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New Conopid records from the Afrotropical Region (Diptera). Part 1: *Paramyopa* Kröber, *Pseudoconops* Camras, *Stylogaster* Macquart, *Thecophora* Rondani, and *Zodion* Latreille

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Abstract

New records of 38 species of the Conopid genera *Paramyopa* Kröber, 1916a, *Pseudoconops* Camras, 1962b, *Stylogaster* Macquart, 1835, *Thecophora* Rondani, 1845, and *Zodion* Latreille, 1797 are presented from the Afrotropical Region. *Stylogaster angolensis* **spec. nov.** (Angola), *Stylogaster cryptica* **spec. nov.** (Ethiopia), *Stylogaster fianarantsoensis* **spec. nov.** (Madagascar), *Stylogaster ivindoensis* **spec. nov.** (Gabon), *Stylogaster malaisei* **spec. nov.** (Madagascar), *Stylogaster occulta* **spec. nov.** (Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi), *Stylogaster rwenzoriensis* **spec. nov.** (Democratic Republic of Congo), *Stylogaster tanzaniensis* **spec. nov.** (Tanzania), *Thecophora clementsi* **spec. nov.** (Madagascar), *Thecophora freidbergi* **spec. nov.** (Kenya), *Thecophora nigrifrons* **spec. nov.** (Kenya, Cameroon), *Thecophora obsoleta* **spec. nov.** (Madagascar), and *Thecophora submetallica* **spec. nov.** (Madagascar) are new to science. A neotype is designated for *Thecophora pilosa* (Kröber, 1916). *Thecophora africana* (Brunetti, 1925), *Thecophora flavicornis* (Kröber, 1936), and *Thecophora ruwenzori* (Camras, 1962) are new junior synonyms of *Thecophora pilosa*; *Paramyopa schultzei* (Bezzi, 1908) is a new junior synonym of *Paramyopa oestracea* (Loew, 1863) (**syn. nov.**). *Stylogaster nitidula* Kröber, 1936 is interpreted as a nomen dubium (**stat. rev.**).

Key words: Conopidae, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Kenya, Madagascar, Tanzania, faunistics, new species, neotype, new synonym

Introduction

While preparing the conopid chapter for the forthcoming Afrotropical manual of Diptera I have examined many Conopidae from the region. Due to the poor knowledge of the distribution of Conopidae in the Afrotropical Region I have decided to publish the faunistic records which have come to my attention. In doing so, it is also necessary in several cases to add taxonomic work due to the presence of undescribed species and the lack of suitable diagnoses of the known species. The idea behind this paper is to provide a continuation of publications by two earlier authors who tried to compile records of Afrotropical Conopidae. The most important works concerning the Afrotropical Conopidae were published during the period 1914–1939 by Otto Kröber (1882–1969; cf. Weidner 1962). Kröber was the first to attempt to summarise all of the scattered knowledge concerning the Afrotropical Conopidae available at that time. He published keys for all of the then known species, described 50 of the 170 valid Afrotropical Conopid species and 5 of the 19 valid Conopid genera currently known from the Afrotropics. Kröber had only a short correspondence with the next important researcher who worked on the Conopidae of Africa, Sidney Camras (1919–2014, cf. Skevington *et al.* 2012). Camras subsequently went on to publish on the Afrotropical Conopidae between 1955 and 2007, and described a further 43 valid species and 1 valid genus from the Afrotropical Region.

This paper is the first of several in the current project and covers all of the Afrotropical genera of the subfamilies Myopinae, Zodioninae and Stylogastrinae. The main taxonomic focus within these subfamilies is on the genus *Thecophora*, the large genus *Stylogaster* having been reviewed only recently (Stuke 2013). The other genera of these three subfamilies include only a very few species. The remaining material available to me and not covered in the present paper all belongs in the Conopinae and is to be treated in two subsequent publications.