



Review of Oriental *Metopina* Macquart (Diptera: Phoridae)

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Abstract

The following eight new species of *Metopina* are described: *M. bacanae*, *M. blaxteri*, *M. chambersae*, *M. dormani*, *M. edwardsi*, *M. palawanensis*, *M. prolongata*, *M. spriggsi*. A Key to the females of the Oriental species is provided.

Key words: Diptera, Phoridae, *Metopina*, new species, Oriental, keys

Introduction

This paper is primarily based on collections made whilst a participant on the 1985 Project Wallace expedition to Sulawesi, sponsored by the Royal Entomological Society and the Indonesian Institute of Sciences.

Methods

The specimens were preserved in alcohol (70–80%) and subsequently mounted on slides in Berlese Fluid (Disney, 2001).

Types are deposited in the University of Cambridge Museum of Zoology (UCZM) except where indicated otherwise.

Genus *Metopina* Macquart, 1835

Type species. *Metopina galeata* (Haliday, 1833: 179).

Almost three dozen species of the cosmopolitan genus *Metopina* are known. Confusion has been caused by naming species on the basis of descriptions of one sex only. Modern species descriptions should be based on both sexes or the females alone. Males alone should not be named. The discovery of polymorphism among the females of one species (Disney, 1988) revealed that for a Neotropical species a similar morph had been assigned to a separate genus!

The Australasian species are covered by Disney (2003) and the Asian Palearctic species are covered by Disney & Michailovskaya (2000) and by Liu (2001), who keys species from China, but overlooked a species added by Yang & Wang (1995). Previously known Oriental species were covered by Schmitz (1927) and Disney (1988, 1994, 2003); with the former also recorded since from the Australasian Region and from Arabia (Disney, 2006). In this paper a further eight species, based on females, are described and named, and a key to the females of all species known from the Oriental Region is provided.