



Three new species of scuttle fly (Diptera: Phoridae) from Indonesia

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Abstract

Plethysmochaeta lawrencei sp. nov., *Poloniphora lawrencei* sp. nov. and *Spiniphora lawrencei* sp. nov. are described from Indonesia.

Key words: Diptera, Phoridae, new species, Indonesia

Introduction

Among collections of scuttle flies (Diptera: Phoridae) collected in Indonesia in 1985 are the males of three distinctive species. One belongs to the genus *Plethysmochaeta* Schmitz, in which the recognition of the species was only clarified ten years later. One belongs to the genus *Poloniphora* Disney & Durska, which was only described in 1998. The third belongs to the genus *Spiniphora* Malloch.

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

The new species

All three species are named after Dr Peter Lawrence FRS, who has been most supportive of my studies in a field very different from that in which he has so distinguished himself.

Plethysmochaeta Schmitz, 1924

A key to the species is provided by Disney (1995), covering five Afrotropical species, one from Java and one from Malaya, and an additional Afrotropical species was added by Hibbs & Brown (1998). It runs to couplet 9 in the key. The Javanese species was subsequently reported from Japan and its description amplified (Nakayama, 2006).

Plethysmochaeta lawrencei sp. nov.

(Figs 1–3)

In the key to species (Disney, 1995) this will run to couplet 10, where it is distinguished from the other two species by the details of the hypopygium, especially by the process from the rear of the left side of the epandrium and the left lobe of the hypandrium.

Male. Frons brown, wider than long, with numerous hairs and dense but fine microtrichia. With a single pair of strong supra-antennal bristles, the antials and anterolaterals about equally spaced in a more-or-less