

Two new species of *Sarcophartiopsis* (Diptera: Sarcophagidae)

THOMAS PAPE¹ & JULIO MÉNDEZ²

¹ Swedish Museum of Natural History, Department of Entomology, P.O. Box 50007, SE-104 05, Stockholm, Sweden; e-mail: thomas.pape@nrm.se

² University of Panama, Department of Zoology: P.O. Box 6-747, Panama 6-A, Panama; e-mail: julmen42@hotmail.com

Abstract

Two new species of the genus *Sarcophartiopsis* Hall, 1933 are described: *S. kuna* **sp. nov.**, which inhabits coastal mangroves along the Caribbean coast of Panama, and *S. chiriqui* **sp. nov.**, which is found in the Pacific mangrove wetlands of southwestern Panama and in coastal northwestern Costa Rica. Both species have been collected from and breed in semiterrestrial crabs of the genus *Cardisoma* Latreille (Crustacea: Gecarcinidae). A key to species of *Sarcophartiopsis* is provided.

Key words: *Sarcophartiopsis*, new species, Panama, Costa Rica, mangrove, semiterrestrial crabs

Introduction

Sarcophartiopsis Hall, 1933 is a genus of small-sized flesh flies common in the Antillean islands and Central America (Mello-Patiu & Pape 2000, Pape & Méndez 2002). Only three of the now 12 named species are known to have a wider distribution, namely *S. cuneata* (Townsend), which is found from Costa Rica south to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Pape 1996, Mello-Patiu & Pape 2000); *S. paterna* Dodge, which outside the Greater Antilles (Cuba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico) has been recorded from USA (Florida); and *S. farri* Dodge, which is known from Costa Rica, Jamaica, and USA (Texas). [Shewell (1987) gave "2 spp.; Florida, Texas" at the entry for *Sarcophartiopsis* in his key to the Nearctic genera of Sarcophagidae, probably referring to Dodge's (1965) record of *S. paterna* from Florida as well as to 4 specimens of *S. farri* from Texas, Hidalgo Co., present in the Canadian National Collection of Insects, Ottawa.] Species diversity is highest in coastal mangroves, where several species are attracted to and breed in semiterrestrial crabs (Pape & Méndez 2002, present paper). Continued collecting by the second author in the wetlands of Panama and prior collecting by the first author in Costa Rica has revealed specimens of two hitherto undescribed species of *Sarcophartiopsis*, which herewith are named and described.