New Afrotropical and Oriental species of Micrepimera Matile (Diptera: Keroplatidae)

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Abstract

Two new species of Robsonomyiini (Diptera: Keroplatidae: Macrocerinae), Micrepimera berentiana sp. n. and M. pandastica sp. n., are described from southern Madagascar and northern Vietnam, respectively. This is the first record of this tribe in the Afrotropical region and from mainland Asia. Both the new species differ from M. punctipennis Matile (described from Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean) mainly in wing coloration, structure of antennae, and details of the male terminalia.

Key words: fungus gnats, Sciaroidea, Macrocerinae, Robsonomyiini, Afrotropical region, Oriental region

Introduction

The tribe Robsonomyiini of the subfamily Macrocerinae (Diptera: Keroplatidae) was proposed and characterized by Matile (1990). It currently comprises one fossil genus, Kelneria Matile, 1979 with four described species from Baltic amber (see Matile 1979), and four recent genera: Robsonomyia Matile & Vockeroth, 1980 with two described species from Canada and Japan, respectively (see Okada 1939, Matile & Vockeroth 1980, Evenhuis 2006) and the Oriental Micrepimera Matile, 1990, Srilankana Matile, 1990, and Langkawiana Ševčík, 2009, each containing a single island species (see Matile 1990, Ševčík 2009).

The genus Micrepimera was established by Matile (1990) for M. punctipennis Matile, 1990, described on the basis of a single male collected at Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean. Two additional species of Micrepimera are described here, expanding the known distribution of the tribe Robsonomyiini to the Afrotropical region and also to mainland Asia.

Material and methods

The material of M. berentiana was collected into a Malaise trap and was stored in 70% ethanol. The holotype (mounted in dimethyl hydantoin formaldehyde) and two paratypes (in 70% ethanol) are deposited in the Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom (BMNH), and one paratype each in the Hungarian Natural History Museum in Budapest, Hungary (HNHM) and the Silesian Museum, Opava, Czech Republic (SMOC).

The type specimens of M. pandastica were collected in a mixed forest in a limestone area. They are pinned and their terminalia are cleared in a 10% solution of NaOH, neutralized in acetic acid, and placed in a microvial filled with glycerol. The holotype and two paratypes are deposited in HNHM, the other two paratypes in SMOC. One of the latter paratypes was cleared in KOH and is stored in glycerol. The morphological terminology follows Søli et al. (2000).