

A new species of the genus *Meromyza* Meigen from Kashmir, India (Diptera: Chloropidae)

E.P. Nartshuk

Nartshuk, E.P. 2003. A new species of the genus *Meromyza* Meigen from Kashmir, India (Diptera: Chloropidae). *Zoosystematica Rossica*, **12**(1): 141-142.

Meromyza hugoanderssoni sp. n. is described from Kashmir, India. The new species belongs to the *pratorum* species group.

E.P. Nartshuk, Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Universitetskaya nab. 1, 199034 St.Petersburg, Russia. E-mail: chlorops@zin.ru

The genus *Meromyza* Meigen is predominantly Holarctic in distribution. Only one species is recorded in the fauna of the Afrotropical region, and one unknown species (as *Meromyza* sp.), in the fauna of the Oriental region (Sabrosky, 1977, 1980). I had an opportunity to investigate a small collection of *Meromyza* from India deposited at the Zoological Museum of the Lund University (Sweden). All specimens belong to a new species, which is described here.

Meromyza hugoanderssoni sp. n. (Figs 1-7)

Holotype. ♂, **India, Kashmir**, Gulmarg, h = 2700 m, 27.VI.1979 (leg. I. Säveland).

Paratypes. 13 ♂, 15 ♀, with same data as in holotype.

The holotype and most of paratypes are kept at the Zoological Museum of the Lund University (Sweden), some paratypes, at the Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg (Russia).

Description. *Male and female*. Colour of body yellow or slightly greenish, especially in female. Head longer than high, frons produced before eyes for a distance of 1/2 height of gena. Ocellar triangle matt, with black ocellar tubercle and dark brown stripe from fore ocellus to apex of triangle. Setae vte distinct, vti and pocc smaller than vte, orb not distinguished from frontal setulae. Antennae yellow, 1st flagellomere darkened along upper margin. First flagellomere slightly longer than high, ratio of its length to height approximately 12 : 10. Arista long and very thin. Palpi black in apical part or sometimes only slightly darkened on tip. Occiput yellow with two brown lines and a small black spot behind ocellar tubercle.

Stripes of scutum black, heavily dusted. Scutellum with black stripe. Pleura with small black spot on anepisternum and large black spot on

meron. Triangular spot on katepisternum only a little more intensely coloured than other parts of pleura; this spot with two black markings on two upper angles or only with one spot on hind angle. In male, abdominal tergites 3-5 each with three black spots; in female, all tergites with three black spots. Legs yellow with darkened tarsi. Hind femora 2.5-3 times as thick as hind tibia. Wing venation usual for genus.

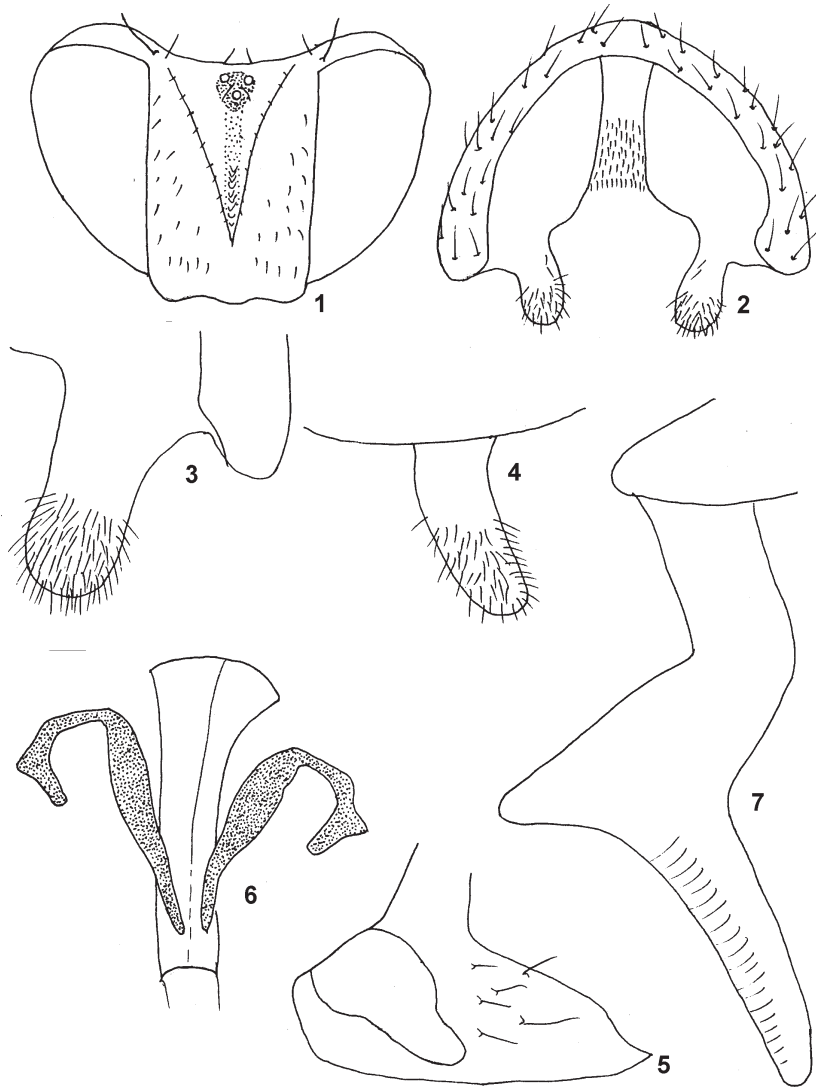
Male genitalia (Figs 2-7). Surstyli rather short, in apical part covered with numerous setulae. Postgonites sclerotised and black. Their anterior process with straight lower margin and convex upper margin. Posterior process of postgonites not produced below lower margin of anterior one and joined with anterior by arch (see ventrally). Phallus long, membranous, with slightly convex base and shoe-shaped apex.

Body length 4-5 mm.

Comparison. *Meromyza hugoanderssoni* sp. n. is characterized by the elongated body, produced frons and the structure of postgonites. According to these characters, it belongs to the *pratorum* group, but differs from other species of this group in the palpi black on tip, the epandrium without long setae and the abdomen with three lines of black spots on tergites. The new species is distinguished easily from most of Palaearctic species of the genus by the coloration of ocellar triangle (presence of central brownish stripe) and the structure of the male genitalia.

Species of the genus *Meromyza* Meigen are not typical for the Oriental fauna of Chloropidae. The new species was collected at an altitude of 2700 m. High altitudes of the Himalayas are usually included in the East-Asian subregion of the Holarctic (Kryzhanovskij, 2002).

Etymology. The new species is named in honour of Dr. H. Andersson, well-known dipterist, specialist on Chloropidae of the Old World.



Figs 1-7. *Meromyza hugoanderssoni* sp. n., male. **1**, head, dorsally; **2**, epandrium; **3**, surstylus; **4**, surstylus, laterally; **5**, postgonite, laterally; **6**, base of phallus and postgonites, ventrally; **7**, apical part of phallus, laterally.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Drs H. Andersson and R. Danielson for the interesting material, the hospitality and help during my stay in Lund. The study is carried out under financial support from the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (grants no. 02-04-48588 and no. 00-15-97826) and the programme "Biodiversity".

References

Kryzhanovskij, O.L. 2002. *Sostav i rasprostranenie entomofaun zemnogo shara* [Composition and dis-

tribution of entomofaunas of the World]. Moscow: KMK. 337 p. (In Russian).

Sabrosky, C.W. 1977. Family Chloropidae. In: Delfinado, M.D. & Hardy, D.E. (Eds.). *A catalog of the Diptera of the Oriental Region*, 3: 277-319. Honolulu: University Hawaii Press.

Sabrosky, C.W. 1980. Family Chloropidae. In: Crosskey, R.W. (Ed.). *Catalogue of the Diptera of the Afrotropical Region*: 695-712. London: British Museum (Natural History).

Received 15 March 2003