration black, the mouthparts and base of antenna pale; wings subhyaline, iridescent; veins dark brown.

Male.—Length, 6.2 mm.; wing, 7.8 mm.

Mouthparts reddish; palpi pale brown. Antennæ with the scape and base of the first flagellar segment nearly glabrous, obscure yellow; remainder of the flagellum dark brown, densely pubescent. Head black, the ocelli conspicuously light yellow; eyes hairy.

Mesonotum dull black without distinct pale markings other than a faint reddish tinge between the usual median and lateral praescutal stripes. Pleura dark, obscure yellow beneath the wing-root. Halteres yellow, the knobs brown. Legs with the fore coxæ dark, the remaining coxæ obscure yellow; trochanters yellow; remainder of the legs brown, the femoral bases obscure yellow. Wings subhyaline, iridescent; veins dark brown. Venation as in the genus; a small chitinated knot in the anal angle of the wing.

Abdominal tergites dark brownish black, the sternites much paler, especially at the base of each segment. Hypopygium black.

Habitat.—Japan (Honshu).

Holotype, male, Tokumoto, Province of Shinano, July 12, 1918 (T. Shiraki).

This interesting net-winged midge is named in honor of the collector, Dr. T. Shiraki, to whom I am indebted for many favors.

Blepharocera shirakii is the second species of net-winged midge to be described from Japan. The *Liponeura infuscata* Matsumura (Thousand Insects of Japan, Additamenta 2, pp. 443, 444, Pl. 24, fig. 7, 1916) is a very different species whose true generic position is very doubtful. The only regional *Blepharocera* is *B. indica* Brunetti (Records Indian Museum, vol. 4, p. 316, 1911) from the Simla district of Northern India.

From Brunetti's description and figure it appears almost certain that his fly is a *Philorus* rather than a *Blepharocera*. His statement (Fauna of British India, Diptera Nematocera, p. 156, 1912), "*The 4th, 5th, and 6th veins spring almost simultaneously from a common stem quite near the base of the wing,*" can mean nothing else than that the basal section of M_3 is preserved, this being the generic character of *Philorus* Kellogg. The rather indifferent figure supplied by Brunetti in the last reference mentioned would bear this out. The species *Philorus bionis* Agharkar (Records Indian Museum, vol. 10, p. 160, 1914) is specifically distinct from *P. indica*.