

THE GENUS *CALOBATINA* ENDERLEIN

(DIPTERA: MICROPEZIDAE)

GEORGE C. STEYSKAL, *Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture*<sup>1</sup>

**ABSTRACT**—The genus *Calobata* Enderlein is considered to consist of only the previously unrecognized species *Calobatina geometra* (Robineau-Desvoidy), with all other described species, including the type of the genus, *C. texana* Enderlein, as synonyms thereof.

In the North American catalogue of Diptera (Steyskal, 1965), I followed Cresson (1938) in considering *Neria geometra* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830, described from "la Caroline," as an unrecognized species and in recognizing as valid species both *Calobatina geometroides* (Cresson) (synonym, *Calobatina varipes* Johnson, preoccupied) and *C. texana* Enderlein (synonym, *Meganeria daeckei* Cresson). Re-examination of material in the U. S. National Museum, including some recently acquired specimens, has shown that this course must be altered.

The type of *Neria geometra* Robineau-Desvoidy, according to information received through the courtesy of L. Tsacas, is not among the remains of the Robineau-Desvoidy collection now in the Paris museum and must be presumed no longer extant. Robineau-Desvoidy's description, contrary to the opinion of Cresson, contains nothing directly conflicting with the characters of the species referred to *Calobatina*. The size, stated to be 11 lines (= c 23 mm) is certainly greater than that of any North American micropezid, but the size of specimens that I have seen is also greater than given by Cresson (11–12 mm), one attaining a length of 18 mm. There will always be some doubt concerning the parameter Robineau-Desvoidy described. The cited color of the thorax ("lateribus subrubens") could have reference to the reddish-brown tomentum of the mesoscutal margins.

Cresson (1938, p. 354) quoted Osten Sacken as referring to the presence of postvertical bristles in "*Taeniaptera geometra* R. D.," and then stated "If Osten Sacken is correct as regards the postverticals, *geometra* cannot belong to the present genus (*Calobatina*)," although on page 353 in the generic diagnosis Cresson had just stated "postverticals . . . present." I find well developed postverticals in the material I have seen.

A number of intergrades between all black apical part of the hind and middle femora and a condition wherein the black is interrupted

<sup>1</sup> Mail address: c/o U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. 20560.



by a distinct yellowish band (*texana* Enderlein) have been seen in specimens from widely separated localities. The color of the male fore tarsus, the characters of the head, and those of the male postabdomen are uniformly alike in all of these forms. There seems little reason therefore for not recognizing as the name of this very distinct, largest North American micropezid *Calobatina geometra* (Robineau-Desvoidy).

The species is known from the following localities; those from which I have seen material are marked with an asterisk: Pennsylvania (\*Eberlys Mill, near Camp Hill, Cumberland Co.; \*Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co.), Missouri (\*Van Buren, Carter Co.), Kentucky ("Ky."), Virginia (\*Nelson Co.), Tennessee (\*Athens, McMinn, Co.; \*Benton Co.; \*Memphis, Shelby Co.), "Caroline," Texas (Brazos Co.; \*Conroe, Montgomery Co.; \*San Antonio, Bexar Co.), Mississippi (\*Benoit, Bolivar Co.; Meridian, Lauderdale Co.), Georgia (Billy's Island, Okefenokee Swamp, Charlton Co.; \*Rockmart, Polk Co.; Spalding Co.; \*Warm Springs, Meriwether Co.), Florida (DeFuniak Springs, Walton Co.; Jacksonville, Duval Co.).

The larva and pupa were described by Wallace (1970) from material found in a hollow tree stump in Georgia. The adult is easily recognized from the descriptions in Cresson (1938). Full literature citations and synonymy are to be found in Steyskal (1965).

#### REFERENCES

- Cresson, E. T., Jr. 1938. The Neriidae and Micropezidae of America north of Mexico (Diptera). Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc. 64:293-366.
- Steyskal, G. C. 1965. Micropezidae. In Stone, A., et al. A Catalog of the Diptera of America North of Mexico. U. S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Res. Serv., Agr. Handbook 276:633-636.
- Wallace, J. B. 1970. The mature larva and pupa of *Calobatina geometroides* (Cresson) (Diptera: Micropezidae). Ent. News 80:317-321.
-



Steyskal, George C. 1971. "The genus *Calobatina* Enderlein (Diptera: Micropezidae)." *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 73, 327–328.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/54938>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/56021>

#### **Holding Institution**

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

#### **Sponsored by**

Smithsonian

#### **Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Entomological Society of Washington

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.