



Ommatomyia, a new genus from Vietnam (Diptera: Asilidae: Ommatiinae)

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Abstract

Ommatomyia gen. nov. and *O. cera* sp. nov. (Diptera: Asilidae: Ommatiinae) from South-Central Vietnam are described and figured. This new genus is allied to *Ommatius* Wiedemann, 1821 but is distinguished by the three-segmented, mostly bare stylus, bilateral plume of unusually short setae on the apical segment, and the basal tarsomere of the hind tarsus is as long as the apical four tarsomeres combined. A revised key to the Oriental genera is included.

Key words: Diptera, Asilidae, new genus, new species, Oriental region, Taxonomy

Introduction

Hull (1962) and Oldroyd (1972, 1975) included five genera (*Cophinopoda* Hull, 1958, *Merodontina* Enderlein, 1914, *Michotamia* Macquart, 1838, *Ommatius* Wiedemann, 1821, and *Stenommatius* Matsumura, 1916) in the subfamily Ommatiinae (Hardy 1927) from the Oriental Region. More recently *Pseudomerodontina* Joseph & Parui (1976) was added, *Emphysomera* Schiner (1866) was reinstated (Scarborough & Marascia 1996), and the subgenus *Pygommatius* Scarborough & Marascia (2003) was elevated to genus (Scarborough & Hill 2005). *Ommatius* is the most species rich genus and nearly world-wide in distribution. The remaining genera have far fewer species and more restricted distributions. *Cophinopoda*, *Emphysomera*, *Michotamia*, and *Pygommatius* are largely Oriental genera although they are represented in the Afrotropical and Australasian-Oceanian Regions by a few species (Daniels 1989; Londt 2007; Oldroyd 1972; Scarborough & Marascia 1999; Scarborough & Hill 2000a, 2000b, 2005; Tsacas & Artigas 1994). Furthermore three other genera have more localized distributions: *Merodontina* in India, Thailand, and Iriomote Island (Joseph & Parui 1998, Scarborough & Hill 2000b); *Pseudomerodontina* in India and Sri Lanka (Joseph & Parui 1998, Scarborough & Hill 2000a); and *Stenommatius* in Taiwan (Matsumura 1916). *Ommatomyia* gen. nov. reported herein from Vietnam increases the number of genera to nine.

This new species was discovered among undetermined material in the collection of the Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique, Brussels (IRSNB). It is placed in the subfamily Ommatiinae because of the following shared apomorphic characters: plumose stylus, sclerotized postmetacoxal bridge, and a closed r_1 cell (Hull 1962, Oldroyd 1974, Dikow 2009a, 2009b). The narrow face, two vertical rows of facial bristles, dorsal proclinate postocular bristles, and characters of the terminalia ally it with *Ommatius* and other members of this subfamily. Yet it cannot be placed in any of the existing genera because of its unique morphology as discussed below. A new genus is described here to accommodate this unique new species.

Methods and materials

The descriptive format and procedures follow those in previous papers (Scarborough 2005; Scarborough & Hill 2005, Scarborough & Marascia 2003). Descriptive terminology follows McAlpine (1981). Measurements were