

A NEW SPECIES OF *ASINDVLUM* FROM ISRAEL (DIPTERA, MYCETOPHILIDAE)

L. Matile

Laboratoire d'Entomologie generale et appliquee, Museum National
d'Histoire Naturelle,
45 rue de Buffon, Paris.

A B S T R A C T

Asindulum theodori a new species of *Mycetophilidae* from Mount Carmel, is described (male only); it is compared with its closest relative, *A. geranias* Loew from RhodeB.

INTRODUCTION

Mr. A. Freidberg kindly sent me a small collection of *Mycetophilidae* from Israel, which contains a new species of the genus *Asindulum* Latreille. With great pleasure, I take the opportunity of this jubilee volume to dedicate this new species to Prof. O. Theodor.

Asindulum theodori n. sp.

Holotype. - Wing-length: 4.2 mm. Head: occiput black with a silvery sheen; three ocelli, the medium smaller. Antenna : scape and pedicel brownish black, yellow on the inner surface and the entire dorsal margin; flagellum black, base of first segment yellow. Face black, with silvery pruinosity, antennal depression yellow. Mouth-parts brown, almost as long (clypeus excluded) as the longest diameter of eyes, (2,2 : 2,4). Palpi brown.

Thorax : mesonotum black, shining, with silvery pruinosity, shoulders yellow. Scutellum and postnotum brownish black, yellow laterally; scutellum without bristles on disc, postnotum without bristles. Prothorax light brown, pleurae dark brown, more or less shining; pleurotergites yellowish posteriorly, hypopleura brownish yellow in ventral half. Pleurae without bristles, prothoracic setulae absent. Coxae and legs yellow, tarsi dark, spurs black. First tarsal segment of forelegs distinctly shorter than tibia (3,1 : 4,2).

Wings yellowish, slightly infuscated at apex. *Sc* reaching level of base of *Rs* ; *R4* ending close to end *R1*. Costa reaching scarcely beyond end of *R5*; radio-median connection very short, almost punctiform. Anal vein long, reaching almost to the wing margin. *M1*, *M2* and *M3* with setulae, except at base, *Cul* with setulae on its whole length, *An* only on apical third. Halteres yellow.

Abdomen: tergites brownish black, first tergite yellowish at base, the following tergites lighter at apex. Sternite I yellow, sternites II-III brown with yellow apical margin, following sternites entirely yellow. Hypopygium (Fig. 1-2) yellowish brown dorsally, yellow ventrally.

Holotype, : Mount Carmel, 6.III.1971 (J. Kugler leg.), Tel-Aviv University, Israel.

DISCUSSION

Three Palearctic species of *Asindulum* have an entirely black mesonotum : *A. geranias* Loew, *A. nigrum* Latreille and *A. femorale* Meigen. The last two species differ from *A. geranias* and *A. theodori* in having completely dark coxae. However, it is not possible to distinguish between the types of *A. nigrum* and *A. femorale*, as the abdomen of both is lost, except by the smaller size of *A. femorale*; these two species are possibly synonyms (this will be studied elsewhere).

The new species is therefore compared especially with *A. geranias*. Through the kindness of Dr. H. Anderson (Zoological Institute, Lund, Sweden), I was able to study the types of this species, which was described from Rhodes. It

differs from *A. theodori* as follows:

Flagellum of antennae lighter, brown; yellow area of shoulders more markedly reduced, punctiform; scutellum and postnotum not yellowish laterally, pleurotergite entirely dark. Costa reaching well beyond end of *R5*; *An* much shorter, ending far before the wing margin, and without setulae; radio-median connection much longer. Knob of halteres and abdominal sternites brown.

The male terminalia are very distinctive. The species has never been found again since Loew's description, and has not been illustrated; I give therefore drawings of the hypopygium of the type (Fig. 3-4).

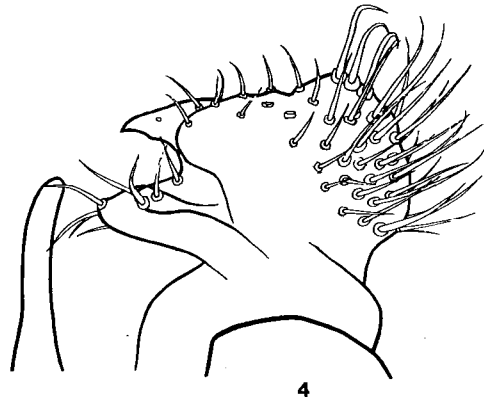


Fig. 1: *Asindulum theodori* n. sp.,
hypopygium, ventral; fig. 2 : id.,
style, outer side, fig. 3:
Asindulum geranias Loew (type),
hypopygium, ventral; fig. 4: id.,
style, outer side.