



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3956.1.9>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:EFDEEE52-B222-4622-AB70-93C4931A30C6>

## Description of a new species of *Fannia* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 (Diptera: Fanniidae) and distribution records of the genus from the Caucasus Mountains

ADRIAN C. PONT

Oxford University Museum of Natural History, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PW, UK, and The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K. E-mail: [pont.muscidae@btinternet.com](mailto:pont.muscidae@btinternet.com)

### Abstract

A new species, *Fannia caucasica* sp. nov., is described from localities in Georgia and Armenia between 1600 and 2200 m. In addition, previous literature on the genus *Fannia* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 in the Caucasus Mountains is reviewed, and records are given for 15 species from Armenia and Georgia, of which nine are new records for Armenia and seven are new records for Georgia.

**Key words:** Armenia, fanniid flies, Georgia, new records, taxonomy

### Introduction

*Fannia* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 is the largest genus of the Fanniidae and contains some 350 valid described species. The species are found in every biogeographic region but the genus is best represented in the Holarctic region and in the temperate and montane zones of the Neotropics. Whilst the European fauna is relatively well known (Hennig 1955a, b, Rozkošný *et al.* 1997), the area of the Caucasus Mountains, which extend through Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, is almost completely unworked.

Most of the previous records have been made within surveys of medically important flies or of flies associated with man. From the “Caucasus” in general, *Fannia scalaris* (Fabricius, 1794) (Hennig 1955b: 82), *Fannia leucosticta* (Meigen, 1838) (Zimin & Elberg 1970: 519, 525) and *Fannia tuberculata* (Zetterstedt, 1849) (Zimin & Elberg 1970: 519, 526) have been recorded. From Georgia, Kalandadze & Chilingarova (1940: 518) and Kobakhidze *et al.* (1973: 48) recorded *Fannia canicularis* (Linnaeus, 1761). From Azerbaijan and specifically from Talysh, *Fannia canicularis*, *Fannia scalaris* and *Fannia leucosticta* were recorded by Trofimov (1964: 22, 1965: 606). And, most recently, there are records from Armenia of *Fannia canicularis* from the Vayots Dzor region, *Fannia lepida* (Wiedemann, 1817) from the Kotayk region and *Fannia serena* (Fallén, 1825) from the Tavush region (Pont *et al.* 2005: 74–75).

The present paper describes a new species belonging to the *Fannia serena*-group from Georgia and Armenia, *Fannia caucasica* sp. nov. Furthermore, records of 15 species from Georgia and Armenia are given, of which 9 are new records for Armenia and 7 are new records for Georgia.

### Material and methods

All the material discussed was collected by myself, unless otherwise stated. That from Georgia was collected in 1983, when I was on the staff of the then British Museum (Natural History), London, in the area of Kazbegi on the Georgian Military Highway. The material from Armenia was collected in 2005, 2010, 2011 and 2012 when I was collaborating in Projects A-676 and A-1662 of the International Science and Technology Centre, Moscow, and is from many sites throughout the country.

The village of Kazbegi has recently been renamed Stepantsminda, but I retain the name Kazbegi as it is the name that is on the locality labels of the specimens discussed here.