



The Diptera: Sphaeroceridae Newsletter.

No. 3

APRIL, 1988

EDITORIAL

At last the third issue of SphaeroNews! My thanks to Jindrich Rohacek, Steve Marshall and Lorenzo Munari for their contributions and to all who have sent reprints of their published papers. The accumulated bibliography from the three issues of SphaeroNews plus papers cited in my Handbook and those sent by Phillippe Vernon now comprises over 700 references. Anyone who would like a copy of the 33 pages of references accumulated so far should contact me.

This issue includes copies of a number of New Year's greetings cards produced over the years by Jindrich Rohacek. I am grateful to him for permission to include them in SphaeroNews and hope that others will find them of interest. The designs are all based on sphaerocerids.

Brian Pitkin

NEWS

REPORT - Steve Marshall, Guelph.

Since one role of SphaeroNews is to keep each other apprised of our present and near future activities in the family, let me summarize my projects subsequent to the published works listed below. My intent last winter was to complete my world revision of *Kimosina*, for which I have a fairly complete manuscript. That plan was stalled due to some unexpected extra teaching duties, but I should have the *Kimosina* paper ready for publication by this spring. One of the things that pushed *Kimosina* on the back burner, was a working visit from Al Norrbom last spring, during which we launched ourselves into a revision of what we currently know as *Borborillus*, a group which includes some interesting new species from North America and elsewhere. Early in that work we were startled to discover that the type of *Borborillus* is related to *Metaborborus*, whereas other "*Borborillus*" form a clade with *Achaetothorax* and *Richardsia*. We have recently heard that Laszlo Papp has discovered some new African species in the same group. We have offered our co-operation as well as our opinion that no new generic name is warranted. It will be interesting to see what emerges, and we hope that all will benefit from the interchange. Perhaps some dialogue on splitting, lumping, and justification of new higher taxon names could profitably follow in SphaeroNews No. 4.

The reason Al and I didn't finish our joint project last spring might be described as the "call of the field". Al took off to Costa Rica, and I went to the opposite extreme, spending my second summer in the northern Yukon. July was spent in the treeless extreme northern Richardson mountains, and there were few sphaerocerids outside mammals runs and burrows. My work on Yukon Sphaeroceridae will form part of a book on Yukon insects, due to be published in 1989. The pattern of relationships is an interesting one, marred only by the deplorable lack of data from corresponding areas of the eastern Palaearctic. I hope to arrange collecting trips to fill any gap - any advice would be welcome!

After a summer in the field I returned to a heavy teaching load, but decided to use what little research time I could glean to co-operate with

revision. I thought that Neotropical and Pacific *Trachyopella*, plus a paper on the *Opalimosina sordipes* group would occupy the fall term, leaving the winter to finish *Kimosina* and get on with *Pterogramma*, *Rudolfina* and *Archileptocera*. Both of the former projects have exploded with the discovery of more and more Neotropical specimens, and both will end up including about five times the half dozen species I originally anticipated. Dave will be working with me until the end of February, at which time I am going to Colombia and Dave will go back to studying protists (even though I'm sure they will seem boring after sphaerocerids).

My longer range plans include further work on Australia and New Zealand faunas, and I plan on taking a research leave to study sphaerocerids of N.Z. during the winter of 1989.

IMMATURE STAGES - Brian Pitkin, London

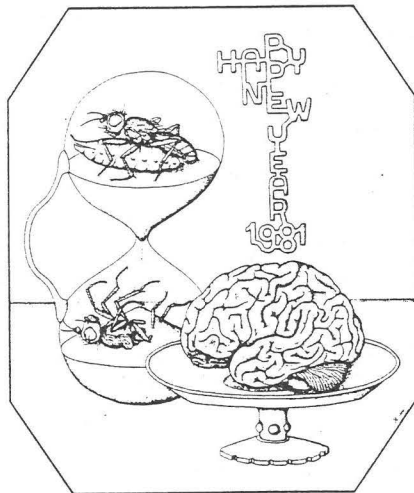
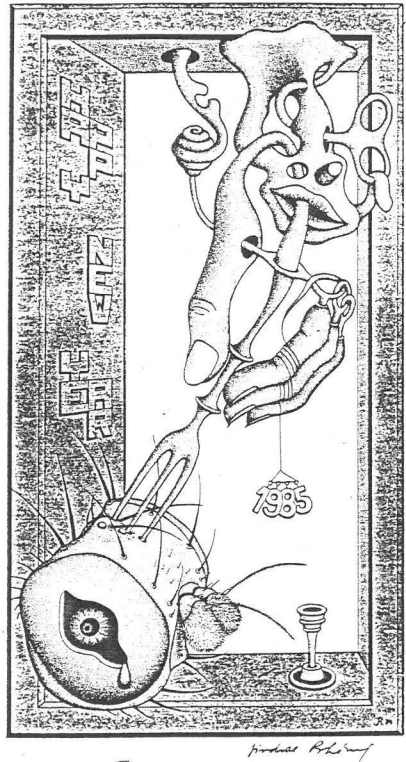
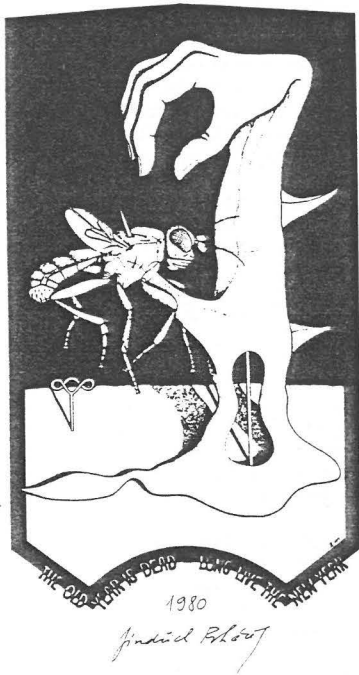
The recently published guide to breeding habits and immature stages of Diptera Cyclorrhapha (Farrar, 1987) includes descriptions of immature stages of Sphaeroceridae and figures of selected species. Overlooked in the bibliography of immature stages by Pitkin (1988: Tables 2-4) but included in Ferrar (1987) are the figures of the anterior spiracles of *Copromyza stercoraria* (Meigen) from Goddard (1938); the anterior and posterior spiracles of the third instar larva and the puparium of *Crumomyia pedestris* (Meigen, 1830) from Deeming & Knutson (1966: 111, figs 1-4); the anterior spiracles of the third instar larva of *Lotophila atra* (Meigen) from Seguy (1940); the the puparium of *Antrops truncipennis* Enderlein (not British) from Harrison (1970: 287, fig 3); and the egg, the first and third instar larva and puparium of *Leptocera fuscipennis* (Haliday) from Mihara et al (1983). Incidentally, Mihara et al (1983) may be the first (informal) synonymy of *fuscipennis* (Haliday) and *downesi* (Richards), as the figures of detail of the adult are labelled as *downesi*, however most of the paper is in Japanese. All of the references except Farrar (1987 and Mihara et al. (1983) are given in the bibliography of the handbook (Pitkin, 1988).

WESTERN PALAEARCTIC *Rachispoda* wanted - Jindrich Rohacek

My main research project is to monograph the West Palaearctic species of the subgenus *Leptocera* (*Rachispoda*). Because of the many taxonomic problems in this group (i.e. misinterpretation of certain species, unrecognised sibling species groups) it is necessary to examine all available types, in some cases designate neotypes and to study as much material as possible from all parts of the West Palaearctic. I would like to ask everyone for the loan or donation of specimens of *Rachispoda*. At present I am particularly interested in material of the *breviceps* group i.e. those species having six marginal bristles. Of course, species of other groups of *Rachispoda* will also be gratefully received, but I shall not begin studies on them immediately.

I am also searching for the depository of types of some species. Any information of this kind will be greatly appreciated, particularly as regards the type material of *L. (R.) subinceptipennis* (Brunneti, 1913), *nebulosa* (de Meijere, 1916) and *zernyi* (Duda, 1924). Can somebody also advise me how to borrow types and other specimens from G. Strobl's collection housed in Admont (Austria).

(Strobl's collection is housed in an Abbey at Admont. Dr Erich Kreissl, Landesmuseums Joanneum Graz, Raubergasse 10, A-8010 Graz, Austria has obtained material on loan for others in the recent past. Editor)



ITALIAN SPHAEROCERIDS - Lorenzo Munari

Lorenzo Munari, co-operating entomologist in the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, has recently submitted two papers for publication (see selected publications below). In one, he describes a new species of *Kimosina*; records *Kimosina* cf. *pappi* Rohacek, *K. ciliata* (Duda) and *Spelobia baezi* (Papp) from Italy for the first time and discusses *Kimosina ciliata* (Duda), *Kimosina plumosula* (Rondani) and *Spelobia clunipes* (Meigen),

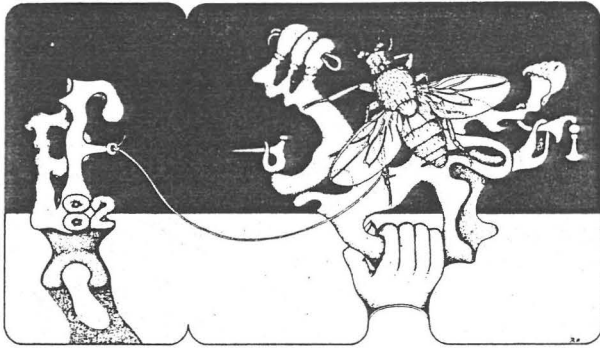
In the other paper, six species from the isle of Pantelleria, Venice are discussed. These include a female *Puncticorpus*, which may represent a new species. Lorenzo is currently working on the sphaerocerids of Algeria.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS ON SPHAEROCERIDAE

This list includes additions and corrections to bibliographies listed in SphaeroNews 1 & 2.

- FERRAR, P. 1987. A guide to the breeding habits and immature stages of Diptera Cyclorrhapha. *Entomonograph* 8 Part 1 (478 pp.) and Part 2 (907 pp.).
- JOLY, Y., FRENOT, Y. & VERNON, P. 1987. Environmental modifications of a Subantarctic peat-bog by the Wandering Albatros (*Diomedea exulans*): A preliminary study. *Polar Biology* 8: 61-72.
- KUZNETZOVA, N.V. 1986. On the flies of the family Sphaeroceridae in Latvia. *Latvijas Entomologs* 29: 8-18. [In Russian with English summary.]
- KUZNETZOVA, N.V. 1986. New data on Sphaeroceridae (Diptera) fauna of the Soviet Baltic area. pp 133-136. In Zorenko, T. & Busa, I. (eds) Conservation, ecology and ethology of animals. Riga: 169 pp [In Russian with English summary].
- KUZNETZOVA, N.V. 1987. Fauna and ecology of Sphaeroceridae (Diptera) from maritime lowland of Latvia. *Latvijas Entomologs* 30: 60-70. [In Russian with English summary.]
- KUZNETZOVA, N.V. 1987. Sphaeroceridae (Diptera) in B.A. Gimmerthal's collection in Riga. pp 77-78. In Krumin'sh, V.K. (ed.) Nature and Museum: 140 years of the Nature Museum of the Latvian SSR. Riga: Zinatne, pp 111 [In Russian with English summary p. 110]
- KUZNETZOVA, N.V. 1987. New data on Sphaeroceridae (Diptera) fauna of the Latvian SSR. pp 79-83. In Krumin'sh, V.K. (ed.) Nature and Museum: 140 years of the Nature Museum of the Latvian SSR. Riga: Zinatne, pp 111. [In Russian with English summary p. 110.]
- MARSHALL, S.A. 1987. Systematics of *Bitheca*, a new genus of New World Sphaeroceridae. *Systematic Entomology*. 12: 355-380.
- MARSHALL, S.A. 1987. A review of the Holarctic genus *Terrilimosina* with descriptions of new species from Nepal and Japan. *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington*. 89: 502-511.
- MARSHALL, S.A. 1987. *Herniosina voluminosa*: a new sphaerocerid of isolated phylogenetic position described from northeastern North America. *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 89: 711-714.
- MARSHALL, S.A. (in prep.). *Telomerina beringiensis*, a new species of Sphaeroceridae from Yukon and Alaska.
- MARSHALL, S.A. & MONTAGNES, D. (in press). *Ceroptera longicauda* a second North American species in the kleptoparasitic genus *Ceroptera*. *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington*. (submitted 29 October, 1987).
- MARSHALL, S.A. & RICHARDS, O.W. 1987. Sphaeroceridae. Chapter 93 In McAlpine, J.F. et al. *Manual of Nearctic Diptera*. Volume 2. Monograph/Agriculture Canada. 1332 pp.
- MIHARA, M., KURAHASHI, H., KONDO, S. & KAWAHARA, S. 1983. A house-frequenting case of *Leptocera fuscipennis* (Haliday) (Diptera):

- Sphaeroceridae) I. Morphology and bionomics. *Japanese Journal of Sanitary Zoology* 34: 7-12.
- MUNARI, L. 1988. Studi sulla ditterofauna della Lessinia (Veneto). IV. Primi dati sugli Sphaeroceridae (Diptera, Cyclorrhapha. *Societa Veneziana di Scienze Naturali Lavori*. 13: 55-64.
- MUNARI, L. (in press). A contribution to the knowledge of *Spelobia* Spuler, 1924 and *Kimosina Rohacek, 1983* of Sicily, with description of a new species. (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae). Bolletino del Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Venezia
- MUNARI, L. (in press). Faunistic researches of the Natural History Museum of Venice in the isle of Pantelleria. Diptera Sphaeroceridae. Bolletino del Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Venezia
- PAPP, L. & ROHACEK, J. 1987. The Sphaeroceridae (Diptera) of Israel. *Israel Journal of Entomology*. 21: 77-109.
- ROHACEK, J. 1986. Celad: Sphaeroceridae. In Cepalák, J. (ed.) Diptera Slovenska II, 435 pp. (pp 149-164, 375-378), Veda, Bratislava. 435 pp.
- ROHACEK, J. 1987a. Replacement name for *Rudolfia Rohacek, 1982* (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae), with first record of *R. rozkosnyi* from northern Europe. *Acta Entomologica Bohemoslovaca* 84: 474-476.
- ROHACEK, J. 1987b. Sphaeroceridae. In Jezek, J. (ed.) *Enumeratio insectorum bohemoslovakiae. Checklist of Czechoslovak Insects II (Diptera)*. *Acta Faunistica Entomologica Musei Nationalis Pragae* 18: 245-249.
- ROHACEK, J. (in press). Two new species of their subgenus *Minilimosina* (s.str.) from Europe (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae). *Acta Entomologica Bohemoslovaca* 85
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- ROHACEK, J. & FLOREN, F. (1987). A new subspecies of *Sphaerocera pseudomonilis* from Sweden (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae). *Reichenbachia*. 24 (2): 171-177.
- ROHACEK, J. & MARSHALL, S.A. (in press.) A review of *Minilimosina* (*Svarciella*) Rohacek, with descriptions of fourteen new species (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae). *Insecta Mundi*.
- ROHACEK, J. & PAPP, L. (in press). A review of the genus *Paralimosina* L. Papp (Diptera, Sphaeroceridae), with descriptions of ten new species. *Annales Historico-Naturales Musei Nationalis Hungarici*
- VERNON, P. 1986. Evolution des reserves lipidiques en fonction de l'etat physiologique des adultes dans une population experimentale d'un diptere subantarctique: *Anatalanta aptera* Eaton (Sphaeroceridae). *Bulletin de la Societe d'Ecophysiologie* 11: 95-116.
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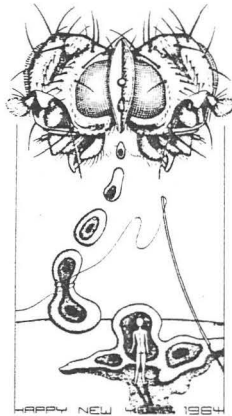


Josuael Pichay



Josuael Pichay

1983



Josuael Pichay

ADDRESSES

Dr. R Bahrmann,
Maxim Gorki Strasse 129
6900 JENA, GDR.
GERMANY

Dr Venelin Beschovski,
Zoological Institute,
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences,
Boulo.Rouski 1,
1000 Sofia,
BULGARIA.

Dr Miguel Carles-Tolra,
Av. Principe Asturias 30 atico 1a,
08012 Barcelona,
SPAIN.

Dr J.M. Debry,
Laboratoire d'Ecologie,
5 Place de la croix du Sud,
Louvain-la-Meuve,
BELGIUM.

Mr John Deeming,
National Museum of Wales,
Cardiff, CF1 3NP.
Wales, U.K.

Dr Yang Din
Beijung Agricultural University
Beijing
CHINA

Mr Folke Floren,
Zoo-Tax,
Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet,
Box 50007,
104 05 Stockholm
SWEDEN.

Dr Walter Hackman,
Jahannesvagen 2 B 10,
Helsinki 12,
FINLAND.

Mr Ho-Yeon Han
Department of Entomology,
Pennsylvania State University,
106 Patterson Building,
Pennsylvania 16802,
U.S.A.

Prof. R.A. Harrison,
12 Roberta Drive,
Spreydon,
Christchurch 2,
NEW ZEALAND.

Dr Toshihiko Hayashi,
Department of Parasitology,
Saitama Medical School,
38 Mohorongo,
Moroyama, Iruma-Gun,
Saitama, 350-04,
JAPAN.

Prof. K.C. Kim,
Department of Entomology,
Pennsylvania State University,
106 Patterson Building,
Pennsylvania 16802,
U.S.A.

Dr Friedrich Kuhlhorn,
Zoologische Staatssammlung,
Maria-Wrad-Str. 1b,
D-8000 Munchen 19,
FRG (West Germany)

Dr N. Kuznetzsova,
Department of Entomology,
Latvian SSSR Museum of Nature
K. Barona 4,
Latvian SSR,
226050 USSR.

Dr B.R. Laurence,
2 The Loke,
Norwich,
NORFOLK NR5 8QG
U.K.

Dr Stephen A. Marshall,
Dept. of Environmental Biology,
Ontario Agricultural College,
University of Guelph,
Ontario,
CANADA N1G 2W1.

Dr Hans Meyer,
Zoologisches Institut der
Universität Kiel,
Biologiezentrum,
Olshausenstrasse 40-60,
D-2300 KIEL, FRG.
GERMANY

Dr L.Munari,
Museo Civico di Storia Naturale,
Fontego dei Turchi - S.Croce,
1730,30125 Venezia,
ITALY.

Dr E. Nartshuk,
Zoological Institute,
Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.,
University nab. 1,
Leningrad,
U.S.S.R. 199034.

Dr Allen Norrbom,
Systematic Entomology Laboratory,
c/o U.S.National Museum,
Washington D.C. 20560.
U.S.A.

Dr A. Ozerov,
Zoological Museum,
State University of Moscow,
Moscow,
U.S.S.R.

Dr Laslo Papp,
Department of Zoology,
Hungarian Natural History Museum,
H-1088 Budapest,
Baross ut. 13,
HUNGARY.

Dr Brian R. Pitkin,
Dept. of Entomology,
British Museum (Natural History),
Cromwell Road,
London SW7 5BD,
U.K.

Mr Ullmar Qvick,
Villa Hottentotta,
Vintertorpsvagen 6,
S 633 57 Eskilstuna,
SWEDEN

Dr Jindrich Rohacek,
Slezke Muzeum,
CS-746 46 Opava,
CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

Prof. Dr. R. Schuster,
Institute of Zoology,
University of Graz,
Universitätsplatz 2,
A-8010 Graz, AUSTRIA.

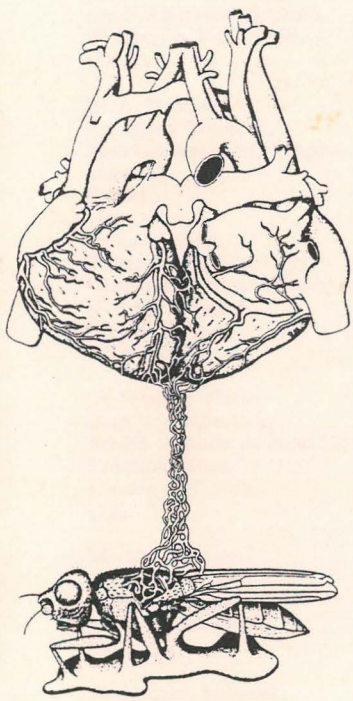
Dr John Sivinski,
U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Insect Attractants Laboratory,
P.O.Box 14565,
Gainesville,
FL 32604 U.S.A.

Dr Philippe Vernon,
U.A. 696 C.N.R.S.,
Universite de Rennes 1
Station Biologique de Paimpont,
35380 Plelan le Grand,
FRANCE.

Mr Terry Wheeler
Dept. of Environmental Biology,
Ontario Agricultural College,
University of Guelph,
Ontario,
CANADA N1G 2W1.

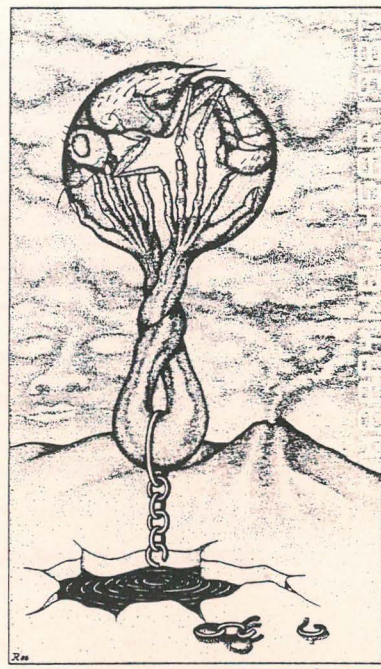
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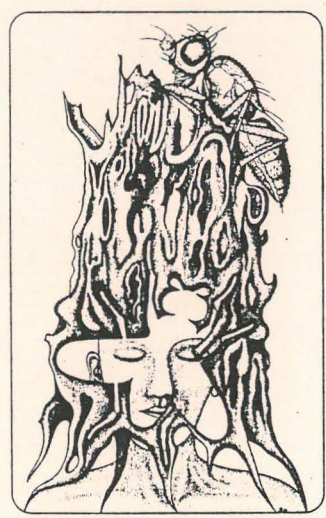


Jordan Baker

THE GREAT ESCAPE



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