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A new species of Nycterimyia Lichtw. from New Britain (Diptera, Nemestrinidae).

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The single specimen of the family Nemestrinidae collected by the Danish Noona Dan Expedition to the Philippines and Bismarck-Is. in 1961—62 (Petersen, 1966) has proved to represent an undescribed species of the remarkable genus Nycterimyia Lichtwardt, 1909. The genus has recently been reviewed by Paramonov (1953). Including the species described in the present paper eight species are known from the Indoaustralian region. The seven hitherto known species are: N. dohrni Wand. from Andaman Is., N. kerteszi Lichtw., N. fenestro-clathrata Lichtw. and N. fenestroinornata Lichtw. from Formosa, N. papuana Beq. from New Guinea, N. horni Lichtw. and N. commoni Param. from Queensland. All the species are extremely rare flies, several of them represented by one specimen only.

The species described below as *N. septempunctata* n. sp. differs clearly from the other known species by the following combination of characters in wingpattern (cf. the key in Paramonov, l. c.: 245): Basal part of axillary cell with a large, hyaline spot near alula; alula brown; large hyaline spot present in discal cell; and, tip of wing without semi-hyaline spot.

Nycterimyia septempunctata n. sp.

Material:

Holotype, ♂, Bismarck Is., NEW BRITAIN: Yalom, 1000 m, 21 May 1962, Noona Dan Exp. 1961—62. In Zoological Museum, Copenhagen.

Description:

H e a d. The frontal triangle occupies about two-thirds of the distance from antennal bases to ocellar tubercle, being about 1.3

times as high as wide at level of antennal bases. The eyes are practically contiguous in upper third of the distance from antennal bases to ocellar tubercle. Eyes with large facets in upper part, small in lower part, the dividing line being rather sharp and situated at level of antennal bases. Ocellar tubercle very prominent with large ocelli. Antennae 1 mm long. First and second joints short, third joint distinctly thickened towards the apex, style not clearly separated (fig. 1). A pair of palpi as long as the pubescence is visible, but other mouthparts cannot be seen. — Frontal triangle,

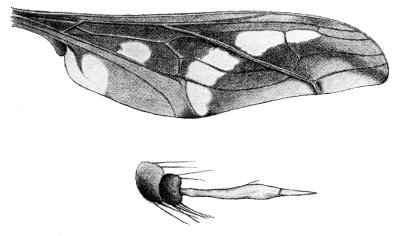


Fig. 1: Wing and antenna seen from inside of *Nycterimyia septempunctata* n. sp., holotype. Length of wing: 10.6 mm. Length of antenna: 1 mm.

and facial structures of a velvet brownish-black colour, the area around antennal bases greyish-brown dusted. Occiput covered by greyish-brown dust, dorsal margin shiny black. Antennae yellowish. The hairs on ocellar tubercle, frontal triangle, the two first antennal joints, and on face and occiput are long and goldenbrownish.

Thorax. Mesonotum velvet brownish-black (darker than frons and face) and without any distinct stripes or other markings. Scutellum much paler than mesonotum, entirely greyish dusted. Pleura greyish-brown to brown. All thoracic hairs are long and golden-brownish.

W i n g s. As shown in fig. 1. The brownish coloration is strongest at base of the wing and in a streak over the central part of the wing, ending partly at the wing-tip, partly along the distal part of the strong oblique vein. The fore margin and the hind margin have a paler brownish coloration, and two semi-hyaline areas are present along the hind margin. Alula dark brownish. Seven hyaline spots of nearly equal size are present as follows: base of axillary cell, center of second basal cell, bases of the two basal hindmarginal cells, center of discal cell, and two spots in second radial cell separated by a vein connecting r_{2+3} and r_{4+5} . Halteres yellowish.

L e g s. All legs yellowish with yellowish hairs. Hind femora thickened in apical half.

A b d o m e n. Ground coloration brownish, first tergite with distinct greyish dust (as scutellum), the following tergites more blackish-brown. Small rectangular lowered spots are present laterally near fore margins of tergites 2—5. Sternites brownish, and slightly greyish dusted. Pubescence of abdomen sparse and depressed except for on fore parts of tergites 2 and 3 and on the lateral margins of the tergites. All hairs golden-brownish.

L e n g t h. Total: 9 mm. Wing: 10.6 mm.

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