

***Pygommatius* Scarbrough & Marascia, a valid ommatiine genus (Diptera: Asilidae) with new combinations and new species from the Philippines**

A. G. SCARBROUGH¹ & H. HILL²

¹ Department of Biological Sciences, Towson University, 8000 York Road, Baltimore, MD 21252 USA;
email: ascarbrough@towson.edu

² Keplerstr. 11, Heidleberg, Germany 69120; email: hilary.hill@gmail.com

Abstract

The subgenus *Pygommatius* Scarbrough & Marascia of *Ommatius* Wiedemann is elevated to genus based upon the following combination of characters: thick pencil-like bristles of the face, unusually stout erect bristles on two or three sternites, absence of a stout anepimeral bristle, deeply trilobed epandrium, the first branch being very short, a minute gonostylus, unusually long ejaculatory apodeme, and two pairs of ligament-like apodemes along the posterior margin of the aedeagal sheath. Thirty-five species are transferred from *Ommatius* to *Pygommatius* as new combinations and four new species from the Philippines (*apoticius*, *iriga*, *misamis*, and *montanus*) are described, increasing the number of species within the genus to 39. Formally known only from the Afrotropical Region, this is the first record of *Pygommatius* in the Oriental Region. Previously described species from the Philippines are reviewed and terminalia of the four new species are illustrated. A key to the nine Philippine species is also provided.

Key words: Asilidae, *Pygommatius*, new generic status, systematics, Philippines

Introduction

The subfamily Ommatiinae (Diptera: Asilidae) presently includes eight genera of which *Ommatius* Wiedemann (1821) is the most speciose with the widest distribution. Surprisingly, only two subgenera from the Afrotropical region have been proposed for this large, diverse genus. *Metommatius* Hull (1962) was proposed for those species with one row of setae below the style. The subgenus was subsequently revised and the status further supported by a partially glabrous mesonotum, absence of scutellar marginal and ventral femoral bristles, a horizontal, tubular distiphallus with ventral processes, and long,