Brief Note: New Records of Ohio Shore Flies (Diptera: Ephydridae)

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BRIEF NOTE

NEW RECORDS OF OHIO SHORE FLIES (DIPTERA: EPHYDRIDAE)

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The Ephydridae are a large family of higher Diptera distantly related to the vinegar gnat Drosophila melanogaster. Most shore flies are aquatic in their immature stages and semi-aquatic as adults. Previous studies and records of the Ephydridae in Ohio include Wirth (1965), Deonier (1971, 1972), Scheiring and Foote (1970, 1973), Regensburg (1976), and Deonier and Regensburg (1978). Scheiring and Foote (1973) collected 68 ephydrid species in 10 different types of habitat in 13 counties of northeastern Ohio. Regensburg (1976) conducted a systematic and ecological survey of ephydrid fauna at 33 southern Ohio localities. This study produced a total of 9,000 specimens from 12 habitat types, which included 66 species. In 1978, Deonier and Regensburg reported 12 new ephydrid species collected in Ohio.

The final phase of a statewide Ohio Biological Survey project was concluded in 1977 involving a systematic and ecological survey of the ephydrid fauna from 42 northern Ohio localities. Twenty-three counties were studied and 13,940 specimens were collected. A total of 643 northern Ohio specimens located in the Kent State University and Ohio State University Insect Collections were examined and catalogued. A total of 102 species from 13 habitat types were identified in northern Ohio. These habitat types, with the number of species in parentheses, include: periphytose stream rocks (8), grass shore (34), sand shore (49), freshet seep (15), sedge meadow (50), floating algal mat (8), stagnant woodland pool (15), limnic wrack (24), mud shore (47), floating vegetation (27), marsh reeds (17), salt pool (18), and terrestrial shoreline vegetation (21).

The northern Ohio survey specimens have been deposited in the Miami University Insect Collection. Specimens designated KSU and OSU are housed at the Kent State University, and Ohio State University Insect Collections, respectively. The following species constitute new records for Ohio:

*Digichironora lenis* Cresson. Lorain Co.: Beaver Ck, nr. Amherst, Sewage Treatment Plant, 41°24.7’N, 82°1.39’W (VIII-24-1977, B. A. Steinly), sand shore, 1 specimen; (VIII-30-1977, B. A. Steinly), sand shore, 1 specimen. Mercer Co.: Grand L. St, Marys S. P., Grand L. St, Marys, 40°32.8’N, 84°27.9’W (V-26-1977, B. A. Steinly), sedge meadow, 1 specimen.

*Hyadina pruinosa* (Cresson). Stark Co.: Berlin Reservoir, 40°58.9’N, 81°6.0’W (VIII-7-1976, B. A. Steinly), sedge meadow, 1 specimen.

*Lytogaster gravida* (Loew). Fulton Co.: Wauseon (VIII-25-1902) (OSU), habitat unknown, 1 specimen.

*Notiphila sp. A.* Portage Co.: 1.0 mile east of Kent (VII-31-1969, J. Scheiring) (KSU), habitat unknown, 1 specimen.

*Notiphila sp. B.* Carroll Co.: Specht Marsh (VI-21-1964, E. J. Allen) (KSU), habitat unknown, 1 specimen.


*Rhysophora robusta* Cresson. Geauga Co.: Punderson S. P., Punderson L., 41°27.6'N, 81°12.9'W (IX-12–1976, B. A. Steiny), mud shore, 1 specimen.

*Scatophila viridella* Sturtevant and Wheeler. Lorain Co.: Beaver Ck. nr. Amherst, Sewage Treatment Plant, 41°24.7'N, 82°13.9'W (VI-30–1977, B. A. Steiny), sand shore, 1 specimen. Beaver Ck. on West Martin St., Amherst, 41°24.2'N, 82°14.0'W (VI–29–1977, B. A. Steiny), mud shore, 1 specimen.

*Scatophila exilis* Cresson. Wayne Co.: Rittman Salt Works, Chippewa Ck., 40°58.1'N, 81°46.4'W (VI–30–1977, B. A. Steiny), mud shore, 2 specimens.

LITERATURE CITED


