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Six new species of *Microdon* Meigen from Madagascar (Diptera: Syrphidae)

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Abstract

Six new species of the myrmecophilous hoverfly genus *Microdon* Meigen (Diptera: Syrphidae) are described from Madagascar. Redescriptions are given for the three other Madagascan species of this genus. Keys are presented to the Madagascan genera of the subfamily Microdontinae and to the Madagascan species of *Microdon*.

Key words: Microdontinae, Afrotropical region, species key

Introduction

Hoverflies of the subfamily Microdontinae (Diptera: Syrphidae) are associated with ants during their immature stages. The larvae are predators or parasitoids of the ant brood and highly specialized in their relationships with their preys or hosts (Reemer 2013; Pérez-Lachaud *et al.* 2014). In parallel with ant diversity, the greatest diversity of Microdontinae is found in the tropics: of approximately 480 described species, 400 occur in tropical regions (Reemer 2013; Reemer & Ståhls 2013a).

The Afrotropical region harbours 63 described species of Microdontinae, seven of which are presently included in the type genus *Microdon* Meigen. On Madagascar, 21 species of Microdontinae are known (excluding one species of the Comoros), three of which are included in *Microdon* (Cheng & Thompson 2008; Dirickx 1995; Keiser 1971; Reemer & Ståhls 2013a).

The present paper describes six new species of *Microdon* from Madagascar. The three formerly described species are redescribed. Keys to the Madagascan genera of Microdontinae and the Madagascan species of *Microdon* are given.

Material and methods

Dissected male genitalia have been macerated in lactic acid for 24 hours and were subsequently stored in glycerol. Drawings were made using a drawing tube attached to a Wild M20 microscope.

The following acronyms are used to indicate entomological collections:

CAS	California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco (USA)
CSCA	California State Collection of Arthropods, Sacramento (USA)
MNHN	Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (France)
RMNH	Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden (the Netherlands)

Morphological terminology follows Reemer & Ståhls (2013b), who derived their terminology mainly from McAlpine (1981), supplemented with a few terms with special relevance to Microdontinae from Speight (1987), Thompson (1999), Sinclair (2000), Hippa & Ståhls (2005) and Cheng & Thompson (2008).