

Review of the Tertiary microbombyliids (Diptera: Mythicomyiidae) in Baltic, Bitterfeld, and Dominican amber

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Abstract

The Tertiary amber fossil Mythicomyiidae are reviewed. One genus is described as new: *Carmenelectra* Evenhuis, **gen.n.** from Baltic amber; five species are described as new: *Glabellula grimaldii* Evenhuis, **sp.n.**, *Glabellula brunnifrons* Evenhuis, **sp.n.**, *Mythicomymia dominicana* Evenhuis, **sp.n.**, *Mythenteles baltica* Evenhuis, **sp.n.**, and *Carmenelectra shechisme* Evenhuis, **sp.n.** A new genus, *Borissovia*, **gen.n.** is described for the Cretaceous species *Proplatypygus rohdendorfi* Zaitzev. A total of 6 genera and 11 species of Mythicomyiidae are currently known from Tertiary amber. All Tertiary amber species are placed in extant genera except for those in the extinct genera *Carmenelectra* and *Proplatypygus*.

Key words: Mythicomyiidae, systematics, amber, Baltic, Dominican Republic, Tertiary, *Mythicomymia*, *Mythenteles*, *Carmenelectra*, *Proplatypygus*, *Glabellula*, *Borissovia*

Introduction

Mythicomyiidae consist of very small (1-3 mm) flies closely related to the Bombyliidae. Fossil species of microbombyliids are relatively rare, and those in amber especially so (known previously from singletons of only 4 species). This paucity of material is presumably because the habitat of the Tertiary Baltic region and Dominican region was not arid or semi-arid, the conditions of which many taxa of microbombyliids and bombyliids prefer. Therefore, the recent availability for study of dozens of pieces of both Baltic and Dominican amber with inclusions of Mythicomyiidae were of special interest and resulted in this review of the known species of Tertiary amber fossil Mythicomyiidae.

The first fossil mythicomyiid known to science was the Baltic amber species *Proglabellula electrica* described by Hennig (1966). Sporadic descriptions of additional species of Tertiary, Cretaceous, and Jurassic mythicomyiids were subsequently published. Includ-