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A New Species of Criorhina Meigen from California (Diptera: Syrphidae)

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Curran (1924) revised the genus Criorhina Meigen and recognized sixteen species. In the Diptera Catalog (1965) of America North of Mexico are now held fourteen species. This paper deals with an additional undescribed species of Criorhina in the California Insect Survey Collection. The type will be deposited in the California Academy of Sciences.

Criorhina rufocaudata Nayar and Cole, new species (Figs. 1, 2)

Female.—Length, 18.33 mm. Wing length, 13.33 mm. Front dark-brown; vertex slightly shining black; front and vertex with brownish-yellow pile. Ocellar triangle area dark, ocelli light brown. Occiput densely light yellow. Face produced, slightly concave below antennae; facial tubercle extremely reduced, narrow shining black stripe medially; golden pollinose along sides from antennal bases to about its tip; black pile along eye margins. Eyes dark with brownish hue; bare. Antennal prominence shining black along outer border and brownish pollinose inwardly; antennae small, dark-brown; first segment brown basally and black apically, minutely pubescent; second segment brownish with concolorous setulae along postero-apical margins; third segment broad, rounded, flattened, base reddish-yellow and apical part black, black, hollow, rounded spot along inner side near base; arista longer than antenna, threesegmented, dark-brown; bare. Cheeks shining black; dark-brown pile along extreme side margins.

Thorax before transverse suture and pleurae medially densely light yellow pilose; dorsum behind suture black with concolorous long pile; scutellum black, dusted yellow; long, yellow pile.

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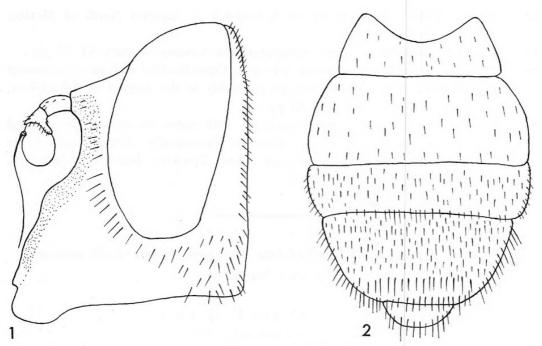


Fig. 1. Criorhina rufocaudata Nayar and Cole. Head (lateral view). Fig. 2. Criorhina rufocaudata Nayar and Cole. Abdomen (dorsal view).

Legs dark-brown; coxae and femora black; femora brown apically; black pilose. Tibiae dark-brown at basal two-thirds and reddish-brown apically; brownish pubescent. Tarsomeres and pulvilli reddish-brown, minutely pubescent; claws yellow basally and black terminally.

Wings grayish, veins dark; stigma slightly dusted dark-brown; squamae black, dusted yellowish with long black fringe. Halteres dark-yellow, basally yellowish and knob blackish-brown.

Abdomen black; first and second segments dusted grayish-yellow; pile scarce, black on first and dense light yellow on second; third segment shining black, golden pollinose at basal two-thirds, pile black with a few long reddish-brown hairs medio-posteriorly; fourth segment shining black; pile black at basal half and reddish at apical part; fifth segment shining black; pile like distal half of preceding segment.

Holotype female.—Black Mtn., Lassen National Forest, California, 5 October 1951.

The species comes close to *Criorhina tricolor* Coquillet with face without pile except along the eyes but can be easily distinguished by the black median stripe on face, antennae dark-brown, third antennal segment with a dark, hollow spot, post-alar calli with black pile, veins dark and in differences of the pile on the abdomen.

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