PULICIPHORA CALIX SP.N.: A NEW PHORID SPECIES FROM ANDORRA (DIPTERA: PHORIDAE)

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Abstract: A new phorid species of the genus Puliciphora Dahl, namely P. calix sp.n., is described from Andorra. It is the third species of this genus known from Europe.

Key words: Diptera, Phoridae, Puliciphora calix, new species, Andorra.

Puliciphora calix sp.n.: una especie nueva de fórido de Andorra (Diptera: Phoridae)

Resumen: Se describe una especie nueva de fórido del género Puliciphora Dahl, a saber P. calix sp.n., de Andorra. Es la tercera especie de este género conocida de Europa.

Palabras clave: Diptera, Phoridae, Puliciphora calix, especie nueva, Andorra.

Taxonomy / Taxonomía: Puliciphora calix sp.n.

Introduction

Following the study of the family Phoridae of Andorra (Carles-Tolrá, 2007, 2010; Carles-Tolrá and García Romera, 2011) we show, in this paper, a new species for science of the genus Puliciphora Dahl, 1897, a cosmopolitan phorid genus with more than 70 described species.

The specimens come from the dipterological material collected by J. Pujade Villar with a Malaise trap placed in Santa Coloma at the end of 1992 and during the whole year in 1993 (for more detail the paper by Durán-Alarcón et al., 1998 must be consulted). During this time period only 4 specimens (all males) were caught: two in 1992 and another two in 1993. In the first paper by Carles-Tolrá (2007), the specimens of 1993 were identified as P. rufipes Silva Figueroa, 1916. A few years later, studying the two specimens of 1992, it was seen that they belonged to the same species, but not to P. rufipes, but to a possible new species. Therefore, such identification was rectified in the paper by Carles-Tolrá (2010). Recently, thanks to the paper by Disney and Michailovskaya (2001) and Yang & Wang (1993) we confirm that they belong to a new species for science and it is described next.

After P. borinquensis Wheeler, 1906 and P. rufipes Silva Figueroa., 1916, it is the third European species of this genus.

Puliciphora calix sp.n.

DESCRIPTION:

A brown species.

Head brown, gena paler. Frons haired. Eyes well developed, oval, oblique, pear-shaped. Third antennal segment brown and round, spheric, SPS vesicles present (not counted); arista micropubescent. Palpus light brown, with a row of short bristles. Proboscis short, yellowish. Chaetotaxy: 2 SA, 1 A, 0 AL, 0 ML, 1 PO, 1 PL, 1 O bristles; PO approximately level with anterior ocellus and situated in front of posterior ocelli.

Thorax brown. Scutum uniformly with short hairs. Scutellum with an anterior pair of hairs and a posterior pair of bristles. Mesopleural furrow distinct, well visible. Chaetotaxy: 0 humeral, 3(4) notopleurals, 1 intra-alar, 1 postalar, 1 prescutellar dorsocentral bristle; propleure with a bristle just below spiracle.

Wing membrane brownish, veins brown. Vein 2 absent. Costal index = 0.43-0.48, costal ratios = 1.10-1.25:1. Haltere brown.

Legs brownish-yellowish. Fore tarsus: segments 1-3 with a posterodorsal hair palisade; segment 4 slightly shorter than 5. Mid- and hind tibiae with a ventroapical spur. Hind basitarsus posteriorly with 6-7 transverse combs.

Abdomen (tergites) brown, tergites with short hairs. Venter membranous (sternites absent), yellowish, bare.

Hypopygium brownish (Fig. 1); hypandrium with a wine glass-shaped sclerotized area (Fig. 2); aedeagus thin, sinuous, apex transparent (Figs. 1-3).

Total body length: 0.87-1.29, wing: 0.93-0.97 mm.


DISCUSSION: Puliciphora calix sp.n. keys out to couplet 12 (P. fungicola Yang & Wang, 1993 and P. tokyoensis Kinoshta, 1918) in the key by Disney and Michailovskaya (2001), but clearly differs from them by the hypopygium.

BIOLOGY: unknown. The specimens were collected with a Malaise trap near a small river at 1050 m a.s.l.

DISTRIBUTION: hitherto only known from Andorra.
**ETYMOLOGY:** the specific name refers to the wine glass-shape of the hypandrium (calix = wine glass in Latin).

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**References**


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**Fig. 1-3. Puliciphora calix** sp.n.: 1) hypopygium, lateral view; 2) hypandrium (hypopygium), ventral view; 3) aedeagus. Scale bars: 1 and 3 = 200 µm; 2 = 100 µm.