

## NEW GALL MIDGES.

BY E. P. FELT, Stamford, Conn.

The following are descriptions of species brought to the writer's attention some years ago and which, for one reason or other, have not been heretofore described.

### *Asphondylia mimosae* n. sp.

Female. Length 2.5 mm. Antennae probably nearly as long as the body, sparsely haired, light brown, the fifth segment cylindrical, with a length five times its diameter. Palpi small, biarticulate, the first segment quadrate, the second one-half longer than the first. Mesonotum rather thickly haired, dark slaty brown. Scutellum yellowish brown with numerous long hairs at the lateral posterior angles, postscutellum a little darker. Abdomen rather sparsely haired, reddish brown. Halteres yellowish transparent. Coxae yellowish brown. Legs mostly dark straw, the tarsi somewhat darker. The ovipositor as long as the body.

Exuvium. Length 3 mm. Mostly a rather uniform reddish brown, the thorax distinctly more yellowish.

Gall. This appears to be a somewhat swollen, fusiform bud with a length of 6 mm. and a diameter of 2.5 mm., the exuvium protruding from near the tip of the gall.

This species runs in our Key (N. Y. State Mus. Bul. 186, p. 116, 1916) to the West Indian *siccae* Felt, from which it is most easily separated by the decidedly shorter palpi, the darker postscutellum and the lighter color of the legs.

The material was labelled as being reared from *Mimosa*, July 18, 1912, Brownsville, Tex., Exp. 2, Webster No. 6467, and was received under date of January 24, 1922, from Dr. W. R. Walton as the material from which *Ceratoneura pretiosa* Gahan was reared. The host of this parasite may have been the gall midge or another insect, apparently a Cynipoid. It was not found possible to secure the botanical name of the host. There were six specimens of the galls and four midges, apparently all females and exuviae which comprised the sending.

Types in the U. S. National Museum.

### *Lasioptera psederae* n. sp.

Female. Length 2 mm. Antennae dark brown. The third to sixth segments yellowish white, the third and fourth fused



and the fifth with a length about three-quarters its diameter, 21 or 22 segments. Palpi whitish, transparent. The first and second segments with a length one-half greater than the diameter, the third longer than the second and the fourth about twice the length of the third. Mesonotum a nearly uniform dark brown, sparsely haired, the anterior-lateral margins sparsely white scaled. Scutellum dark brown, postscutellum yellowish brown. Abdomen with the basal segments thickly white scaled; the other segments a nearly uniform dark brown and sparsely margined posteriorly with dull yellowish scales. Ovipositor probably nearly as long as the body, yellowish, the terminal lobes narrowly oval. Costa dark brown, the third segment uniting with the margin at the basal half. Legs mostly dark brown, the articulations of the tibiae and tarsi narrowly ringed with yellowish white. Tarsi dark brown, the posterior with silvery reflections in certain lights.

Larva. The larva is reddish yellow. "On the dorsal side near the caudal end there is a heavy black horn which, at its origin, appears to be under the skin at the base of the last segment and which projects out through the last segment. These larvae lie in their cells with the head towards the center of the gall." They were nearly full grown the last of April before the plants were in leaf. The change to the pupa occurs about the middle of May.

Gall. "These galls are corky formations about half an inch in diameter and varying from almost round to long galls, some being an inch or more in length. . . . The general position of the larval cell is, as a rule, in a plane almost perpendicular to the long axis of the gall which is the same as the course of the woody portion of the root. They are arranged in an irregular order close to the wood of the root."

This species runs in our Key (N. Y. State Mus. Bul. 198, p. 108, 1917) to *Lasioptera farinosa* Beutm., from which it may be most easily separated by the yellowish white third to sixth antennal segments and the dark brown scutellum. Described from one dried female reared in June, 1924, by Joseph A. Reeves, then at the Ohio State University, Columbus, from a root gall on Virginia Creeper. The type is in the New York State Museum. The above quoted descriptions of the larva and the gall are from Mr. Reeves' notes. The describer is unable to offer an explanation for the peculiar structure he observed near the caudal end of the larva.



Felt, Ephraim Porter. 1934. "New gall midges." *Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society* 29, 77-78.

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