

AN ABERRANT SCAPTOMYZA FROM THE SOCIETY ISLANDS
(DIPTERA, DROSOPHILIDAE)*

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The genus *Scaptomyza* Hardy shows a greater development in the Marquesas in comparison with that of any other genus of wide distribution in this family. In the collection before me now I find a Society Islands species that differs from any in the Marquesan material, though in some respects it resembles *S. mumfordi* Malloch.

***Scaptomyza femoralis*, new species.**

A glossy black species, with antennae and palpi fuscous, the mesonotum without dusting, the legs black, tibiae hardly paler than femora, and the tarsi testaceous, wings hyaline, and halteres yellow.

Frons deep black, the interfrontalia velvety, the orbits and triangle slightly shining and with grayish dust, the latter continued faintly as a mere line to anterior margin. Width of frons at vertex slightly greater than its length in center, narrowed to anterior margin, the orbits distinct on entire extent, all the vertical, the postvertical, and ocellar bristles quite long, anterior reclinate orbital not more than half as long as the proclinate bristle, behind level of latter and slightly nearer to eye. Face with a narrow central vertical carina that is separated from the epistome by a depression. Eyes stiff-haired, more than 10 times as high as gena. Antennae normal, the arista with 6 or 7 rays above, and 1 or 2 below on apical third.

Thorax shining black, without trace of dorsal dusting or vittae. Mesonotum with 2 strong posterior pairs of dorsocentrals and 2 rather shorter pairs in front of them, the anterior pair slightly presutural, also 2 or 3 pairs of distinct acrostichal bristles, the posterior and longest pair close to the suture; humeral 1; scutellars 4, subequal; sternopleurals 2; the intradorsocentral hairs biseriate.

Legs glossy black, tibiae slightly brownish, more distinctly paler at bases, the tarsi varying from testaceous yellow to brownish yellow, slightly darker at apices. Legs stronger than usual, the femora most distinctly so, those of the male stronger than the female, the fore pair in that sex distinctly stouter than the mid and hind pairs, the usual outstanding posterodorsal bristle beyond middle of the fore pair quite well developed.

Wings hyaline, the veins brown. Section of the costa between second and third veins nearly twice as long as that between third and fourth, the third vein ending in wing tip; outer cross vein at more than its own length from apex of fifth vein; penultimate section of fourth vein not more than three-fourths as long as ultimate one.

Abdomen glossy black, rather stout. Knobs of halteres yellow. Length, 2.5 mm.

Tahiti: Papeari, male and female, November 9, 1928, altitude 600 feet, Adamson.

This species is immediately distinguishable from any other known to me by the glossy black color of the thorax and abdomen, and from all but

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S. mumfordi by the presence of well-developed acrostichal bristles near the suture. In the Marquesan species, however, the mesonotum has three distinct dark brown vittae, there is at most one pair of dorsocentrals in front of the two strong postsutural pairs, and there are in no specimen available to me more than one pair of distinct acrostichals near suture. In having the femora thicker than other species, and especially in the stout fore pair in the male, this species is distinguishable from all others in the genus.