



Zootaxa 3603 (1): 001–061
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

Copyright © 2013 Magnolia Press

Monograph

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)

ZOOTAXA

ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3603.1.1>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:0353FEB5-CFB5-4E59-969A-AAB2E86E18DD>

ZOOTAXA

3603

The flies of the family Hybotidae (Diptera, Empidoidea) collected during the Boyekoli Ebale Congo 2010 Expedition in Democratic Republic of Congo

PATRICK GROOTAERT¹ & IGOR SHAMSHEV²

¹*Department of Entomology, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Rue Vautier 29, B-1000, Brussels, Belgium;
Patrick.Grootaert@naturalsciences.be*

²*All-Russian Institute of Plant Protection, shosse Podbel'skogo 3, 188620, St. Petersburg, Russia. Present address: Royal Belgian
Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels; shamshev@mail.ru*



Magnolia Press
Auckland, New Zealand

Accepted by B. Sinclair: 30 Oct. 2012; published: 14 Jan. 2013

PATRICK GROOTAERT & IGOR SHAMSHEV

The flies of the family Hybotidae (Diptera, Empidoidea) collected during the Boyekoli Ebale Congo 2010 Expedition in Democratic Republic of Congo

(*Zootaxa* 3603)

61 pp.; 30 cm.

14 Jan. 2012

ISBN 978-1-77557-086-8 (paperback)

ISBN 978-1-77557-087-5 (Online edition)

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 2013 BY

Magnolia Press

P.O. Box 41-383

Auckland 1346

New Zealand

e-mail: zootaxa@mapress.com

<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/>

© 2013 Magnolia Press

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored, transmitted or disseminated, in any form, or by any means, without prior written permission from the publisher, to whom all requests to reproduce copyright material should be directed in writing.

This authorization does not extend to any other kind of copying, by any means, in any form, and for any purpose other than private research use.

ISSN 1175-5326 (Print edition)

ISSN 1175-5334 (Online edition)

Table of contents

Abstract	3
Introduction	3
Material and methods	4
Systematics	4
Subfamily Hybotinae	4
Genus <i>Syndyas</i> Loew	4
Genus <i>Syneches</i> Walker	7
Subfamily Tachydromiinae	9
Genus <i>Crossopalpus</i> Bigot	9
Genus <i>Drapetis</i> Meigen	13
Genus <i>Elaphropeza</i> Macquart	20
<i>E. biuncinata</i> -group	21
<i>E. ephippiata</i> -group	38
Genus <i>Stilpon</i> Loew	55
Acknowledgements	59
References	60

Abstract

Thirty-two species of Hybotidae (Diptera: Empidoidea) were collected during the Boyekoli Ebale Congo 2010 Expedition that took place in the Democratic Republic of Congo along the Congo River between Kisangani and Bumba. Only four species were known previously. Here we present new records for *Syndyas crisis* Garrett Jones, 1940 and *Crossopalpus aenescens* (Wiedemann, 1830). In addition *Syneches elevatus* Bezzi, 1908 and *Crossopalpus quadrispina* (Collart, 1934) are re-described based on the type material as well as on new material. *Elaphropeza ghesquierei* (Collart, 1934) and *E. plagiata* (Bezzi, 1908) were not found during the expedition, but are also re-described. Twenty-five species are described as new to science: *Crossopalpus yaekela* **sp. nov.**, *Drapetis congoensis* **sp. nov.**, *D. yaekelaensis* **sp. nov.**, *D. zamba* **sp. nov.**, *Elaphropeza angulata* **sp. nov.**, *E. baeloi* **sp. nov.**, *E. congoensis* **sp. nov.**, *E. excavata* **sp. nov.**, *E. furcata* **sp. nov.**, *E. incerta* **sp. nov.**, *E. infuscata* **sp. nov.**, *E. interrupta* **sp. nov.**, *E. juakalyi* **sp. nov.**, *E. kona* **sp. nov.**, *E. laudisoitae* **sp. nov.**, *E. mai* **sp. nov.**, *E. monoseta* **sp. nov.**, *E. motane* **sp. nov.**, *E. moyindo* **sp. nov.**, *E. nuda* **sp. nov.**, *E. yaekela* **sp. nov.**, *E. zamba* **sp. nov.**, *Stilpon congoensis* **sp. nov.**, *S. variabilis* **sp. nov.** and *Syndyas zamba* **sp. nov.** A species of *Drapetis* and *Crossopalpus* recorded from females only are diagnosed, but not named.

Key words: Africa, D.R. Congo, Diptera, Hybotidae, new species

Introduction

The present paper deals with the Hybotidae that were collected during the Boyekoli Ebale Congo 2010 Expedition. The expedition took place along the Congo River between Kisangani and Bumba (Kirk-Spriggs 2010) in May and June 2010 at the beginning of the dry season.

The Hybotidae found during the expedition belonged to only two subfamilies: Hybotinae (genera *Syndyas* Loew and *Syneches* Walker) and Tachydromiinae (genera *Crossopalpus* Bigot, *Drapetis* Meigen, *Elaphropeza* Macquart, *Stilpon* Loew, genus undescribed). The subfamily Hybotinae contains generally larger flies with a short proboscis pointing forward and usually possessing thickened hind legs that are supposed to be raptorial. The Tachydromiinae is large and very diverse comprising quite small (1.0 to 5.0 mm) predatory flies that are generally seen running on leaves of vegetation but also occur under many other conditions including tree-trunks, stones, sandy biotopes, etc. Their proboscis is also strong but pointing downward (Sinclair & Cumming 2006).

The current knowledge and taxonomic status of the Afrotropical Hybotidae is almost entirely due to the revision of the Southern African Empididae (s.l.) by Kenneth G.V. Smith (1969). The revision was based primarily on the collections of Brian Stuckenberg (housed in the KwaZulu-Natal Museum) and the Natural History Museum (London). Only a few other smaller studies have been done: Congo (Bezzi 1908; Collart 1934), Sierra Leone (Raffone 1986, 1990, 1994), Kenya, Madagascar (Shamshev & Grootaert 2009) and South Africa (Shamshev & Grootaert 2010).