

AN EGG-PARASITE OF THE CODLING MOTH BELONGING
TO THE FAMILY MYMARIDÆ.

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The following Mymarid, described years ago, is a parasite of the eggs of the codling moth in Georgia. The record is without a sponsor, as explained beyond, but otherwise I see no reason for not accepting it. Originally the species was described as a parasite of *Lepidosaphes ulmi* Linnæus. I add the following descriptive notes, so that it may be the more easily recognized :

Anaphes gracilis Howard.

Female.—Length, 0.65 mm. Moderately small in size for the genus ; visible to the naked eye.

General colour black, suffused with some yellowish ; base of abdomen contrasting, yellowish ; coxæ, trochanters, all tarsal joints, cephalic tibiæ, both ends of cephalic femora pallid lemon-yellow ; the antennæ, venation, cephalic femora, femora and tibiæ of other legs about neutral or dusky-grayish ; antennal pedicel somewhat lighter and more yellowish. Eyes dark. Wings subhyaline, slightly fumated proximad and along the distal half of the blade.

Body moderately slender, the abdomen as long as the head and thorax combined, conic-ovate, pointed distad, the ovipositor distinctly exserted, but not very much so, the exserted portion not as long, for instance, as the proximal tarsal joint of the caudal legs.

Fore wings usual in shape to the genus, moderate in width, widest just before the apex, the latter dome-shaped, the marginal fringes long, the longest disto-caudad, slightly longer than the greatest width of the blade and distinctly longer than the longest cilia of the posterior wing, but not very much longer. Discal ciliation of the fore wing rather sparse, absent in the proximal two-thirds of the wing and consisting of about seven or eight short lines in the distal part of the blade. Posterior wings with a single longitudinal line of discal cilia, the lines usually along each edge absent *apparently*.

Legs normal, the proximal tarsal joint longer than the other three, but not especially long ; tibial spurs single.

Antennæ 9-jointed, not normal ; scape as long as the pedicel and first three funicle joints combined or longer, curved, as long as the club. Pedicel obconic, stout, as long, or nearly, as the next three joints taken together. Funicle with the joints gradually widening distad, the proximal

joints subquadrate, small, the first funicle joint smallest, joint six largest, four times or more larger than the first ; all funicle joints short, the distal joint alone longer than wide ; funicles two and three subequal, four and five subequal, the latter twice the size of the former, each taken separately, six over twice longer than four or five. Club long, acuminate-ovate, as long as the whole funicle, or very nearly, subequal to the scape ; obtusely pointed.

From two specimens, $\frac{2}{3}$ -inch objective, 1-inch optic (Bausch and Lomb.)

Male.—Unknown.

A species unique for this group because of its antennal structure. (See the figure in its original description.) Black, with a yellowish band about the base of the abdomen.

Described from a single female specimen found in the collections of the United States National Museum, Washington, D.C., labelled "Ex ovo Codling Moth, Tallapoosa, Ga." Remounted in balsam from a tag.

Also another specimen captured on the window of an old pig-shed on a farm at Centralia, Illinois, August 25, 1910 (A. A. Girault). The species must be widely distributed in the United States.

Habitat: United States—Tallapoosa, Georgia ; Centralia, Illinois ; Washington, D. C.

There is a specimen in the U. S. National Museum collection and one in the collections of the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History, Urbana, Illinois. (Accession No. 42,221.)

MIASTOR LARVÆ.

These remarkably interesting larvæ, reproduced by *pedogenesis*, are available for laboratory work to a marked degree and must be widely distributed as well as allied forms. Very little is known concerning American species, largely because their habitat is one rarely explored by entomologists. They breed mostly in decaying vegetable matter. We have been very successful in finding them under partially decayed chestnut bark of stumps, fence rails and sleepers which have been cut one or two years earlier. European species have been observed under the bark of a variety of trees and even in sugar-beet residue. These Dipterous maggots with diverging antennæ have a flattened, triangular head, quite different from the strongly-convex, usually fuscous head of the *Sciara* larvæ occurring in a similar environment. They have a length of from $\frac{1}{20}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$ of



Girault, Alexandre Arsène. 1911. "An egg-parasite of the codling moth belonging to the family Mymaridae." *The Canadian entomologist* 43, 133–134.

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