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## New species of Afrotropical Muscidae (Diptera: Muscoidea)

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### Abstract

The study of recently collected Afrotropical Muscidae (Diptera) from Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya and South Africa has revealed ten new species which are described herein: *Coenosia duomaculata* sp. nov., *C. nigromaculata* sp. nov., *C. fragilis* sp. nov., *Helina harrisorum* sp. nov., *H. ferfriniorum* sp. nov., *Hydrotaea tantula* sp. nov., *Limnophora diminuta* sp. nov., *L. antennalis* sp. nov., *Spilogona brunnea* sp. nov. and *S. bella* sp. nov. *Coenosia*, *Helina* and *Limnophora* are speciose muscid genera, found throughout the Afrotropical Region, while *Hydrotaea* and *Spilogona* have a more restricted geographic distribution and include some 20 species each.

**Key words:** Afrotropical Region, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, South Africa, diversity, taxonomy, new species

### Introduction

The family Muscidae remains very poorly known in most areas of the Afrotropical Region. The family was last catalogued in this Region by Pont (1980), who listed 870 species in 59 genera.

Since that date a number of publications have contributed to our knowledge of the fauna (eg. Dike 1989, 1990; Pont & Deeming 2001; Pont 2006a, b, 2009; Shinonaga 2001; Pont & Werner 2003; Couri *et al.* 2006; Pont & Baldock 2007; Braack & Pont 2012; Couri *et al.* 2012; Vikhrev 2012a, b), increasing the total number of currently known species in the Region to almost 960 in 59 genera. Couri *et al.* (2013) provided new distribution records for 51 Muscidae species from Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya and South Africa.

In this paper we describe 10 new species belonging to the genera *Coenosia* Meigen, *Helina* Robineau-Desvoidy, *Hydrotaea* Robineau-Desvoidy, *Limnophora* Robineau-Desvoidy and *Spilogona* Schnabl. These genera are differently represented in the region. *Coenosia*, *Helina* and *Limnophora* are extremely speciose muscid genera (*Coenosia* with more than 100 described Afrotropical species), found throughout the region, while *Hydrotaea* and *Spilogona* have a more restricted geographic distribution and are known from some 20 species each.

### Material and methods

The material studied is housed for the most part in the National Museum, Bloemfontein (South Africa) and was sampled during recent expeditions to Burundi (2010), Democratic Republic of the Congo (2010), Kenya (2011) and three provinces of South Africa (2009–2010). Consequently, some holotypes are in the National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi, Kenya, and in the Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Brussels, Belgium. Paratypes of several species are deposited in the Museu Nacional, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and in the Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom, as indicated under material examined. Some paratypes of *Limnophora antennalis* were collected by ACP and are also deposited in the Natural History Museum, London.

**Discussion.** This species runs to *S. semiargentata* Villeneuve, 1916 in Emden (1951), but both *S. semiargentata* and the more recently described *S. transvaalensis* Zielke, 1970 have an *Anthomyia*-pattern on the notum. *S. latifascia* Emden, 1951 differs by having a broad grey prescutellar band.

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