# A NEW ORIENTAL *SPHEGINA* SPECIES (DIPTERA: SYRPHIDAE)[1]

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ABSTRACT: The only known *Sphegina* from the Philippines is described and named *philippina* (HT ♂ Bishop Museum).

INTERPRETATIVE SUMMARY: A new pollinator is described and illustrated. The information will enable users to identify species and will contribute to the inventory of the biological diversity of the Philippines.

*Sphegina* flower flies are small inconspicuous pollinators, whose larvae breed under bark in accumulations of decaying sap. The genus is most diverse in the north temperate region, but a few species are known from the Orient. A name is provided here for the only species known from the Philippines to assist a colleague (V. Mutin) doing a phylogenetic analysis of the subgenus *Asiosphegina*.

## ***Sphegina (Asiosphegina) philippina*** Thompson, NEW SPECIES

**Male.** Head: Face yellow on ventral 1/2, darker dorsally; gena yellow anteriorly, brown posteriorly; frontal lunule brownish black, shiny; front narrow, head-width/front-width ratio - 1:10, length/width ratio - 3.5:1, black, shiny narrowly dorsad of antenna, elsewhere grayish-brown pollinose, with short appressed yellow pile; occiput black, gray pollinose, with short sparse yellow pile. Antenna: Brownish orange, with yellow pile; basoflagellomere large, slightly rectangular, about twice as long as front is wide; arista orange becoming brownish apically, with short pile, with some hairs about as long as basal aristal width.

Thorax: Black except postpronotum light brown; dorsum grayish brown pollinose, more dense and gray on notopleuron, with yellow short appressed pile; pleuron gray pollinose, with short appressed yellow pile; scutellum black, gray pollinose, with yellow pile, without apical bristles; calypter white; halter orange; wing microtrichose, with alula absent, with r-m crossvein distinctly beyond end of sc, hyaline except slightly infuscate around fork of Rs. Legs: Pro and mesolegs yellow except apical 2 tarsomeres brownish black, with pale pile; metacoxa black except yellowish apically, gray pollinose, with yellow pile; metatrochanter black; metafemur short, length/width ratio- 2.6:1, yellow on basal 1/3, apically black, with yellow pile, with two ventral rows on spines on apical 2/3; metatibia produced into spur apically, with a ventromedial carina on basal 1/2, brownish black except basal 1/4 and subapical annulus yellow; metatarsus black, with pale pile; metabasitarsomere not greatly swollen, about as wide as tibial apex.

Abdomen (fig. 1): 1st tergum black, sparsely gray pollinose, with yellow pile, with 3 apicolateral yellow bristles; 2nd tergum elongate, length/maximal width ratio - 3:2, minimal (basal)/maximal (apical) width ratio - 1:2.7, twice as long as 3rd, black except basal 1/4 brownish orange in some individuals, shiny, with yellow pile, with some lateral hairs longer than maximal tergal width; 3rd tergum trapezoid, length/maximal width ratio - 0.75:1, twice as wide apically as basally, only 1/2 as long as 2nd, orange on basal 1/3, black apically, pollinose, with appressed yel-

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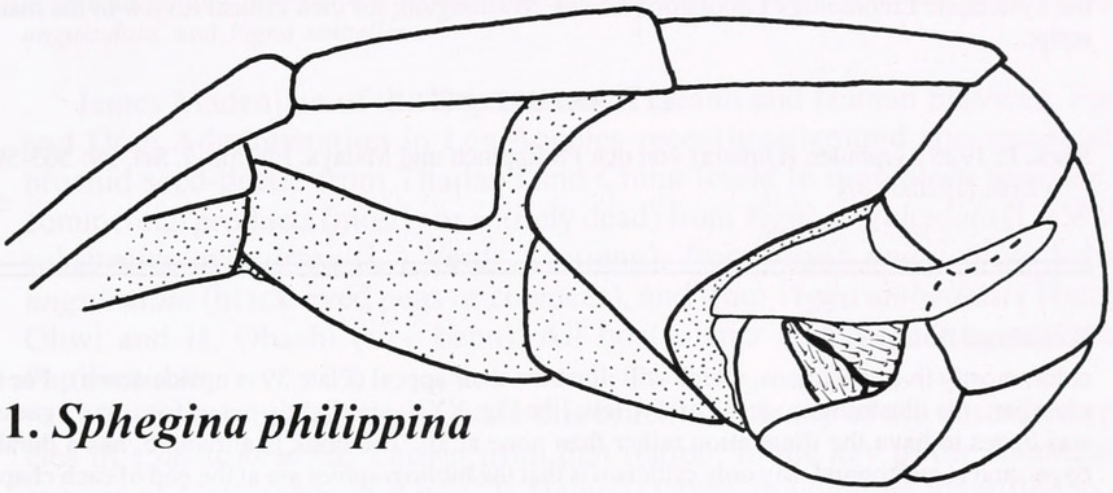
low pile; 4th tergum rectangular, only 1/4 wider than long, as long as 3rd, black, pollinose basally, shiny apically, with appressed yellow pile; 2nd & 3rd sterna brownish orange; 4th sternum appearing to be produced dextrolaterally, black except brownish orange apicomedially and projection yellow, with yellow pile, gray pollinose; 6th-9th segments black, gray pollinose, with yellow pile. Male genitalia: Cercus short, not enlarged, yellow.

**Female.** Similar to male except normal sexual dimorphism and 3rd and 4th terga with basolateral yellow maculae on basal 1/4.



## 1. *Sphegina philippina*

Fig. 1. *Sphegina philippina.* Male abdomen, ventrolateral view.

**Holotype:** Male. PHILIPPINES, **Mindanao,** Misamis Or. , Mt. Balatukan, 15 km southwest of Gingoog, 1000-2000 m, 27-30 April 1960, H. Torrevillas, deposited in the Bishop Museum, Honolulu (BPBM 15,881). Paratypes: PHILIPPINES. **Luzon:** Camarines Sur, Mt. Isarog, 500 m, 4 April 1963, H Torrevillas (1 ♂ USNM); Camarines Sur, Mt. Isarog, Pili, 800 m, 30 April 1965, H Torrevillas (1 ♀ BPBM); Baguio, Benguet, Baker (1 ♂ SMF (Sack Coll.), 2 ♀ USNM); Mt. Makiling, C. F. Baker (I ♀ USNM); Ifugao Prov., Jacmal Bunhian, 24 km east of Mayoyao, 800-1000 m, 1-10 May 1967, L. M. Torrevillas (1 ♂ BPBM). **Negros Or.,** L. Balinsasayao, 1-7 October 1959, L. W. Quate (1 ♂ 1 ♀ (at light trap) USNM). **Mindanao,** Bukidnon, 1480 m, Mt. Katanglad, 27-31 October 1959, L. W. Quate (2 ♀ BPBM) ; Misamis Or., Mt. Pomalihi, 21 km west Ginnog City, 800-1000 m, 30 April 1965, H. M. Torrevillas (1 ♂ BPBM). **Panay,** Culasi, June 1918, McGregor (1 ♀ USNM).

*Sphegina philippina* is easily recognized in the male from all other *Sphegina* species by the sickle-shaped apical process of the 4th sternum. The females are recognized by the uniformly pollinose mesonotum; the other Oriental *Asiosphegina* species (all described by Shiraki from Taiwan [*apicalis, nigerrima* and *varidissima*]) all have distinct gray pollinose vittae on the mesonotum. Sack (1926: 576) incorrectly identified this species as *orientalis* Kertész, a species that has brown maculate wings (syntype ♂ from Taihorin studied from Klocker collection [ZMUC]).

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I thank Neal Evenhuis, Bishop Museum, Honolulu (BPBM) and Lief Lyneborg, Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen (ZMUC) for permission to study material in their care. The acronym USNM is here used for National Entomological Collections of Smithsonian Institution, Washington; and SMF for Forschungsinstitut und Naturmuseum Senckenberg, Frankfurt-am-Main. I also thank Neal Evenhuis (vide supra); Wayne N. Mathis, Department of Entomology, National Museum of Natural History (USNM), Washington; John W. Brown, Allen Norrbom, and Manya B. Stoezel of the Systematic Entomology Laboratory, USDA, Washington; for their critical review of the manuscript.

## LITERATURE CITED

**Sack, P.** 1926 Syrphiden (Diptera) von den Philippinen und Malaya. Philipp. J. Sci. 29: 563-597, 2 pls. [1926.04.??]

(Continued from page 252)

color, mostly live specimens, which will illustrate their appeal (Plate 39 is upside down), For the most part, the illustrations are superb. A few, like Fig. XXII, are slightly out of focus but I guess it was better to have the illustration rather than none at all. The book is attractive, has a durable cover, and is well bound. My only criticism is that the bibliographies are at the end of each chapter rather than at the end of the book.

This review is written not only to publicize a nice book, but also to relate the important contributions dedicated non-professionals (I hate the term "amateur") like Mr. Brock make to science. People like Mr. Brock are driven to these pursuits because they are compelled to do so. They do not receive governmental grants or require large amounts of "overheads" but utilize their own funds to subsidize trips, etc. They are not constrained or, more realistically, "restrained" as are professionals by current financial ideologies such as "economic rationalism" which actually prevent the rest of us from getting on with the job. *Vive l'amateur.*

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