

the erect, perpendicular bristles are blackish, in the apical fifth light brass-yellow: in the undenuded wing the veins are only recognizable by the longitudinal series of bristles along them, but they themselves are quite indistinct. *Length*: body (of dried insect) ca. $2\frac{1}{4}$ mm.; front wing, $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm.; antenna, ca. 3 mm.; hind tibia, 2 mm.

Hab. Crowborough, Sussex: in a house, October 1st, 1921, four specimens (*F. J. H. Jenkinson*).

Two *cotypes* in the author's collection: also one example in the British Museum and one in Cambridge University Museum.

[Dr. Jenkinson states that he only saw the four examples which were captured: one was found among some clothes which had lain overnight in a bedroom, another was on a table in another room, and he cannot recall exactly in what part of the house the remaining two were taken. The house had been occupied only just twelve months. The occurrence of various species of Psocids, both fully-winged and flightless, inside houses, has been frequently observed. It is mentioned, for instance, by E. E. Green in his supplementary note to Dr. Enderlein's important paper on the scaly-winged Copeognatha of Ceylon, *Spolia Zeylanica*, iv. 1906, p. 123. Sometimes certain species are present in very great numbers, forming veritable swarms on the ceilings and walls of rooms: the occurrence of such a swarm (composed of two winged British species) in a quite new house at Cambridge is recorded in *Ent. Mo. Mag.* 1916, p. 20.—HUGH SCOTT].

A NEW FUNGUS-FEEDING GALL-MIDGE.

BY F. W. EDWARDS, F.E.S.

The remarkable insect to be described below was first obtained in the larval state in Verdly Wood, North Sussex (a few miles south of Haslemere), in the summer of 1921 by Mr. J. Ramsbottom of the Botanical Department of the British Museum, who was collecting with Mr. E. E. Green at the time. Mr. Green at the first glance took them for *Coccidae*, but soon discovered them to be *Cecidomyiidae* and passed them on to me. Subsequently I myself found some dead pupae in a wood at Datchworth, Herts. Probably therefore the species, though hitherto overlooked, is widely distributed in suitable localities.

The habitat of the larva is in a bark-encrusting fungus which Mr. Ramsbottom has determined as a species of *Hypochnus*, probably *H. fuscus*. Small, more or less circular, blister-like swellings are formed on the surface of the fungus; the swellings are about 2 mm. in diameter

when fully formed, and often crowded closely together. Each swelling contains a single larva, which when full-grown pupates within the swelling; before emergence the pupa pushes itself half-way out through the side of the swelling, and when this has taken place the whole cap of the blister easily becomes detached, leaving a shallow depression on the surface of the fungus. So far as I am aware this is the first record of a Cecidomyiid fly producing a more or less definite gall on a fungus, and for that reason I have thought it worth while to write an account of the species.

From the material collected by Mr. Ramsbottom I was fortunate enough to rear 3 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀. An examination of these specimens shows that they belong to the tribe Cecidomyiariae, and by the table of genera in Kieffer's monograph in Wytsman's "Genera Insectorum" appear to run down to either *Frauenfeldiella* or *Calodiplosis*, according as the palpi are taken as two or three-segmented. From these, however, they differ in many respects, and as I have been unable to trace any subsequently described genus into which they will fit, I feel compelled reluctantly to propose a new generic name, overburdened as the family already is with such names.

MYCOCECIS, gen. n.

♂ ♀. Eyes touching. Palpi 2-segmented (apart from the palpiger), very short, and the segments indistinctly separated. Antennal flagellum 12-segmented, the first two segments connate; each with two hair-whorls and three rings of looped filaments, eight equal-sized loops in each ring; terminal segment with a small, conical, connate, pubescent knob. First scapal segment simple, rounded. Mesonotum without scales. Abdomen rather densely but shortly hairy; short and broad. Legs densely covered with close-lying hair-like scales or flattened, blunt-tipped hairs, sometimes showing a single median striation. Claws each with a long sharp tooth arising near the base. Empodium and pulvilli rudimentary, less than half as long as the claws. Wings densely covered with close-lying hairs; costa without scales. *Sc* absent, or only faintly traceable at the base. *R*₁ well separated from the costa, ending about the middle of the wing. *Rs* slightly curved downwards, ending very slightly before the middle of the wing-tip; *r-cu* almost in a line with *Rs*, much longer and stronger than the basal section of *Rs*. *Cu* forking a short distance before the tip of *R*₁.

♂. Flagellar segments each with two conspicuous swellings, the basal one almost sessile and about two-thirds as long as the apical one, this latter with a terminal neck which is about half its breadth and nearly two-thirds its length. Loops nearly as long as the greatest diameter of the segments. Hypopygium: both dorsal and ventral anal lamellae (tenth tergite and sternite) with a rather deep and rounded emargination. Aedeagus (stylet) rather stout but slightly chitinated. Side-pieces rather over twice as long as broad, without lobes. Claspers rather short and stout, tapering, with a single short terminal claw.

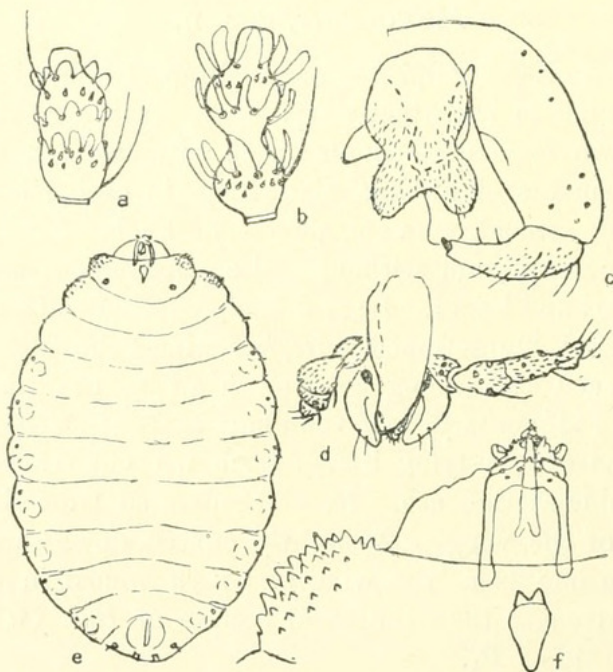
♀. Flagellar segments slightly though distinctly constricted just beyond the first ring of loops; neck rather shorter than in the ♂. Loops about a quarter as long as the diameter of the segment. Ovipositor non-protrusible, with a pair of small, simple, oval lamellae, and a pair of large, rounded, ventral lobes.

Pupa flattened, subcircular in form. Exuvium hyaline, smooth, without any apparent spines or tubercles. Prothoracic horns strongly chitinised, about half as long as the separated antennal sheaths, slender, almost bristle-like, somewhat tapering to the rather blunt tip, which is slightly curved; perforations scarcely visible even under a magnification of 300.

Larva whitish, broadly oval, flattened, the integument almost completely bare, and without well-marked tubercles. Spatule well-marked, pear-shaped, with two small equilateral-triangular points in front. First two thoracic segments microscopically papillose at the sides. A minute bristle in the middle of the side margin of each segment, and in addition four similar bristles behind the anus. A small tubercle on the ventral surface near the lateral margin of each segment. Spiracles all sessile and unmodified, the first and last pairs somewhat larger than the others.

Mycocecis ovalis, sp. n.

Head rather abruptly broadened just below the middle. Eyes large, broadly contiguous above the antennae, widely separated behind the mouth



Mycocecis ovalis, sp. n.—a, Flagellar segment of ♀; b, flagellar segment of ♂; c, hypopygium of ♂; d, mouth-parts of ♂; e, larva; f, head and prothorax of larva. (All $\times 150$, except e, which is $\times 40$.)

parts, considerably emarginate anteriorly. Antennae dark brown, somewhat longer than the whole body in the ♂, not much longer than the head and thorax together in the ♀; verticillate hairs black, about two-thirds as long as

the whole segment. Palpi pale yellowish, very short, scarcely one-third as long as the vertical diameter of the head; palpiger (or perhaps the first palpal segment) sub-globular, first (or second?) segment oval, second (or third?) segment elongate-oval, about half as long again as the first, each segment with four or five short bristles. Labella short, shorter than the palpi, each with one or two sub-apical bristles. Hypopharynx in ♂ rather broad and pubescent, in ♀ narrower and bare. Thorax shining dark brown; membranous parts dark reddish in life. Mesonotum with the usual two rows of long black bristly hair; similar hair on the margins; scutellum paler than the rest of the thorax, with long dark marginal bristles. Abdomen rather short and broad, with dark reddish membrane, tergites blackish-brown; clothed rather densely with black hair. Legs uniformly clothed with black hair-like scales. Wings scarcely twice as long as broad, with dense black close-lying hairs and rather long black fringes. One pore near the base of the feebly-marked *Sc*, two at the tip of *R*₁, and one on *Rs* at a point half-way between the base and tip of *R*₁. Halteres pale at the base, knob black. Wing-length about 2 mm.

Co-types in the British Museum: 1 ♂, 2 ♀ ♀ dry; 1 ♂, 2 ♀ ♀ in balsam

The broadly oval shape of the larvae and pupae is peculiar, but not unique among the *Cecidomyiidae*. Somewhat similar larvae and pupae have been described by Rübsaamen for *Rhabdophaga pseudococcus*, a species which forms white cocoons on the under sides of saw leaf leaves. I have myself found larvae not at all unlike those described above, feeding openly on a fungus (a species of *Corticium*?) encrusting a fallen log; in this case I failed to rear the larvae and did not preserve any.

British Museum (Natural History).

April 1922.

Choleva angustata F., and its allies: supplementary note.—Dr. R. Jeanne in a recent paper entitled "Sur les *Choleva* des îles Britanniques" (Bull. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1922, pp. 49, 50) comments upon the five species of the genus characterized and figured by me in this Magazine in 1918, pp. 30-33, figs. 1-5. He accepts all of them as distinct, two being unknown to him on the Continent, and makes various corrections in the synonymy, concluding with the remark that *C. angustata* Fabr., *C. cisteloides* Fröl., and *C. sturmi* Bris. are not found in Britain! He appears to have overlooked the fact that the type of *C. (Cistela) angustata* Fabr. (Sp. Ins. i. p. 148, 1781) was from "Anglia," and that it is contained in the Banksian Collection at the British Museum in London. I was also unaware of this when my paper was written, and now find that my identification of the species was incorrect, thus misleading Dr. Jeannel. Mr. Blair, in 1920, in his "Further Notes on Fabrician types in the Banks Collection" (Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist. (9) v. p. 162) states that *C. angustata* F. appears to be the *C. sturmi* of Continental entomologists, but this is evidently not the case. He and Mr. Champion have been kind enough to compare my 1918 material with the Fabrician type, a ♂, still in a fair state of preservation, and it works



Edwards, F W. 1922. "A new fungus-feeding Gall-midge." *The Entomologist's monthly magazine* 58, 104–107. <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.10329>.

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