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Palaearctic *Abaristophora* (Diptera: Phoridae): First female of *A. arctophila* Schmitz, 1927 and a new species from N. W. Russia

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Abstract

Abaristophora arctophila Schmitz, 1927 is confirmed from Europe through a series of males and females collected in boreal Sweden. The male of *A. arctophila* is documented and separated from *A. sachalinensis* Michailovskaya, 1988 and *Abaristophora kolaensis* Disney **n. sp.**, which is described from a single male from N.W. Russia. A lectotype is designated for *A. arctophila* and the female is described for the first time.

Key words: Lectotype, Europe, redescription

Introduction

The genus *Abaristophora* was erected by Schmitz (1927) to accommodate *A. arctophila* Schmitz, 1927, which was described from two male specimens from Kamchatka. The male of this species presents a peculiar antennal modification: the arista appears to be absent and the postpedicel is drawn out into a flagellum-like (or arista-like) extension (Fig. 14). Species of *Antipodiphora* Schmitz, 1939 have aristate male antennae but are otherwise very similar to *Abaristophora arctophila*, and Brown (1988, 1992) provided evidence that the genus-group taxa *Abaristophora* and *Antipodiphora* form a monophyletic group defined by an elongate and pointed male 'flagellomere 1' (= the postpedicel) in combination with a uniquely elongated female proboscis, which is almost as long as the body (Fig. 2). The aristate species of *Antipodiphora* apparently do not share any derived features not also found in *Abaristophora* (*s.str.*), and maintaining *Abaristophora* in the strict sense would seem to leave *Antipodiphora* potentially paraphyletic (Brown 1992, Disney & Ross 1997, Nakayama & Shima 2006). Michailovskaya (1988) described *Abaristophora sachalinensis* from a single male, which shares a non-aristate antenna with *A. arctophila* and accordingly belongs in *Abaristophora* (*s.str.*). Disney & Ross (1997) described *Abaristophora domicamberae* from a male and a female in Dominican amber, and *A. nepalensis* from a single female from Nepal. Both species were referred to "subgenus *Antipodiphora*" argued from the presence of a male arista (in *A. domicamberae*, males of *A. nepalensis* still unknown) and a less sinuous 6th vein, which may be considered plesiomorphic relative to *Abaristophora* (*s.str.*). The shortened 7th vein of *A. nepalensis* was presented as a possible synapomorphy shared by this species and *Abaristophora* (*s.str*), further corroborating the paraphyletic status of the "subgenus *Antipodiphora*". As no classification of species-groups have been proposed in *Abaristophora* (*s.l.*) we are here using *Abaristophora* (*s.str.*) to refer to the well-corroborated group of species with non-aristate males of *Abaristophora*.

Abaristophora (*s.str.*) is known from the Nearctic through *Abaristophora diversipennis* Borgmeier, 1962, and even from the Neotropics, although no representative has yet been described and named (Brown 1992). Borgmeier (1963) provided a generic diagnosis and repeated the description of *A. diversipennis*. This leaves *Abaristophora* (*s.str.*) with one Nearctic and two Palaearctic species, both of which were previously reliably documented only from the Russian Far East. However, when Schmitz (1927, 1929) revised the Palaearctic Phoridae, he referred a

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