



A new synonymy and a new species of Mydidae (Diptera) from Madagascar

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Kondratieff *et al.* (2005) proposed a new genus of mydas fly, *Hessemydas* from Madagascar and included two new species, *H. parkeri* Kondratieff, Carr and Irwin and *H. tulear* Kondratieff, Carr and Irwin. Additionally, the previously described *Leptomydas seyrigi* Ségué, the only mydas fly previously known from the island was placed in *Hessemydas*. Ségué (1960) originally described this species from a single male collected at Behara. Kondratieff *et al.* (2005) indicated that despite numerous inquiries to the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France, the holotype of *L. seyrigi* was unavailable for examination. However, recently, through the courtesy of Christophe Daugeron, the holotype was located and made available for examination. Unfortunately, *H. tulear* was determined to be a junior subjective synonym of *H. seyrigi*. Also recently, Norman D. Penny, California Academy of Sciences made additional specimens of mydas flies available from Madagascar for determination. Among this material, a new species of *Hessemydas* was discovered and is described below.

Hessemydas seyrigi (Ségué)

Leptomydas seyrigi Ségué 1960: 154. Type locality: Madagascar, Tuléar Prov., Behara.

Afroleptomydas seyrigi, (Ségué) – Bowden 1980: 330.

Hessemydas seyrigi (Ségué) – Kondratieff, Carr and Irwin 2005: 3.

Hessemydas tulear Kondratieff, Carr and Irwin 2005: 3. Type locality: Madagascar: Tuléar Prov., Ifaty. **new synonymy.**

Comments. Ségué (1960) described *H. seyrigi* from a single male specimen and his original description did not include any specific details of the genitalia, characters necessary for species identification. Kondratieff *et al.* (2005) provided a complete description of the male of this species under *H. tulear*, including providing illustrations of the genitalia. Comparison of recently collected specimens (Kondratieff *et al.* 2005) with the holotype of *H. seyrigi* indicated only one difference that the pilosity of the face of the holotype is predominantly black, whereas all other material examined exhibited white to yellow pilosity. The holotype specimen appears to be slightly greased.

Hessemydas daugeroni, sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–4)

Material examined. Holotype ♂, MADAGASCAR: Tulear Prov., Mikea Forest, NW of Manombo, Malaise trap in deciduous dry forest, elev. 37 m, 22°54.22'S 43°28.53'E, 28 March–8 April 2002, M. E. Irwin & R. Harin'Hala. Paratypes. Same as holotype but 27 November–6 December 2001, 1 ♂; 17–28 January 2002, 1 ♂, 22°54.80'S 43°28.93'E, Malaise trap in spiny forest, elev. 37 m, 22 June–2 July 2002, 1 ♂, 29 May–8 June 2002, 1 ♂.

Diagnosis. The male of *H. daugeroni* is most similar to the male of *H. seyrigi* but can be distinguished by the shape of the gonocoxite bearing an elongate, subparallel process (Figs. 1–3). Illustrations of the male genitalia of *H. seyrigi* (*H. tulear*) as for comparison are provided by Kondratieff *et al.* (2005); the process of the gonocoxite is broad proximally and distally tapers to a curved, blunt apex. Females are presently not associated. All the material listed below was collected by malaise traps and these specimens are imperfect, missing in part mouthparts, legs or antennae.

Description. Male: Length 14–15mm mm, length of wing 8.0–8.5 mm. *Head:* Black, frons silver-gray pollinose, pilosity of face long, white to yellow; oral cavity narrow, triangular or narrowed dorsally; occiput with long white to yellow pilosity; postocciput with white pilosity. Labium black, extending anteriorly equidistant to pedicel, apical portion