

Papéis Avulsos de Zoologia

SOME COMMENTS ON THE GENUS *CTENODONTINA* ENDERLEIN (DIPTERA, ASILIDAE), WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES FROM COASTAL PERU

GERARDO LAMAS M.

ABSTRACT

Ctenodontina maya Carrera & d'Andretta and *Catostola carrerai* Hull are synonymised after the study of their holotypes. *Ctenodontina mochica* (1 ♂ from Peru, La Libertad, Cartavio), is described as new, and considered congeneric with *C. pectinatipes* Enderlein and *C. maya* Carrera & d'Andretta. A key to the species of the genus is presented, and the male genitalia of *maya* and *mochica* are illustrated.

Ctenodontina Enderlein

Ctenodontina Enderlein, 1914: 260. Type-species, by original designation and monotypy, *pectinatipes* Enderlein.
Catostola Hull, 1958: 320. Type-species, by original designation and monotypy, *carrerai* Hull (= *Ctenodontina maya* Carrera & d'Andretta).
Ctenodontina; Hull, 1962: 480; Martin & Papavero, 1970: 70.
Catostola; Hull, 1962: 481; Martin & Papavero, 1970: 70 [syn.].

The genus was well characterized by Enderlein (1914); Hull (1962) published the original description translated into English. The following features are diagnostic of *Ctenodontina*:

Asilini of medium size (15-22 mm), with facial gibbosity rather weak, confined to lower half or less; scutellum without marginal bristles; post-scutellar slopes bare; male hind femora with spinous swelling below at apical half or fourth; three submarginal cells; no stump vein at base of second submarginal cell, and posterior branch of third vein ending well above wing apex.

KEY TO SPECIES

1. Femora completely light yellow brown; femoral swelling large and distinct 2
Femora dorsally black; femoral swelling small
..... *maya* Carrera & d'Andretta
2. Mystax white with some black hairs intermixed; femoral swelling on apical half, comb-like, with long, stout teeth
..... *pectinatipes* Enderlein

Mystax pure white, femoral swelling on apical fourth, sack-like, with short, slender teeth *mochica*, sp. n.

***Ctenodontina pectinatipes* Enderlein**

Ctenodontina pectinatipes Enderlein, 1914: 261, figs. 6 (hind leg), 7 (wing). Type-locality: Colombia, Hacienda Pehlke. Type-location: Warsaw Museum. Refs. — Carrera & d'Andretta, 1953: 77-78; Hull, 1962: 480, figs. 2508 (hind leg), 2514 (wing); Martin & Papavero, 1970: 71.

No specimen has been available for study. The female is unknown.

***Ctenodontina maya* Carrera & d'Andretta**

(Figs. 1-3)

Ctenodontina maya Carrera & d'Andretta, 1953: 75, figs. 9 (hind leg), 10 (male abdomen), 11 (female genitalia). Type-locality: Perú, Huánuco, Tingo María, 700 m. Type-location: Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP).

Catostola carrerai Hull, 1958: 323. Type-locality: Perú, Junín, Valle de Chanchamayo. Type-location: MZUSP. *N. syn.*

Catostola maya; Hull, 1962: 482.

Catostola carrerai; Hull, 1962: 482, figs. 349, 394 (antenna), 786 (wing), 1545, 1554 (head), 2201, 2205 (male genitalia).

Ctenodontina maya; Martin & Papavero, 1970: 70.

Ctenodontina carrerai; Martin & Papavero, 1970: 70.

After examination of the holotypes of both *maya* and *carrerai*, I believe they are conspecific. However, they show subtle differences in the shape of the femoral swelling (shallower and almost inconspicuous in the holotype of *carrerai*) and the distal process of epandrium (more pointed in *carrerai*). I regard these differences as individual variations.

Ctenodontina maya was described based on two specimens, one male and one female. Tingo María, the type-locality, lies at about latitude 9°08'S, longitude 75°57'W, at an elevation of 660-700 m. "The valley around Tingo María varies from one-half a mile to nearly a mile and a half in width. It is hemmed in by high limestone mountains, densely covered with tropical vegetation, except where the slopes are too steep to support heavy growth . . . Although rainfall is plentiful and temperature is nearly constant and fairly high, the trees are not so tall, the epiphytes not so massed, the lianas not so vigorous, the ground cover is not so rank, and the variety is more limited, than in the Amazonian region" (Pallister, 1956).

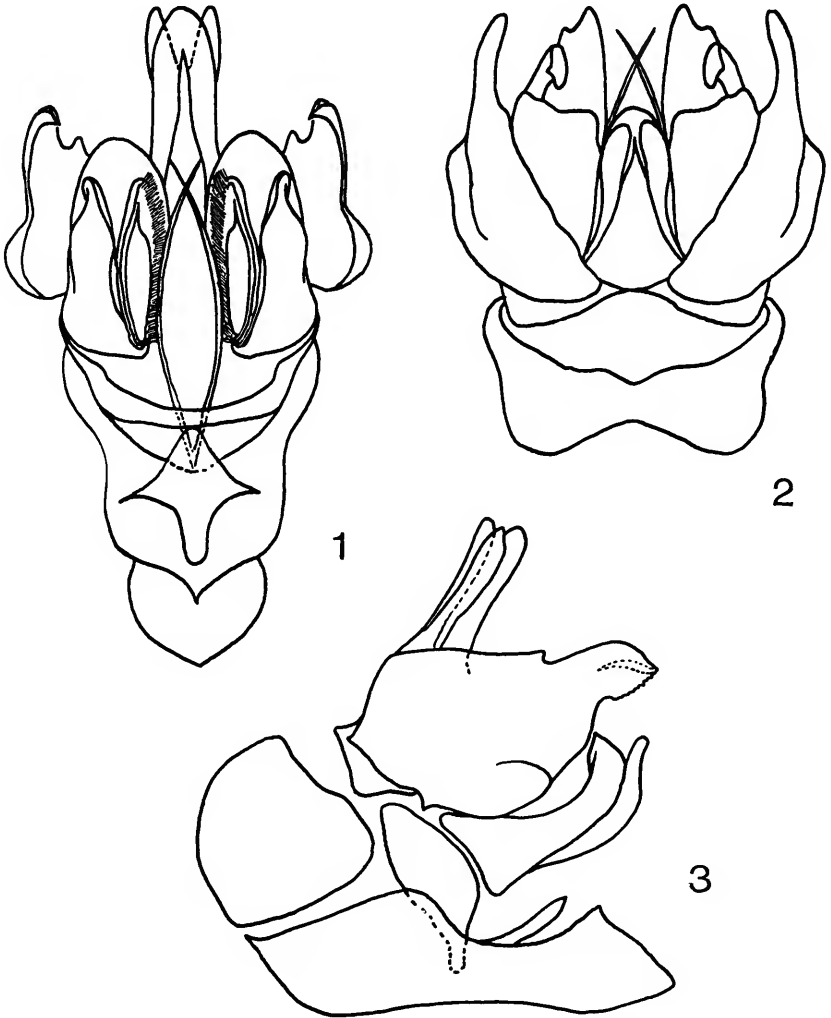
The Chanchamayo Valley (type-locality of *carrerai*) lies at about latitude 11°06'S, longitude 75°18'W, at an elevation of 800 m. It is drier than Tingo María.

Ctenodontina mochica, sp. n.

(Figs. 4-7)

Described based on what seems to me a newly hatched imago. The color-pattern may be somewhat darker on older specimens.

Male — Length: 15 mm; wing length: 11 mm



Ctenodontina maya Carrera & d'Andretta, male genitalia: 1, ventral view; 2, dorsal view; 3, lateral view.

Head silvery pollinose; antennae yellow brown, third segment darker, the latter with scattered silvery pollinosity; first segment twice the length of the second, third segment 25% longer than first, style dark brown, slightly shorter than the three segments together; mystax pure white, covering two-fifths of face length; bristles on frons, beard and occiput pure white; bristles on antennae and ocellar tubercle black; palpi yellow brown, darker on apex, palpal bristles mixed black and pure white; proboscis shining blue black, yellow brown on basal fourth.

Thorax: Pronotum and mesonotum light yellow brown, silvery pollinose; two parallel black stripes on middle of mesonotum, running from posterior edge of pronotum to posterior fifth of mesonotum, not reaching the scutellum, a light brown band between the black stripes; one dark spot on each side of middorsal triple band, formed by three components, the anterior two rounded, separated by the transverse suture, the third component triangular, lying on posterior fifth of mesonotum; scutellum light yellow brown; pronotal hairs and bristles pure white; mesonotum covered with very short, black bristles and some white hairs, and long, stout, black bristles; scutellum with short white hairs and a few black ones intermixed; post-scutellum silvery pollinose, bare; pleurae silvery pollinose, almost bare, laterotergal bristles pure white; halteres grayish white.

Abdomen yellow brown with silvery and golden pollinosity, hairs and long bristles white, scattered short black bristles on tergites 2-8; posterior edge of tergite 8 with moderately long black bristles; genitalia with black and white hairs, and slender bristles; long hairs of hypandrium pure white, hypandrium spatulated, bilobed.

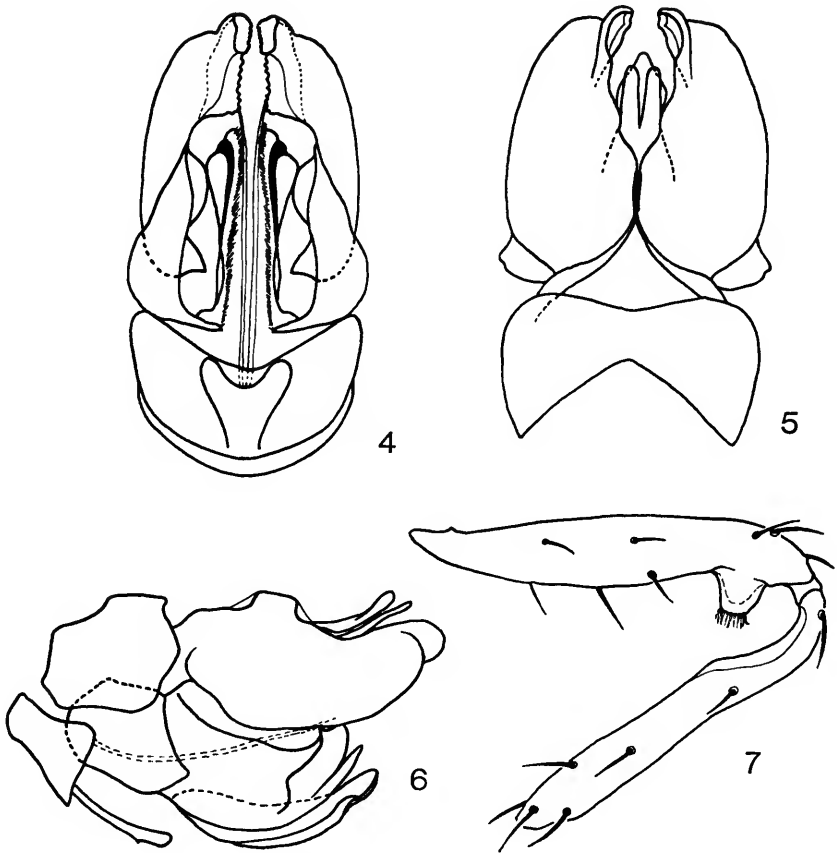
Legs yellow brown, only distal third of fifth tarsal segment dark brown, almost black; coxal bristles pure white; femoral and tibial hairs and bristles mixed black and white; most tarsal hairs and bristles black, a few white hairs present; a conspicuous sack-like swelling on distal fourth of hind femora below, bearing a number of short black and white teeth or short spines on its lower edge; an elongated concavity on proximal sixth of ventral surface of hind tibiae, opposite the femoral swelling; claws long, acute, curved on distal fourth, basal sixth yellow brown, remainder jet black; pulvilli light yellow brown.

Wings hyaline, veins dark brown; venation like in *C. pectinatipes* Enderlein.

Female unknown.

Type-material: Holotype ♂, Cartavio, La Libertad, Perú; 5.I.1971; Castro coll.; nr. UA 388-71, in the Museo de Entomología, Universidad Nacional Agraria, Lima, Perú. The type-locality is situated about latitude 7°54'S, longitude 79°11'W, at an elevation of about 150 m, on the dry coastal area west of the Andes. The scanty natural vegetation has been heavily eliminated, being replaced by extensive sugar cane plantations.

The specific name refers to the Pre-Inca culture of Mochica, which flourished on the area now known as the Lambayeque and La Libertad Departments of Coastal Perú.



Ctenodontina mochica, sp. n., male genitalia: 4, ventral view; 5, dorsal view; 6, lateral view. 7, left hind femur and tibia.

TAXONOMIC DISCUSSION

The new species seems to be a connecting link between *C. pectinatipes* and *maya*, probably being more related to the latter.

Nothing is known about the biology of the *Ctenodontina* species and the ecological significance of their femoral swelling.

REFERENCES

CARRERA, M. & M. A. V. D'ANDRETTA

1953. Asilídeos do Peru (Diptera). *Papéis Avulsos Dep. Zool., S. Paulo*, 11 (9): 63-78, 11 figs.

ENDERLEIN, G.

1914. Dipterologische Studien. XI. Zur Kenntnis tropischer Asiliden. *Zool. Anz.* 44 (6): 241-263, 8 figs.

HULL, F. M.

1958. New Genera of Robber Flies (Diptera: Asilidae). *Rev. bras. Biol.* 18 (3): 317-324.
1962. Robber flies of the World. The genera of the family Asilidae. *Smithson. Inst. Bull.* 224 (pt. 2): 433-907, 2536 figs.

MARTIN, C. H. & N. PAPAVERO

1970. Family Asilidae, in Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo, *A Catalogue of the Diptera of the Americas South of the United States* 35b: 1-139.

PALLISTER, J. C.

1956. Skippers Taken on the Frank C. Johnson Entomological Expedition to Peru, with Distributional and Ecological Notes (Lep.: Hesperiiidae). *Amer. Mus. Novit.* 1763: 1-69, 1 fig.