



## Discovery of *Griphophanes* Grootaert & Meuffels and *Nepalomyia* Hollis in the Afrotropical Region with a key to Afrotropical genera of Peloroepodinae (Diptera: Dolichopodidae)

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### Abstract

The formerly Oriental genus *Griphophanes* Grootaert & Meuffels, 1998 and mainly Oriental genus *Nepalomyia* Hollis, 1964, are recorded from the Afrotropical Region for the first time. Descriptions of four new species: *Griphophanes congoensis* **sp. nov.** and *G. garambaensis* **sp. nov.** from DR Congo, *Nepalomyia kotrbae* **sp. nov.** and *N. reunionensis* **sp. nov.** from Reunion are provided. A key to genera of Peloroepodinae and a key to species of *Griphophanes* are compiled.

**Key words:** DR Congo, Reunion, Diptera, Dolichopodidae, *Griphophanes*, *Nepalomyia*, new species, key

### Introduction

The *Griphophanes* Grootaert & Meuffels, 1998 (nom. nov. for *Griphomyia* Grootaert & Meuffels, 1997) was described for a single species *G. gravicaudatus* (Grootaert & Meuffels, 1997) from Thailand, though Lim et al. (2010) have mentioned an undescribed Oriental species of the genus. No species have since been described. The authors included the genus in the subfamily Peloroepodinae, and this was followed in the 'World Catalog of Dolichopodidae' (Yang et al. 2006).

*Nepalomyia* Hollis, 1964 is mainly an Oriental genus with totally 63 known species, of which four species are known from the Nearctic and two species from the Palaearctic Region. It was also placed in the subfamily Peloroepodinae (Runyon & Hurley 2003).

Robinson (1970) and Yang et al. (2006) provided diagnostic characters for the subfamily Peloroepodinae; nevertheless, it should be mentioned that the monophyly of Peloroepodinae has been questioned by many authors and recent molecular work provides evidence that it may be paraphyletic (Lim et al. 2010), in particular with respect to *Griphophanes*. For example, Bickel (1998) considered *Acropsilus incertae sedis*, rejecting its placement in Peloroepodinae and Grichanov (1998b) associated the genus with the Diaphorinae. Yang et al. (2006) followed Negrobov (1991), placing it in Peloroepodinae. Morphologically it is similar to *Scotiomyia* Meuffels et Grootaert and *Nepalomyia*, but the molecular data only consistently support a close relationship between *Acropsilus* and the sympycnine genus *Scotiomyia* (Lim et al. 2010).

Treating collections of the Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium (RMCA) and Zoologische Staatssammlung München, Germany (ZSM), I have found peculiar males of two new species of *Griphophanes* from DR Congo and two new species of *Nepalomyia* from Reunion. Consequently, the genera are recorded here for the first time in the Afrotropical Region. A key to Afrotropical genera of Peloroepodinae is also presented.

### Material and methods

The type material of the new species are housed at the RMCA and ZSM. The specimens were studied and illustrated with ZEISS Discovery V-12 stereomicroscope and AxioCam MRc5 camera. Morphological