



Revision of the *Myopa testacea* Species-Group in the Palaearctic Region (Diptera: Conopidae)

JENS-HERMANN STUKE¹ & DAVID K. CLEMENTS²

1. Dr. Jens-Hermann Stuke, Roter Weg 22, D-26789 Leer, Germany; email: jstuke@zfn.uni-bremen.de

2. David Clements, 7 Vista Rise, Llandaff, Cardiff, CF5 2SD, U.K.; email: dave.clements1@ntlworld.com

Abstract

The *Myopa testacea* Species-Group is revised. Seven valid species are considered to belong to this group, and an identification key to these is presented. The known distribution information is evaluated, and the sparse information available on the biology is summarised. *Myopa claussenii* **sp. nov.** and *Myopa hirsuta* **sp. nov.** (= *Myopa strandi* auct., nec Duda 1940) are described; *Myopa arabica* Macquart, 1850 is reinterpreted as a valid species (**stat. rev.**) and *Myopa strandi* Duda, 1940 is placed as a junior synonym of *Myopa vicaria* Walker, 1849 (**syn. nov.**).

Key words: Revision; *Myopa testacea* Species-Group; Conopidae; Diptera; Palaearctic species; spp. nov.; stat. rev.; syn. nov.

Introduction

The genus *Myopa* Fabricius, 1775 currently includes about 25 valid species in the Palaearctic region according to Chvála & Smith 1988, supplemented by Clements (2000), Stuke (2001; 2003a, 2004; 2005), Stuke & Clements (2005) and Stuke & Maeta (2004). The species in the *testacea*-group are taxonomically some of the most difficult in this region.

Following the description of *Myopa testacea* by Linnaeus (1767), and up until the middle of the 19th Century, only very few other species were described in this group — mostly inadequately — by other authors including Meigen, Macquart and Robineau-Desvoidy. Schiner (1862) accepted only two species, *Myopa testacea* and *Myopa stigma*, and several later authors agreed with this assessment (e.g. Chen 1939, Becker 1922, Wahlgren 1917), whilst others regarded *Myopa stigma* as no more than a form of *Myopa testacea* (Kröber 1936). Collin (1960), and later Chvála (1965), Bańkowska (1979) and Zimina (1999b), recognised four species in the *Myopa testacea* Species-Group as defined here.

Following examination of a large number of *Myopa* specimens from many locations throughout the Palaearctic region, it has become apparent that there remain a number of problems in the current taxonomy of the genus, and that additional revisional work is required. The following account therefore represents the first stage of such a revision.

Materials and Methods

Morphological terminology follows McAlpine (1981) and Stuckenberg (1999). For the examination of genital structures and taxonomically important sternites it is usually necessary to detach the entire abdomen, or at