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THREE NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *MEONEURA* RONDANI, 1856 (DIPTERA, CARNIDAE) FROM ASIA

A. L. Ozerov

Zoological Museum, Moscow Lomonosov State University, Bol'shaya Nikitskaya 6,
Moscow 125009, Russia. E-mail: ozerov2455@rambler.ru

Three new species of the genus *Meoneura* (Diptera, Carnidae) are described:
M. vernicosa sp. n. from Turkey, *M. vikhrevi* sp. n. from India, and *M. kerzhneri*
sp. n. from Mongolia.

KEY WORDS: Diptera, Carnidae, *Meoneura*, new species, Asia, Turkey, India,
Mongolia.

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Описаны три новых вида из рода *Meoneura* Rondani (Diptera, Carnidae): *M.*
vernicosa sp. n. из Турции, *M. vikhrevi* sp. n. из Индии и *M. kerzhneri* sp. n. из
Монголии.

Зоологический музей, Московский государственный университет им. М.В.
Ломоносова, Большая Никитская ул., 6, Москва 125009, Россия.

INTRODUCTION

Species of the genus *Meoneura* Rondani, 1856 are very small dark flies with
uniformly habitus. The surest distinctions of the species of this genus are often of
the male genitalia only. Adults are usually associated with carrion or excrements.
Over 50 species are known in the Palaearctic Region (Papp, 1998).

The descriptions of three new species from India, Mondolia and Turkey are given below. The holotype of *M. kerzhneri* sp. n. is deposited in Zoological Institute, St.-Petersburg (ZISP); the holotypes of other two species are kept in the Zoological Museum of Moscow University, Moscow (ZMUM).

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES

***Meoneura vernicosa* Ozerov, sp. n.**

Figs 1, 2

MATERIAL. Holotype – ♂, Turkey: Antalya, ruins of Sillyon, 36.988600°N, 30.983834°E, 2.X 2007, coll. by A.L. Ozerov (ZMUM). Paratypes: 2♂, the same label as in holotype; 5♂, 2♀, Turkey: "Turk, Side, sand dunes (~sea)", 25.IX, 1.X 2007, coll. by N.E. Vikhrev (all paratypes in ZMUM).

DESCRIPTION. MALE, FEMALE. Body length 1.1-1.7 mm; wing length 1.1-1.8 mm.

Frons, face, genae and antennae dark brown. Frontal triangle black, extended nearly to lunula, shining. Postcranium black. Thorax black, scutum shining, pleural sclerites subshining. Four pairs of dorsocentral setae. Scutellum microtomentose. Legs blackish, only tarsi brown or yellowish. Wing hyaline. Knob of halter yellow, stalk blackish. Abdomen black, shining. Epandrium with one pair of epandrial processes only (sursyli). Surstylus simple, stick-like (Fig. 1, 2).

DIAGNOSIS. New species resembles *Meoneura hungarica* Papp, 1977 and *M. caucasica* Ozerov, 1991 by the structure of male genitalia, but scutum of both these species is grayish pruinose (Papp, 1977; Ozerov, 1991). Besides, *M. hungarica* with three pair of dorsocentral setae, and *M. caucasica* with one pair of dorsocentral setae only (*M. vernicosa* sp. n. with four pair).

***Meoneura vikhrevi* Ozerov, sp. n.**

Figs 3, 4

MATERIAL. Holotype – ♂, India: Rajasthan, Sawai Madhopur, 26.0°N, 76.4°E, 25-27.II 2011, coll. by N.E. Vikhrev (ZMUM). Paratype: ♀, the same label as in holotype (ZMUM).

DESCRIPTION. MALE, FEMALE. Body length 1.2-1.3 mm; wing length 0.8-1.0 mm.

Frons black in upper half and dark brown anteriorly. Face, genae, postcranium and antennae black. Frontal triangle extended to lunula, shining. Thorax black, scutum and pleural sclerites subshining. One pair of dorsocentral setae. Scutellum microtomentose. Legs blackish, only tarsomeres 1 and 2 of hind leg yellowish. Wing tinged with whitish. Knob of halter yellow, stalk blackish. Abdomen black, subshining. Epandrium with one pair of epandrial processes only (sursyli). Surstylus simple, hook-like in lateral view (Fig. 3, 4).

DIAGNOSIS. New species resembles *Meoneura polita* Sabrosky, 1959 described from North America (Sabrosky, 1959), by the habitus and structure of male genitalia. However, the surstyli of a new species are more massive, with acute apex.

ETYMOLOGY. The new species is named after Nikita Vikhrev, who collected the specimens of this species.



Figs 1–4. *Meoneura vernicosa* sp. n. (1, 2) and *Meoneura vikhrevi* sp. n. (3, 4): 1, 3 – epandrium and surstyli, dorsally; 2, 4 – epandrium and surstylus, laterally.

***Meoneura kerzhneri* Ozerov, sp. n.**

Figs 5, 6

MATERIAL. Holotype – ♂, Mongolia: "Central Aimak, environs of Nalaych, 25. VI 1967", coll. by I.M. Kerzhner (ZISP).

DESCRIPTION. MALE. Body length 1.2 mm; wing length 0.9 mm.

Frons, face, genae, postcranium and antennae blackish. Frontal triangle black, extended nearly to lunula, shining. Thorax black, scutum, pleural sclerites and scutellum microtomentose. Two pairs of dorsocentral setae. Legs blackish. Wing

tinged with whitish. Knob of halter yellow, stalk brownish. Abdomen black, subshining. Epandrium with two pairs of epandrial processes: surstylus and lamella fused (Fig. 5, 6). Surstylus short, stick-like. Lamella longer than surstylus, with long hairs.



Figs 5, 6. *Meoneura kerzhneri* sp. n.: 5 – epandrium and surstyli, dorsally; 6 – epandrium and surstylus, laterally.

DIAGNOSIS. New species resembles *Meoneura milleri* Gregor, 1973, described from Slovakia (Gregor, 1973), by the habitus and structure of genitalia. However, the surstyli of new species are shorter than in *M. milleri*, and the last species with three pairs of dorsocentral setae.

ETYMOLOGY. This species is named in memory of the famous Russian entomologist Izyaslav Moiseevich Kerzhner, who collected it in Mongolia.

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