

seems plausible that at this time the silky coating is being applied. An investigation of the character of the different secretions would easily decide this question.

#### NOTES ON NORTH AMERICAN CHLOROPIDÆ (DIPTERA).

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In a paper which presented a generic synopsis of the family Chloropidæ<sup>1</sup> I described an insect which at the time I considered as a possible variety of *Chloropisca glabra* Meigen, giving it the varietal name *clypeata*. Since writing that paper I have obtained a number of specimens of *clypeata* from different localities, and an examination of these has convinced me that they belong to a species that is distinct from *glabra*; *clypeata* should therefore be used in a specific instead of a varietal sense.

The species is distinguished from *glabra* by its larger size, averaging 3 mm., and by the differently shaped frontal triangle, which is comparatively longer and narrower than in *glabra*, with its sides converging appreciably less from front ocellus to anterior margin. The fore tarsi usually have the whole of the first joint and the basal portion of the second yellow, whereas in *glabra* both joints are blackened except, rarely, the base of the first joint, the clypeus also is generally yellow, very rarely slightly brownish.

In addition to the Illinois localities given in connection with the original description—Algonquin and Urbana—I have taken specimens at Centerville, August 16, and at Monticello, June 21; and I have seen specimens from Plummer's Island, Md., July 4 and 19, and from Anacostia, D. C., July 22,—taken by W. L. McAtee and W. D. Appel.

The following new species were taken by Mr. C. A. Hart and the writer in 1914.

#### ***Chloropisca parviceps*, n. sp.**

*Female.* Glossy yellow. Head yellow; occiput black, slightly shining; frontal triangle glossy black; basal joints of antennæ brownish black, upper margin of third broadly brown; arista fuscous, yellowish at base; face paler than frons; mouth parts entirely yellow. Disc of mesonotum glossy black, shading off into the yellow lateral margins; humeri with a large, poorly defined black spot; mesopleural spot black; sternopleural one yellowish red; scutellum with sides black at base, the remainder glossy yellow. Dorsum of abdomen glossy blackish brown, the posterior margins

<sup>1</sup> Can. Ent. vol. XLVI, 1914, p. 115.



of segments very narrowly yellowish, most noticeably so on the posterior lateral angles. Legs entirely yellow. Wings clear, veins fuscous.

Frons slightly wider than either eye; triangle very large, occupying the entire frons with the exception of a narrow stripe on each side of nearly same width as the anterior ocellus extending almost to the anterior margin, where the sides converge, forming a rather obtuse apex; frontal hairs weak; those on the lateral submarginal line of triangle most distinct; third antennal joint large, slightly longer than broad, rounded at apex; arista almost bare, slightly longer than width of frons anteriorly; profile of head slightly retreating towards mouth; cheeks linear, barely distinguishable. Disc of mesonotum with short, rather closely placed, blackish hairs; scutellum rather short, less noticeably flattened and more rounded than in most species of the genus, disc with several short black hairs, the apical pair of bristles rather widely separated, not cruciate. Legs slender; fore tarsi not broadened; sensory area on hind tibiae half the length tibia. Inner cross vein of wing distinctly before apex of first vein; third and fourth veins almost straight; penultimate section of fourth vein about a third as long as ultimate section of fourth and subequal to last section of fifth. Length, 1-1.5 mm.

*Type locality:* Monticello, June 30. Paratypes from Center-ville, August 16, and Mohamet, August 6,—all in Illinois.

*C. grata* Loew differs from *parviceps* in having the frontal triangle gradually tapering from vertex to anterior margin, the cheeks nearly as broad as third antennal joint, the scutellum conspicuously flattened, bare, with noticeable "rim," and the apical pair of bristles closely placed and generally cruciate; also differs in several minor respects.

#### Genus GAURAX Loew.

Through a mistake in selecting the type of the genus *Neogaurax* the writer, in the paper already referred to, inadvertently created a synonym of *Gaurax*, as its type possesses the generic characters of *Neogaurax*. It thus becomes necessary to rename the genus which contains the forms having the scutellum much elongated, flattened dorsally, and ending in an obtuse point, and I here propose for it the name **Pseudogaurax**, with the genotype *Gaurax anchora* Loew.

In describing 2 new species of *Gaurax* I take the opportunity of presenting a synoptic key for the separation of the described species of the genus. I am indebted to Prof. J. M. Aldrich for an opportunity to examine a specimen of *G. ephippium* from Mrs. Slosson's collection. I have added *dorsalis* Loew and *pilosula* Becker to the species already included in the genus as they obviously belong there. I have taken the former in Illinois, but the latter I have not seen. I am indebted to Professor Aldrich for in-



formation regarding the type of *pilosula* which has enabled me to place it correctly in the key and also for confirmation of my opinion as to its generic position.

#### KEY TO SPECIES.

1. Wings not entirely hyaline, either with a spot at apex of second vein or with a distinct infuscation..... 2  
     Wings entirely hyaline..... 5
2. Wings with a small black spot at apex of second vein (Toronto, Can.).  
     *pseudostigma* Johnson  
     Wings with their greater portion infuscated..... 3
3. Thorax and scutellum black (Ill.)..... *fumipennis* Malloch  
     Thorax mostly yellow and scutellum entirely so..... 4
4. Third antennal joint black; mesonotum without a white spot behind humeri (N. H.)..... *obscuripennis* Johnson  
     Antennæ entirely yellow; mesonotum with a white spot behind humeri.  
     *splendidus*, n. sp.
5. Halteres yellow..... 6  
     Halteres with at least the knob black..... 7
6. Scutellum black (Pa. Ill., N. H.)..... *dorsalis* Loew  
     Scutellum yellow (N. H.)..... *ephippium* Zetterstedt
7. Legs entire yellow (N. H., Vt.)..... *montanus* Coquillett  
     Legs with distinct black marks..... 8
8. Thorax glossy black, lower half of pleuræ and scutellum yellow (Ill.).  
     *apicalis*, n. sp.  
     Thorax and scutellum yellow, disc of mesonotum with black marks (Pa.)..... *festivus* Loew  
     Thorax and scutellum glossy black (La.)..... *pilosula* Becker

#### **Gaurax apicalis**, n. sp.

*Female*. Glossy black. Head orange-yellow; occiput and frontal triangle glossy black, sides of frons posteriorly brownish; face whitish yellow; antennæ yellow, third joint reddish above; clypeus blackish; palpi and proboscis yellow. Thorax glossy black, lower half of pleura and scutellum pale yellow. Dorsum of abdomen glossy black, venter obscurely yellowish, subopaque. Legs whitish yellow, a streak of postero-ventral surface of apical fourth of mid femora and the whole of the apical fourth of posterior surface of hind femora black. Wings clear, veins brown. Halteres yellow, knob black. Short hairs on body and legs pale, bristles black.

Frons slightly broader than the combined width of eyes, and, posteriorly, broader than long, the sides convergent anteriorly; triangle extending beyond middle of frons, equal-sided, the lateral margins slightly convex; orbits with rather strong hairs; antennæ of moderate size, third joint disc-like; arista slightly longer than anterior width of frons, hairs sparse, upright, not very long; cheeks almost indistinguishable. Disc of meso-



notum with short, rather closely placed hairs, the surface without distinct punctures; scutellum convex, short, rounded in outline, two long apical and two shorter subapical bristles on margin. Abdomen shorter than head and thorax combined. Legs rather long and moderately stout; sensory area of hind tibiae not darker than surrounding portions. Penultimate section of fourth wing-vein twice as long as basal portion of third and distinctly, but not greatly, shorter than ultimate portion of fifth. Length, 2 mm.

Type locality: Mahomet, Ill., August 6, 1914 (J. R. Malloch).

***Gaurax splendidus* n. sp.**

*Male.* Yellow, variegated with black. Head yellow; frons orange-yellow, opaque, triangle glossy, the upper margin blackened, vertex and occiput black; face, antennae and arista reddish yellow; palpi pale yellow. Mesonotum honey-yellow, with the following black marks,—a narrow line on anterior margin, a small spot behind each humerus, and a broad dorso-central stripe which does not extend to anterior margin and is connected with a lateral tridentate mark on posterior margin, the outer portion of the latter being indistinctly connected with a spot on lateral margin at suture; anterior to the black lateral spot at suture is a large milk-white spot on each side; pleurae blackened on upper half except one or two small portions where the yellow ground-color shows; scutellum lemon-yellow; surface hairs on thorax silvery white, scutellar hairs and bristles yellow. Abdomen black, yellow at base and on a narrow dorso-central line on second segment; venter greenish yellow; hypopygium black. Legs whitish yellow, blackened on apical half of anterior and postero-ventral surfaces of mid femora, apical half of posterior femora, with the exception of a narrow portion which divides the black mark, and the mid and hind tibiae, except their bases and apices. Wings clear at extreme base, posterior to fifth vein up to cross vein and beyond that point posterior to fourth vein, the remainder black with the exception of a very narrow clear line along posterior margin of fourth vein from base to cross vein. Halteres yellow, knob black.

Head, viewed from above, twice as broad as long at center; frons more than one-third the head-width and distinctly broader than long, triangle extending more than midway to anterior margin; post-vertical bristles long, cruciate; surface of frons with a few hairs, a cruciate pair noticeable on center of anterior margin; antennae normal in size, third joint very densely pilose, arista swollen at base, the hairs sparse and very distinct; cheek linear, with numerous hairs; eyes distinctly higher than long, surface hairs distinct. Mesonotum with silvery hairs which are most conspicuous when viewed from in front; scutellum with two long, cruciate apical bristles, and two much shorter ones which are not exactly on the margin but a short distance from it, on the disc. Abdomen tapering; hypopygium very conspicuous, recurved beneath abdomen, each of the lateral



arms ending in a rather prominent flattened process. Legs normal, the hind tibial sensory area distinct. Venation as in *apicalis*. Halteres with conspicuously elongated knobs. Length, 2.5 mm.

Type locality: White Heath, Ill., collected by sweeping herbage on bank of the Sangamon River, May 30, 1915 (J. R. Malloch).

This species was noticeable in the net by its very rapid motions, running swiftly up the sides, much more like a phorid than a chloropid, the latter being usually very slow and deliberate in action.

**Botanobia (Oscinis) proxima** Malloch.

This species is, I am convinced, a synonym of *minor* Adams. I have taken it in numbers in Illinois, and have reared it from volunteer wheat at Urbana.

#### Genus PSEUDOCHLOROPS Malloch.

This genus was founded upon leg characters which readily separate the genotype from any species of the genus *Chlorops* and point to its much closer affinity with *Chloropsisca*. An examination of a larger number of species of the latter genus than was possible at the time I erected the genus leads me to believe that although the scutellum in the genotype of *Pseudochlorops* is not so conspicuously flattened as that in most species of *Chloropsisca*, its possession of a flattened area bounded by a weak "rim," renders it so unessentially different in structure from *Chloropsisca* that it should not be considered as entitled to distinct generic rank.

Professor Aldrich informs me that the specimens named *Chlorops unicolor* Loew in the U. S. National Museum are misidentified, being *C. integra* Becker. This species therefore goes in *Chloropsisca* and *Pseudochlorops* falls as a synonym of that genus.

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#### A NEW NOCTURNAL SPECIES OF TACHINIDAE.

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#### **Neophyto nocturnalis** n. sp.

General color obscure grayish, head obtusely conical, antennæ very short, wings narrow, slightly infuscated especially bordering veins. Length 6-9 mm. Front in female one and one-third, in male, one-half eye width; cinereous, vitta nearly black; two pairs of orbitals in female, absent in male. Several pairs of smaller bristles, back of the ocellar pair. Frontals (fig. 1) not descending below base of second antennal joint in female, but ending distinctly above same in male. No frontal bristles directed distinctly backward. Antennæ black, third joint in either sex subequal with second, tip of antennæ descending but little below lower



Malloch, John Russell. 1915. "Notes on North American Chloropidae (Diptera)." *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 17, 158–162.

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