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## **Types of Neotropical Mycetophilidae (Diptera) at the Natural History Museum collection, London**

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## Table of contents

Abstract	4
Introduction	4
Mycetophilidae	5
Sciophilinae	5
<i>Acnemia</i> Winnertz	5
<i>Allocotocera</i> Mik	6
<i>Aneura</i> Marshall	8
<i>Cluzobra</i> Edwards	8
<i>Duretophragma</i> Borkent	10
<i>Eudicrana</i> Loew	11
<i>Freemanomyia</i> Jaschhof	14
<i>Leptomorphus</i> Curtis	14
<i>Megalopelma</i> Enderlein	15
<i>Monoclona</i> Mik	15
<i>Neoaphelomera</i> Miller	16
<i>Paratrizygia</i> Tonnoir	18
<i>Parvicellula</i> Marshall	19
<i>Phthinia</i> Winnertz	19
<i>Sciophila</i> Meigen	20
<i>Trizygia</i> Skuse	22
Gnoristinae	23
<i>Austrosynapha</i> Tonnoir	23
<i>Coelosia</i> Winnertz	26
<i>Dziedzickia</i> Johannsen	26
<i>Synapha</i> Meigen	29
Leiinae	30
<i>Docosia</i> Winnertz	30
<i>Leia</i> Meigen	31
<i>Leiella</i> Enderlein	38
<i>Megophthalmidia</i> Dziedzicki	39
<i>Paraleia</i> Tonnoir	41
<i>Procycloneura</i> Edwards	42
<i>Tetragoneura</i> Winnertz	43
<i>Thoracotropis</i> Freeman	51
Mycomyinae	51
<i>Echinopodium</i> Freeman	51
<i>Mycomya</i> Rondani	52
<i>Mycomya</i> ( <i>Calomycomya</i> ) Väisänen	52
<i>Mycomya</i> ( <i>Coheromyia</i> ) Väisänen	54
<i>Mycomya</i> ( <i>Mycomya</i> ) Rondani	54
<i>Mycomya</i> ( <i>Mycomyopsis</i> ) Väisänen	57
<i>Mycomya</i> ( <i>Neomycomya</i> ) Väisänen	57
Unplaced <i>Mycomya</i> species	58
<i>Neoempheria</i> Osten-Sacken	63
Manotinae	71
<i>Manota</i> Williston	71
Mycetophilinae	73
Exechiini	73
<i>Exechiopsis</i> Tuomikoski	73
<i>Exechiopsis</i> ( <i>Xenexechia</i> ) Tuomikoski	73
<i>Neallodia</i> Edwards	74
<i>Rymosia</i> Winnertz	75
<i>Synplasta</i> Skuse	75
Mycetophilini	75
<i>Brevicornu</i> Marshall	75
<i>Epicypa</i> Winnertz	77
<i>Epicypa</i> ( <i>Bosemyia</i> ) Lane	77
<i>Epicypa</i> ( <i>Callicypa</i> ) Lane	78
<i>Epicypa</i> ( <i>Epicypa</i> ) Winnertz	80
Unplaced species of <i>Epicypa</i>	83
<i>Mycetophila</i> Meigen	84
<i>Mycetophila</i> ( <i>Abmyceta</i> ) Lane	84

<i>Mycetophila (Mycetophila)</i> Meigen .....	96
<i>Mycetophila (Oromyceta)</i> Lane .....	105
<i>Phronia</i> Winnertz .....	110
<i>Platurocypta</i> Enderlein .....	112
<i>Pleurogymnus</i> Freeman .....	112
<i>Sceptonia</i> Freeman .....	112
<i>Trichonta</i> Winnertz .....	112
<i>Zygomia</i> Winnertz .....	115
Acknowledgments .....	116
References .....	116

## Abstract

The primary types, secondary types, and some other identified specimens of 407 Neotropical species of Mycetophilidae at the Natural History Museum, London were examined. Notes were made on the condition of the primary types, their labels, and presence of other specimens in the type series. Additional comments are made about types, secondary types and some few other cases worth of note mistakenly determined to be at the NHM. Lectotypes are designated for syntypes of 17 species: *Epicypta insipiens* (Williston), *Epicypta dolosa* (Williston), *Leia amabilis* Williston, *Leia concinna* (Williston), *Leia nitens* (Williston), *Megalopelma cellularis* Edwards, *Megalopelma fraudulenta* (Williston), *Megalopelma platyura* Edwards, *Mycetophila borgmeieri* Edwards, *Mycomya meridionalis* Johannsen, *Monoclona digitata* Edwards, *Mycomya peruviana* Edwards, *Neoempheria maculipennis* Williston, *Procycloneura paranensis* Edwards, *Stenophragma nigricauda* Edwards, *Tetragoneura simplex* Edwards, *Trizygia nitens* Edwards. Three species—*Leia biamputata* Edwards, *Leia fuscicornis* Edwards, and *Neallodia flavida* Edwards—previously considered subjective junior synonyms in the literature were revalidated. *Mycetophila rufoides* **nom. nov.** is proposed for *Mycetophila rufa* Lane (preocc. Macquart 1826). *Mycetophila dolosa* Williston is transferred to *Epicypta*, without being assigned to a particular subgenus. The type of *Sceptonia paiaguensis* Freeman is formally considered lost. Photographs taken of holotypes and lectotypes are included, helping taxonomic documentation and in some extent, species identification. After the nomenclatural acts in this paper, the Natural History Museum, London, now holds holotypes of 292 Neotropical species of the Mycetophilidae, 23 lectotypes, syntypes of 3 species that have syntypes in other collections, paratypes of 81 species that have holotypes in other collections, identified specimens of 5 species with types lost and specimens of three species which fit in other cases.

**Key words:** Diptera, Mycetophilidae, Neotropics, Natural History Museum, types, taxonomy

## Introduction

The Neotropical Mycetophilidae have been studied by a considerable number of authors, among which particular credit should be given to Gunther Enderlein, Francis W. Edwards, Paul Freeman, John Lane, Edward I. Coher, and José Pedro Duret. Some few species were described by earlier authors, as E. Blanchard, F. Lynch-Arribáizaga, R.A. Philippi, and S.W. Williston, among others.

The collection at the Natural History Museum, London, houses primary and secondary types of a large number of species, described mainly by F.W. Edwards, Paul Freeman, and John Lane. Most primary types are of species from Patagonia and South Chile, described in the classic paper by Freeman (1951). Among the species described by Edwards, an important number corresponds to material collected by Fritz Plaumann in the district of Nova Teutônia, Municipality of Seara, State of Santa Catarina, southern Brazil, but there is material from important additional localities in Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Peru. Some of the species described by John Lane with types at the Natural History Museum correspond to Fritz Plaumann's specimens collected in 1938–1939 and on loan to him.

All primary and secondary types of Neotropical species of Mycetophilidae at the Natural History Museum were examined and details for the specimens are given herein. Lectotypes were designated whenever necessary, and a few minor errors in the Neotropical catalogue of the family (Papavero 1978) on information about these types are corrected.

Mostly labels of the primary types are described in detail. The labels are referred to here in the sequence they appear from top to bottom. Lines broken in the text at the same label are indicated by “/”; separate labels with the same specimen are indicated by “//”. Labels with both handwritings and printed matters are indicated as such;