New species of Lonchaeidae (Diptera: Schizophora) from central and southern Africa

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Abstract

Eleven new species of Lonchaeidae are described, namely, *Lamprolonchaea longicercus* MacGowan sp. nov. (Tanzania), *Lonchaea asymmetrica* MacGowan, sp. nov. (Tanzania), *Lonchaea grandiseta* MacGowan, sp. nov. (Botswana & Namibia); *Silba budongo* MacGowan sp. nov (Uganda) , *Silba calceus* MacGowan, sp. nov. (Namibia); *Silba figurata* MacGowan sp. nov (Uganda), *Silba gongeti* MacGowan sp. nov (Uganda), *Silba namibia* MacGowan, sp. nov. (Namibia), *Silba quadridentata* MacGowan, sp. nov. (Uganda), *Silba spatulata* MacGowan, sp. nov. (Tanzania) and *Silba uganda* MacGowan sp. nov (Uganda) The previously unknown male of *Lonchaea haplosetifera* McAlpine is also described from South Africa. New records of Lonchaeidae species are provided for Botswana, Namibia, Tanzania and Zambia.

Key words: Diptera, Lonchaeidae, new species, Africa, *Lamprolonchaea, Lonchaea, Silba*, Tanzania, Botswana, Namibia, Uganda

INTRODUCTION

McAlpine (1960) monographed the South African Lonchaeidae and listed twenty four Afrotropical species belonging to four genera of which twenty one species occurred south of the Kunene and Zambezi Rivers, and fourteen of these he described as new. Subsequently, in his major paper on World Lonchaeidae, McAlpine (1964) added a further eight species of *Dasiops*, nine species of *Silba* and six species of *Lonchaea* from Africa. Since these two papers, however, there has been apparently no work undertaken on the Lonchaeidae fauna of the Afrotropical Region. McAlpine (1981) listed fifty two species from this Region, including some from the Seychelles not covered by the above papers.

In general adult Lonchaeidae are rather uniform small to medium sized black or metallic flies. Apart from some lighter colouration occasionally present on the tarsomeres and

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