

Description of five *Anthrax* Scopoli puparia (Diptera, Bombyliidae, Anthracinae, Anthracini)

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Abstract

Five pupae of *Anthrax* (*A. austrinus*, *A. cephus*, *A. hylaios*, *A. macquarti* and *A. repertus*) are described and illustrated for the first time, with records of their hosts and distribution presented. The paper also includes a brief discussion on new characters that could be useful for the segregation of puparium at species level and the sexual dimorphism of *Anthrax* pupae.

Key words: Anthrax, pupae, morphology, systematics, Brazil

Introduction

Most of the family Bombyliidae have immature stages that are parasitoids or predators of other immature insects. Due to this fact, the larval stages are scarcely known, being mostly confined in nests or attached to their host's bodies. Thus, collecting becomes difficult and, in most cases, occurs only by chance. *Anthrax* Scopoli is one of the most well known genera of Bombyliidae of the New World and also one of the few to possess an identification key to species for adults and pupae.

Malloch (1917) presented descriptions and the first identification key to the pupae of the genus. Marston (1963) revised the species of *Anthrax* included in the *albofasciatus* group, and presented an identification key for the Nearctic species and subspecies of this group, and complete descriptions of nine species (*Anthrax limatulus* Say, *A. albofasciatus* Macquart, *A. pauper* (Loew), *A. fur* (Osten Sacken), *A. daphne* (Osten Sacken), *A. varicolor* (Bigot), *A. vierecki* (Cresson), *A. plesia* Curran and *A. nidicola* Cole) and description of eight new taxa (*A. aureosquamosus*, *A. limatulus artemesia*, *A. limatulus larrea*, *A. limatulus vallicola*, *A. limatulus columbiensis*, *A. albofasciatus picea*, *A. albofasciatus*