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AN UNDESCRIBED SPECIES OF DIXA FROM WEST AFRICA

(Diptera, Dixidae)

By CHARLES P. ALEXANDER

An interesting species of *Dixa* has been received from my friend, Rev. Jacob A. Reis, taken in the Cameroun. I am greatly indebted to Mr. Reis for this and other valuable material received in the past. The types of the species are preserved in the writer's collection.

In an earlier paper (Ins. Ins. Mens., 10: 19-20; 1922) I outlined the then known distribution of the family, indicating its apparent absence from the Australian and Ethiopian regions. More recently the exhaustive studies of Dr. André Tonnoir have added rather numerous species to the Australasian fauna (New Zealand, 6 species; Australia and Tasmania, 6 species) while the present record of the group from the Ethiopian region gives to the family a Cosmopolitan distribution. Until very recently the group was known only by the single genus *Dixà* but new subgeneric and generic divisions have now been made by Dyar and Shannon (Ins. Ins. Mens., 12: 193-201; November, 1924) and Tonnoir (Records Canterbury Mus., 2: 221-233; December, 1924).

Dixa (Paradixa) camerounensis, new species.

Male: Length about 2.8-3 mm.; wing 3.2 mm.

Female: Length about 3.5 mm.; wing 3.2-3.4 mm.

Rostrum and palpi brown to dark brown. Antennae elongate, in the \mathcal{J} if bent backward extending to opposite one-third the length of the abdomen; scapal segments obscure fulvous; flagellum dark brown with conspicuous erect setae. Head brown.

Mesonotum fulvous brown medially, darker laterally, the sublateral and humeral regions more yellowish; a narrow transverse dusky line behind the humerus; scutal region darker; scutellum testaceous; postnotum darker brown. Pleura dark brown, paler ventrally, or in some cases, yellowish brown lined longitudinally with narrow dark brown stripes. Halteres pale, the knobs a little darker. Legs with the coxae shiny brownish yellow, darker at base; trochanters brownish yellow; femora obscure yellow, narrowly tipped with black, usually preceded by a broad, clearer yellow ring; tibiae obscure yellow, the base dusky, the tips more or less infuscated; tarsi pale brown, darker apically; segments of legs with conspicuous erect setae. Wings yellowish subhyaline, the costal margin tinged with yellowish brown; a similar suffusion along vein Cu; a narrow darker brown crossband entirely traversing the wing at the cord, widest in the fork of Rs, narrowed posteriorly; apices of longitudinal veins narrowly and indistinctly seamed with brown; veins yellowish, darker in the infuscated areas. Venation: Sc1 ending a short distance before the origin of Rs; Rs relatively short, straight or even slightly convex; r-m a little longer than to

twice the length of the basal deflection of R_{4+5} ; petiole of cell R_3 about two-thirds the cell.

Abdominal tergites obscure brownish yellow, the sternites brighter yellow; lateral margins of the segments with narrow dark brown linear marks to produce a narrow lateral stripe; hypopygium brown.

Habitat: Cameroun.

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Holotype, S, Muami, altitude 1,000 feet, August 2, 1923; from moss on bank of brook, rainy wet weather (J. A. Reis). Allotopotype, Q. Paratopotypes, 6 2Q.