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DESCRIPTIONS OF A NEW GENUS AND A NEW SPECIES OF CHLOROPIDAE FROM JAPAN

(Diptera)

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Through the kindness of Mr. Shizuo Kato, the writer has had the good opportunity to find an interesting new species of Chloropidae emerging from stalks of wheat and barley. This species is somewhat allied to the members of *Elacliptera* in general appearence, but after careful observations the writer has come to the conclution that it may be placed in a new genus as described in the following lines.

Here the writer wishes to express his sincere gratitude to Professor T. Uchida and Dr. C. Watanabe for their continuous encouragement. Thanks are also due to Mr. S. Kato for his kindness in allowing me to examine the material in the collection of the National Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Tokyo.

Genus Chaetaspis gen. nov.

Head almost as wide as the thorax. Compound eyes with sparsely pubescence. Frontal triangle bare, smooth and polished, occupying extremely large part of the frontal area. Outer vertical bristles, postvertical bristles and two pairs of orbitals of normal form. Interfrontal bristles arranged on the inner side of frontal triangle. Mesofacial plate concave, with a median keel. Parafacial ridge strongly marked and not parallel, narrowing to the epistoma. In lateral aspect, the third antennal segment rounded, broader than long, with a somewhat thickend, dansely pubescent arista at the apex. Thorax as broad as long, almost square, not pollinose with fine punctures on the dorsum. Scutellum aculated with a long median hemp at the apex. Abdomen half-shining, consisting of five segments, the first tergite occupying half of abdomen. Wing without marking; costal vein completely reaching to media1+2; r-m crossvein not approaching to m crossvein.

Genotype: Chaetaspis katoi sp. nov.

This new genus can be confounded with no other described genera on account of the aculated scutellum with a long prominent hemp and the developed first tergite of abdomen. Among the genera of Oscinellinae with a broad arista, this genus is closely related to *Elachiptera* Macquart (1835) in general appearance, but it may be easily distinguishable form the latter by the above mentioned peculiar features. In structure of scutellum this genus is somewhat allied to *Anatrichus* Loew (1860), from which it is immediately distinct by the number of togites.

Chaetaspis katoi sp. nov.

Male and female: Compound eyes with sparsely pubescence. Frontal triangle glistening black, the breadth occupying four-fifths of the length and nearly touching the eyes from the vertex to the middle of front, the apex rounded, reaching entirely to the anterior margin of front. Ocelli pale yellow, with a convexed ocellar triangle.

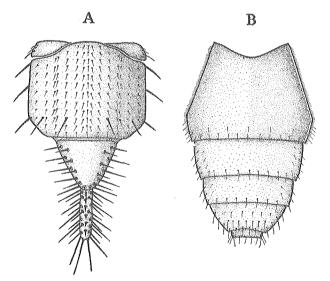


Fig. 1. Chaetaspis katoi sp. nov. (9)
A. Thorax (dorsal aspect). B. Abdomen (dorsal aspect).

^{*} Gampsocera Schiner, Elachiptera Macquart, Melanochaeta Bezzi, Mepachymerus Speiser and Ceratobarys Coquillett.

Front extremely narrow, black, somewhat pale anteriorly, with white pubescence. Occiput dark reddish black with blackish stripes above neck. Postvertical and outer vertical bristles attractively long. Ocellar and orbital bristles of moderate size, the latter standing on the upper half of front. Four pairs of interfrontal bristles distinct. Antennae orange yellow. Arista broad, narrowed toward the apex, with blackish dense pubescence. Cheeks and clypeus dark reddish black. Palpi black. Vibrissal angle produced. In lateral aspect, cheek linear and angular, twice as long as broad. Labellum more or less vellow. Thorax shining, pitchy black, the disc uniformly covered with finly white pubescence and sparsely punctured, each puncture with a short hair. Humeral bristles faintly visible. Notopleural and postalar bristles strong. Pleura shining, black and bare. Squamae and halteres pale. Scutellum strongly convex, triangular, half-shining, black and punctured with strong bristles, except the median triangular part which is not punctured with no bristles; median hemp strongly produced, as long as the scutellum, cudgel-like with strong bristles. Abdomen pale yellow; posterior margin of the second tergite dark brown. First tergite longest, about three times as long as the second. Legs vellow, tibia and tarsus of fore legs somewhat darkened. Wing hyaline; m1+2 running straight to the apex and nearly parallel to r4+5; rm crossvein shorter than one-third the length of m crossvein.

Body length: 1.7-2.1 mm.

Specimens examined: 1\$, Niigata, 23, V, 1950, S. Takagi leg. (Holotype). 1\$, Niigata, 21—22, VI, 1950, S. Takagi leg. (Allotype). 1\$, 5\$, Niigata, 21—24, V, 1950, S. Takagi leg.; 1\$, Tokyo, 26, X, 1949 & 1\$, Aburatsubo, Kanagawa-ken, 10, I, 1952, I. Hattori leg.; 1\$, Mukawa, Hokkaido, 6, VI, 1952, Y. Nishijima leg. (Paratypes).

Remarks: According to Mr. S. Kato the examples collected at Niigata were bred from stalks of wheat and barley mixed with other Chloropid flies. Further observations are, however, required in order to acertain whether this species is a real pest of those cereals or not.