Zootaxa 1147: 61–68 (2006)
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)
ZOOTAXA
ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

1147

A new species of *Eomedina* Mesnil (Diptera: Tachinidae) from Namibia

PIERFILIPPO CERRETTI[1] & NIGEL WYATT[2]

[1]*Dipartimento di Biologia Animale e dell'Uomo, Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza", Viale dell'Università 32, 00185 Rome, Italy. E-mail: pierfilippocerretti@yahoo.it*
[2]*Entomology Department, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK. E-mail: N.Wyatt@nhm.ac.uk*

Abstract

In this paper a blondeliine tachinid, *Eomedina hamoyensis* sp. nov., from Namibia is described, illustrated and compared with the only known congeneric species *E. apicalis* (Curran). The Afrotropical genus *Eomedina* has a blunt, scoop-like and well sclerotized ovipositor, and based on this derived structure appears to belong to the "*Medina* genus-group". The new species is known only from several females and they differ from females of *E. apicalis* in lacking a pair of proclinate orbital setae and in having just one pair of reclinate upper orbital setae.

Key words: *Eomedina hamoyensis*, Blondeliini, Namibia, identification key, distribution

Introduction

The blondeliine genus *Eomedina* Mesnil (1960: 651) was previously represented by the sole species *E. apicalis* (Curran 1927), known from a few localities in tropical Africa (Crosskey 1980) (Fig. 1). The genus seems to belong to the "*Medina* genus-group" (cf. Herting 1960: 46–48, as *Degeeria*-Gruppe), which includes *Medina* Robineau-Desvoidy, *Medinomyia* Mesnil, *Paratrixa* Brauer and Bergenstamm, *Phytorophaga* Bezzi and *Policheta* Rondani (cf. Mesnil 1960; Crosskey 1976, 1984; Tschorsnig & Richter 1998) and is characterized by the presence of a blunt, scoop-like and well sclerotized ovipositor predominantly formed by the tergite and sternite of the seventh abdominal segment. In species of the genus *Medina*, which during their larval stage are endoparasitoids of adult beetles, this peculiar ovipositor is used to lay eggs under the host's elytra by being inserted between the lateral margin of an elytron and the abdominal tergites (cf. Herting 1960; Wood 1985). Although the hosts and the eco-ethology of both species of *Eomedina* are

Accepted by J. E.O'Hara: 26 Jan. 2006; published: 10 Mar. 2006