

ON SOME STRATIOMYIDAE (DIPTERA) FROM THE NEAR EAST

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A B S T R A C T

Supplementary records of some of the thirty five species, listed in 1974 (Israel J. Entomol. 9:93-108), are given. The following additional species are recorded and the new ones described: *Netnotelus freidbergi* n. sp., *Adoxomyia hermonensis* n. sp., *A. personata* n.sp., *Heraclina galeata* n. sp., *Oxycera muscaria* F., *Odontomyia discolor* Loew, *O. pulchriceps* Loew, *Clitellariopsis persica* Pleske and *Pachygaster minutissima* Zetterstedt. *Cistanche tubulosa* (Schenk.) Wright (Orobanchaceae) is recorded as host plant of the larvae of *Adoxomyia cinerascens*hoev!.

INTRODUCTION

Following an earlier publication, "On the Stratiomyidae of the Near East" (Israel J. Entomol. 9: 93-108, 1974), which contained a list of 35 species, some additional material was received from the collection of the Zoological Department of Tel Aviv University (courtesy of Mr. A. Freidberg). Among the material were two new *Adoxomyia* species from Mt. Hermon, a new *Heraclina* from the Upper Galilee, a new species of *Nemotelus* from Jericho and the male of *Nemotelus syriacus* of which only the female was known. The Pachygasterinae, previously not known from the area, are represented by *Pachygaster minutissima*, a species formerly known only from northern Europe and Russia. Other species not listed in 1974 are: *Oxycera muscaria*, *Odontomyia discolor*, *O. pulchriceps*, *Clitellariopsis persica*, and the subspecies *angulata* of *Odontomyia hydroleon*. It is noteworthy that the material included another female of *Pycnomalla splendens jordanica* and another female of *Exochostoma ornatum* both of which were described in 1974, but to date recorded only from a single specimen. The material contained also a male of *Adoxomyia cinerascens* bred from a parasitic plant,

*Cistanche tubulosa* (Schenk ) Wright (Orobanchaceae). This is apparently the first record of a host of *Adoxomyia* larvae.

#### BERIDINAE

*Chorisops tibialis* (Meigen, 1820)

Nahal Amud, Upper Galilee 6.X.1974 (2♂♂, 2♀♀) coll. Freidberg.

This species is distributed in Europe and Mediterranean countries.

#### SARGINAE

*Sargus maculatus* (Lindner, 1938)

Lebanon, Sotar, 23.X.1941 (1♀), 2.XI.1941 (1♀).

The species was described from Cyprus.

*Chloromyia melampogon* (Zeller, 1842)

Qala'at Nemrod, Hermon foothills, ca. 700 m , 8.VI.1975 (1♀)  
coll. F. Kaplan, 9.VI.1975 (1♂) coll. Freidberg.

Distribution: Southern Europe, Canary Islands, Siberia.

#### CLITELLARIINAE

*Nemotelus theodori* Lindner, 1974

Ein Turaba, Dead Sea Area, 14 and 30.IV.1973 (1♂, 1♀) coll.  
Freidberg and Furth.

*Nemotelus argentifer* Loew, 1846.

Akko, Northern Coastal Plain, 20.IV.1974 (1♂) coll. Freidberg.

*Nemotelus syriacus* Lindner, 1938

Zikhron Ya'akov, Carmel Ridge, 21.IV.1974 (1♀), Mt. Tabor,  
Lower Galilee, 24.IV.1974 (1♀) coll. Furth. Akko, Northern  
Coastal Plain, 29.III.1975 (1♂, 1♀) coll. Freidberg, 2.IV.1975  
(1♂) coll. F. Kaplan.

In 1938 (Stratiomyiidae. In: Die Fliegen der Palaearktischen Region. E. Lindner, ed., IV<sub>1</sub>: P. 143) I described only the female, based on two specimens from Beirut and Haifa. The male closely resembles the female in its black coloration, including the abdomen. In both sexes the tarsi are whitish yellow, tarsal segment 5 may be slightly darkened. The male differs from the female by its short rostrum, which is only as long as segment 3 of the antenna. The hairs on the mesonotum are erect, partly pale, partly blackish.

*Nemotelus punctiventris* Becker, 1902

Ma'agan Michael, Northern Coastal Plain, 21.IV.1974 (1♂) coll. Furth.

*Nemotelus freidbergi* n. sp. (Figs. 1-2)

Holotype: Jericho, Dead Sea Area, 20.V.1974 (♀) coll. M. Kaplan. Male unknown.

*Female.* Head black, without pale pattern, with silvery white adpressed hairs. Frons as wide as an eye in anterior view. Rostrum strong, about as long as the short diameter of an eye. Antennae dark brown, brown on the inside, 2nd segment pale on the inside, 1st segment nearly completely black.

Thorax and scutellum black, with silvery white adpressed hairs, more brass-yellow hairs dorsally. Humeral spot medium-sized, whitish, passing very narrowly into the narrow notopleural stripe. A pale postalar spot absent. Wings transparent. Anterior veins yellowish,  $r_4$  present. Legs pale yellow, with a weak brownish ring in the middle of the femora and tibiae. This ring is most distinct on the hind femora and weakest on the fore tibiae.

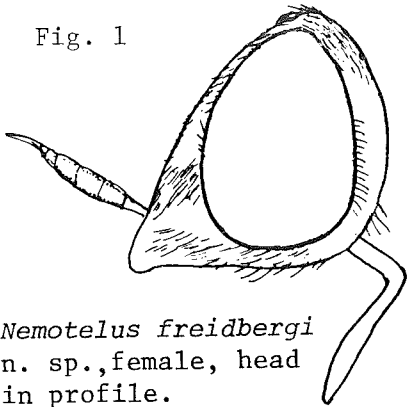
Abdomen yellowish white, with 5 transverse black stripes dorsally. The stripes are wide, situated at the anterior margin of the tergites, but do not reach the lateral margins, and are surrounded by a narrow reddish brown border, also at the anterior margin. This border is widest posteriorly and leaves a white, broad, median triangle on the posterior margin in the middle tergites. Venter whitish, without pattern.

Length 5 mm.

Holotype in Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University.

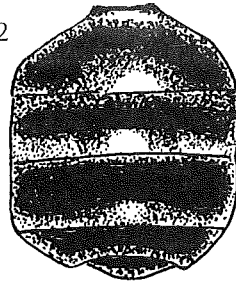
In the Engel collection of the Museum in Stuttgart I found another hitherto unidentified female with the label: "Jericho, 20.-28.IV.1927, Dr. Enslin". It is slightly larger than the type. The male should be easy to recognize by the antennae, which are usually similar in both sexes in *Nemotelus*.

Fig. 1



*Nemotelus freidbergi*  
n. sp., female, head  
in profile.

Fig. 2



*Nemotelus freidbergi* n. sp.,  
female, abdomen.

*Nemotelus punctirostris* Lindner, 1974

Qusbiye, Golan Heights, 28.IV.1974 (1♂) coll. Furth. Hula, Upper Galilee, 26.VI.1974 (1♀), Davvrat, Valley of Yizre'el, 14.V.1974 (2♀♀), Zikhron Ya'akov, Carmel Ridge, 20.V.1973 (3♂♂, 3♀♀), Ein Mur, Central Negev, 19.IV.1975 (3♂♂, 3♀♀), on flowering *Tamarix*, coll. Freidberg.

The pattern is variable especially in males of most species with pale abdomen. The triangular spots in the females may also show variations.

*Nemotelus cypriacus* Lindner, 1938

Akko, Northern Coastal Plain, 20.IV.1974 (1♂, 2♀♀) coll. Freidberg, 2.IV.1975 (2♂♂, 2♀♀) coll. F. Kaplan.

*Adoxomyia hermonensis* n. sp. (Fig. 3)

Holotype: Mt. Hermon, 2000 m, 8.VIII.1973 (♀) coll. Freidberg.

*Female.* A form with typical alpine characters: black, small, antennae thick, wings dark.

Head black, frons above the antennae as wide as an eye in anterior view. The longitudinally divided frontal stripe with deep pores. Hair cover sparse, pale, glistening, longer and denser above the antennae, along the eyes and on the face. Eyes with black hairs. Posterior margin of eyes roll-shaped, wider than length of segment 1 of antennae, with a yellowish or silvery border and adpressed hairs. Antennae black, thick, about as long as the small diameter of the eye. very thick in the middle. End segment relatively short and thick.

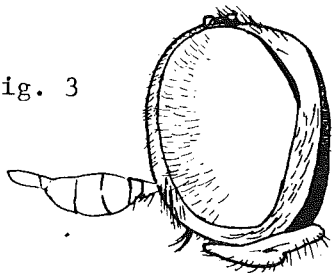
Thorax and scutellum black, slightly shining, with partly adpressed, partly erect, brassy, shining hairs. Hairs partly longer on the pleura. Spines of scutellum slender, about as long as the 1st segment of the antennae. Legs black, with sparse, adpressed pale hairs. Wings slightly brownish, mainly in the greater apical part. Halteres whitish yellow.

Abdomen dorsally bluish black, with large spots of short, silvery hairs laterally.

Length 6 mm.

Holotype in Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University.

Fig. 3



*Adoxomyia hermonensis* n. sp.,  
female, head in profile.

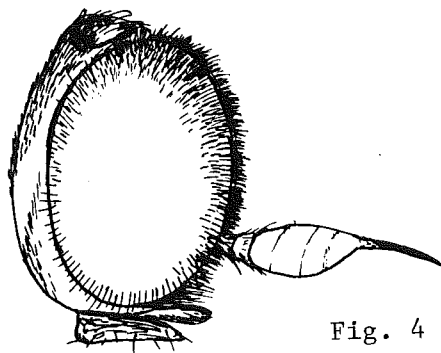


Fig. 4

*Adoxomyia personata* n. sp.,  
female, head in profile.

*Adoxomyia personata* n. sp. (Fig. 4)

Holotype: Mt. Hermon, 1650 m., 9.VI.1975 (♀), resting on *Quercus libani* Oliv., coll. Freidberg.

A handsome species with dark wings and long, thin style of the antennae.

*Female.* Head black, eyes with black hairs. Frons black, with pores in the middle, with only a few pale hairs in the transverse groove above the antennae and at the end of the groove near the eyes. Face short, with sparse silvery hairs below the antennae. Antennae black, thick, segment 3 about 2.5 times as long as wide; style black, about half as long as segment 3, pointed, slightly thicker at the base.

Thorax black, with sparse erect hairs and with short, adpressed, whitish, toment-like hairs below them. The hairs form 2 broad, light gray longitudinal stripes and a slightly broader black median stripe. Mesopleura with sparse whitish hairs. Legs black, tibiae and tarsi partly paler because of the hairs. Wings gray, with brown veins and a darker shadow below the brown marginal stigma. Scutellum black, with sparse, mainly pale hairs and short brown spines. Halteres white.

Abdomen black, with sparse silvery hairs, particularly at the sides of the 3 middle tergites, where they form rounded spots. Both spots are fused at posterior margin of penultimate tergite, and last tergite almost completely covered with them.

Length 8.5 mm.

Holotype in Department of Zoology, Tel Aviv University.

*Adoxomyia cinerascens* (Loew, 1873)  
Kalia, Dead Sea Area, 25.V.1974 (1♂) coll. M. Kaplan.

The larvae were found in *Cistanche tubulosa* (Schenk) Wright, a parasitic plant (Orobanchaceae). They were placed in a jar and about a year later, in April 1975, after being moistened, a fly emerged. This is apparently the first datum on the development of a species of *Adoxomyia*.

*Heraclina orientalis* Lindner, 1974  
Ein Fortaga (Wadi Watir), Sinai Mountains, 7.IX.1974 (1♂)  
coll. Freidberg, (1♀) coll. M. Kaplan.

This species is probably a subspecies of *H. stigmosa* Kertész. It is probably distributed from the Canary Islands to the Sinai and the Jordan Valley.

*Heraclina galeata* n. sp. (Fig. 5)

Holotype: Ha'Tanur, Upper Galilee, 3.VII.1974 (♀) coll. F. Kaplan. Paratype: Ha'Tanur, 26.VI.1974 (♀) coll. Freidberg.

Female (holotype). Wings without r<sub>4</sub> (*Heraclina*). Head black. A small silvery spot lateral to the antennae at the eye margin, from which a narrow stripe extends along the eyes to the face. The black ocellar tubercle is surrounded posteriorly by a large, triangular, yellow spot, which passes onto the dorsal median sclerite of the occiput.

Thorax black, shining, with an extensive pale yellow pattern. This consists mainly of a yellow, square spot between the transverse suture and the scutellum, but does not reach the scutellum. Its anterior corners are triangularly produced and reach the transverse suture. Humeral spot small, a broad notopleural stripe extends from it to the wing base. Large postalar spot; scutellum and scutellar spines pale yellow. Pleura with small yellow spots below wing base. Wings transparent, with brownish yellow veins at the anterior margin. Legs pale yellow.

Abdomen black, tergites with narrow, yellowish lateral margins, which widen only slightly towards the middle. Venter black, with narrow yellowish lateral margin.

Length 3.5 mm.

Holotype and paratype in Department of Zoology, Tel-Aviv University.

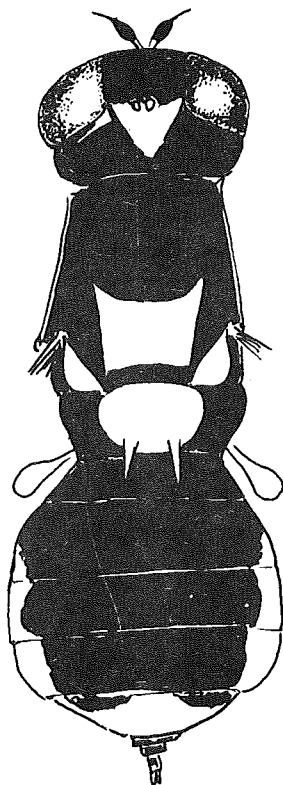


Fig. 5 *Heraclina galeata* n. sp., female.

*Oxycera muscaria* (Fabricius, 1794)  
Qala'at Nemrod, Hermon foothills, ca. 700 m, 9.VI.1975  
(1♂, 1♀) coll. Freidberg.  
A European species.

*Pycnomalla splendens jordanica* Lindner, 1974  
Rosh Pinna, Upper Galilee, 20.IV.1974 (1♀) coll. Freidberg.

This is the second specimen examined. It is apparently transitional to the nominate form, which I described from a specimen obtained in the Jordan Valley. The hair cover is not so distinctly silvery as in the first specimen.

#### STRATIOMYINAE

*Odontomyia discolor* Loew, 1846  
Nahal Poleg, Central Coastal Plain, 9.V.1955 (1♀) coll.  
Lewenwirt.

The species is widely distributed in the Mediterranean, the Caucasus and in Asia Minor.

*Odontomyia hydroleon* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Zikhron Ya'akov, Carmel Ridge, 20.V.1973 (1♀) coll. Freidberg.  
Widely distributed in the Palaearctic region.

*Odontomyia hydroleon angulata* (Panzer, 1798)  
Hula, Upper Galilee, 26.VI.1974 (1♀) coll. F. Kaplan.  
Distribution as in the nominate form.

*Odontomyia xanthopus* (Bezzi, 1905)  
Ein Fortaga, Sinai Mountains, 7.IX.1974 (2♂♂, 2♀♀) coll.  
Freidberg.  
Distribution: Northeast Africa.

*Odontomyia damascena* (Villeneuve, 1912)  
Nahal Dan, Upper Galilee, 9.V.1972 (1♀) coll. F. Kaplan.

*Odontomyia pulchriceps* Loew, 1860  
Avdat, Central Negev, 11.IV.1975 (1♀) coll. Freidberg.  
An African species, described from the Cape Province. The  
Museum in Stuttgart has specimens from Natal and Mozambique.

*Clitellariopsis persica* Fleske, 1922  
Ga'ash, Central Coastal Plain, 24.IV.1974 (1♀) coll. Furth.  
The species was described from Iran. The Museum in Stuttgart



has a female from Israel (Nahal Rubin, 17.IV.1920, coll. Aharoni).

*Exochostoma ornatum* Lindner, 1974  
Daliyya, Carmel Ridge, 21.IV.1974 (1♀) coll. Furth.

The specimen differs from the type only in the more extensive black pattern on the abdomen, which is completely black dorsally, except for the yellow margin which widens slightly to triangular spots on the tergites. The coloration of the abdomen is apparently very variable. Male not known.

Beside Israel, the genus *Exochostoma* is known only from Macquart's description of the type species, *E. nitida* (Ann. Soc. Ent. France 11:41, 1842), from the Provence. The only known specimen of that species is lost. It is possible that the specimens from Israel also belong to *E. nitida*. Macquart mentions a "blackish green" species. The halteres of the local specimen are white, slightly greenish, and the yellow coloration of the abdomen may have been green in life. This will have to be determined if further material becomes available. On the other hand, *E. ornatum* has nearly completely black tibiae, which are yellow in *E. nitida* according to Macquart. It is not likely that the type of *E. nitida* will be found again, and the question will be resolved only upon collecting new specimens in the Provence.

#### PACHYGASTERINAE

*Pachygaster minutissima* Zetterstedt, 1840  
Mishmar Ha'Emeq, Valley of Yizre'el, 12.II.1941 (1♂, 2♀♀)  
(unknown collector).

According to Freidberg, the specimens are labelled "pine bark". It would be interesting to know whether this was imported wood or wood of an endemic pine.