

TWO NEW SPECIES OF ASTEIIDAE (DIPTERA) FROM THE MARQUESAS*

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Genus *ASTEIA* Meigen

This genus as accepted by Duda²⁷ contains at least two segregates which some other author very probably will separate as distinct genera. One of these has the arista almost bare, and the other has it distinctly haired. The first group contains but one species, *A. decepta* Becker from the Canary Islands, the other group being left to receive the remaining ten species with which Duda deals.

In a recent paper Aldrich²⁸ has erected a new genus, *Bryania*, for the reception of a Hawaiian species that would fall in the first segregate referred to on the basis of the lack of hairs on the arista, but the species before me, *bipunctata* Aldrich, differs from *decepta* in the structure of the head and the chaetotaxy of the thorax to such an extent that it can not be accepted as belonging to the same genus. I do not intend to erect a new genus for *decepta*, even though there is now before me a second species which appears to belong to the same group, as there are so few species in the family that the eight genera already accepted as valid appear to me quite sufficient, to say the least, for all practical purposes.

Asteia atriceps, new species.

Female

Head whitish yellow, the epistome with a rather broad deep black transverse band, ocellar spot fuscous; antennae entirely yellow; hairs and bristles on the head yellow. Thorax testaceous yellow, paler yellow on a broad central stripe extending from a little behind the suture to apex of the scutellum and over surface of the latter except a small spot at each anterior lateral angle; extreme lateral edge of the notopleural region slightly darkened. Pleura whitish yellow above, with a dark vitta on central portion at suture between mesopleura and sternopleura; hairs and bristles yellow. Abdomen and legs testaceous, abdomen discolored on part of dorsum. Wings hyaline. Knobs of halteres dark brown.

Frons as long as its width at vertex, narrowed at anterior extremity, the surface with numerous pale hairs, the upper orbital distinct and a few setulae in front of it, all four vertical bristles present, the inner pair distinctly longer than the outer one, the

²⁷ Duda, Oswald, Revision der altweltlichen Astiidae (Diptera): Deutsch. Ent. Zeit., p. 128, 1927.

²⁸ Aldrich, J. M., New acalyptate Diptera from the Pacific and Oriental regions: Hawaiian Ent. Soc. Proc., vol. 7, p. 396, 1929.

* Pacific Entomological Survey Publication I, article 11.

latter, upper orbital, and ocellar bristles about equal in length, the postverticals indistinguishable; face sunken so that the antennae are almost invisible from the side, the third segment rounded, arista very fine, nude, hardly longer than the vibrissa; eye oblique, the cheek higher behind than in front, at latter point not higher than width of third antennal segment. Thorax with four pairs of quite conspicuous dorsocentral bristles, the anterior pair in front of the suture, the posterior pair most widely separated, no prescutellar acrostichals, and two very fine sternopleurals; the scutellum with two long apical and two much shorter preapical bristles. Abdomen ovate, much swollen in type, without remarkable armature. Legs normal in form and without distinct bristling. Wing as in *decepta*, the second vein very short and entering costa at or very close to apex of first vein. Length, 1.5 mm., wing as long as body.

Hivaoa: Atuona, March 7, 1930, holotype female, Mumford and Adamson.

***Asteia tarsalis*, new species.**

General color deep black, almost glossy. Frons brownish black with the anterior margin narrowly yellowish and a slender yellow line on each side of the ocellar triangle midway between the posterior ocelli and eye margin which extends forward from vertex to level of anterior ocellus; face yellowish above, becoming black just above the broad milk-white transverse fascia on epistome, the jowls yellow, with a fuscous shade along lower margin; occiput fuscous; antennae brownish yellow, third segment darkened above; aristae fuscous. Thorax glossy black on dorsum, becoming brownish on sides and with slight yellowish grey dusting, the sutures of the pleura yellowish. Abdomen black, the membrane brownish and dull. All hairs and bristles dark. Legs black, coxae, knees, and tarsi dull testaceous yellow. Wings slightly browned, the veins dark brown. Knobs of halteres black.

Frons a little longer than wide, with but one strong orbital which is situated close to middle, the outer vertical lacking, and the ocellars very short and fine; antennae normal, the arista with two long rays above and below, the setula on second segment of antenna rather long and fine; eye higher than long, the jowls almost linear in front, the vibrissa well developed. Thorax almost bare except for the three pairs of strong dorsocentrals, the anterior one of which is distinctly in front of the suture, the prescutellar acrostichals lacking, scutellum with two long apical bristles and basad of each a short fine hair; sternopleura with but one long bristle. Abdomen subcylindrical. Legs moderately stout, the fore and mid tarsi each with quite dense hairs on dorsal surface which are at least as long as the segments except on the basal one, the hind pair without such long hairs. Wings much as in the preceding species, but the second vein ends in the costa distinctly beyond the apex of first instead of in or close to the apex of first. Length, 1.5 mm.

Hivaoa: Mount Temetiu, northeast slope, elevation 2,500 feet, July 24, 1929, holotype, Mumford and Adamson.

This species is most closely allied to *A. sexsetosa* Duda, but differs in lacking the outer vertical bristle, in having the scutellum black, and the fore and mid tarsi with longer hairs than usual. The hairs on the costa are distinctly longer than usual, especially from base to the apex of first vein, a character which separates the species from one that occurs in Society Islands.