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A FISSICORN SYRPHID FLY FROM BRAZIL (DIPTERA)

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Two microdontine flies were contained in a small collection of flies collected in southern Brazil by Mr. A. Maller, and donated to the Museum by Mr. Frank Johnson. One of these belongs to the recently described genus *Aristosyrphus* Curran, and is apparently *primus* Curran, though differing slightly from the type. The second specimen possesses a most unusual type of antennal formation for the Syrphidae, since the third antennal segment is furcate on almost its whole length. This character is found in some genera of Tachinidae, but in this family there is usually a difference in the shape of the male and female antennae. Some of the Tabanidae have the antennae forked with the upper branch sometimes almost as long as the lower, but the lower branch is annulate.

Because of the normal shape of their antennae, *Microdon* and allies are the only group of Syrphidae in which one might expect to find furcate antennae, and it is no great surprise to discover this condition. Fortunately, the single known specimen is a female, proving that the character is common to the two sexes, and I am therefore placing the fly in a new genus. Had it been a male, there would have been doubt about the female antennae being of similar structure since in other groups of the genus there are often slight differences in the two sexes.

JOHNSONIODON, NEW GENUS

This genus belongs to the Microdontinae and has a strong superficial resemblance to the *globosa* group; the general structure of the head is also typical of this group. It is separated from all known members of the subfamily in having the third antennal segment divided into two long branches, the lower one being conspicuously thicker and very slightly longer; both lobes bear long

pubescence, that on the upper lobe being longer than most of that on the lower. The scutellum is very shallowly emarginate apically, and without spines. Legs with short, appressed hair, the hind tibiae without the usual impressed incomplete ring above. There is no stump of vein extending from the third vein into the apical cell, which is shorter in the middle due to the inward angulation of the apical cross vein, a stump of vein extending into the cell from the angulation. The abdomen is almost twice as long as wide. Genotype, the following species.

Johnsoniodon malleri, new species

Brownish, with luteous and yellow markings on the thorax, the legs light orange, the abdomen with indications of blue black. Length, 9 mm.

FEMALE: Face wider than either eye, widest above, very slightly narrowing below; front narrowing to the upper third, thence slightly widening to the vertex. Front black laterally, brown in the middle and on the upper third, the ocellar tubercle black; pile dull brassy, appressed except above. There is no distinct transverse frontal depression, but there are oblique, irregular ridges on each side, these being especially noticeable just above the middle. Ocellar triangle small, slightly longer than wide, lying slightly in front of the anterior angle of the eyes. Occiput not swollen, cinereous yellow pollinose, the pile short brassy yellow. Cheeks scarcely projecting below the eyes. Face brown, with large, oblique lateral depressions black, and a black lateral triangle projecting downward from the front along the orbits. In profile, the face is very slightly retreating, with a gentle convexity on the upper third, the lower part strongly convex; in general, the face follows the contour of the eyes and

projects only a little beyond them; pile mostly limited to the depressions, golden yellow. Antennae black, the third segment brown, considerably longer than the basal two, the second segment broader than long. The third segment is divided into two well-separated, parallel lobes, the lower about three times as wide as the upper, but appearing only about twice as wide owing to the long pubescence on the latter; while

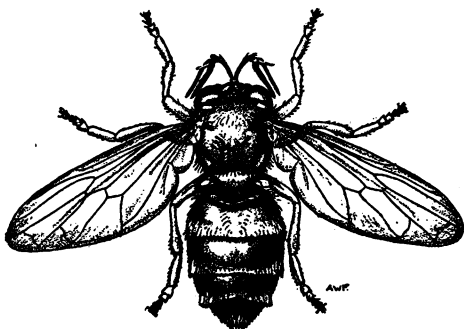


Fig. 1. *Johnsoniodon malleri*, new species.
Female. $\times 3$.

the lower lobe is conspicuously pubescent, the pubescence is long only on the inner side. Arista very short and thick, tapering apically, situated on the outer side in the concavity formed by the base of the fork. Eyes bare.

Thorax pale brown, the mesonotum with very broad, sublateral, paler vittae that taper behind and are rounded in front and

semi-interrupted at the suture; humeri pale luteous; mesosternum and a large spot above the hind coxae reddish yellow. Pile moderately long, subappressed, brassy yellow; black on the pleura and on the sides of the scutellum. Scutellum more than twice as wide as long, the apex gently emarginate.

Legs bright orange, the coxae and apical two segments of the tarsi brown; the basal third of the tibiae pale yellowish; pile golden yellow, appressed except on the hind femora, black on the posterior four coxae.

Wings brownish gray, the veins brown; both the apical and discal cells are longest posteriorly, the apical cross vein extending obliquely forward, then obliquely outward, the angle at the middle. Squamae brown, the lower lobe mostly dull yellowish, with orange border and fringe. Halteres reddish.

Abdomen dark brown, without magnification rather bluish black. Pile black, short, on the second segment a large patch of pale brassy pile on each side and scattered pale hairs on the disc, so that in some views the pile appears to be mostly brassy; third and fourth segments each with a broad, broadly interrupted apical band of pale pile, the fifth with the apex broadly pale pilose. The pile on the lateral margins is all black. Venter shining brown, with black hair.

HOLOTYPE: Female, Corupa (Hanse Humbolt), Santa Catharina, Brazil, November, 1945 (A. Maller).

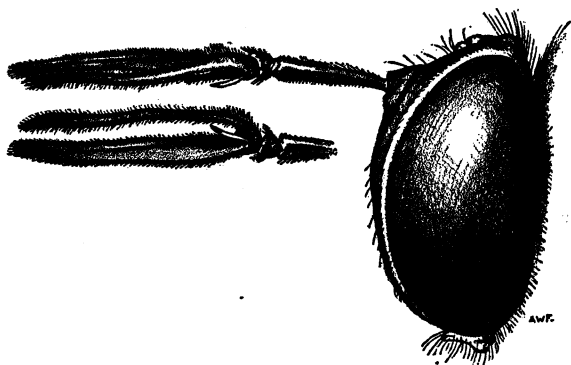


Fig. 2. *Johnsoniodon malleri*, new species.
Lateral view of head and antenna.