

Papéis Avulsos de Zoologia

A NEW MEXICAN *SAROPOGON* (DIPTERA, ASILIDAE)

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In the rich collection of *Saropogon* received for study, through the courtesy of Prof. Charles H. Martin, I have found an interesting new Mexican species, which is here described. To Prof. Martin my most sincere thanks are due for this opportunity of studying his collection.

Saropogon wilcoxi, sp. n.

♂ — body length: 13 mm; wing length: 11 mm.

Face shining black, wrinkled, with sides covered with golden tomentum, which extends from the level of insertion of antennae to the oral margin; mystax white, with 5 or 6 vertical rows of bristles, confined to oral margin, and as long as proboscis; palpi and proboscis black, with black hairs; antennal segment 1 black, segment 2 almost entirely black, with reddish apex, and segment 3 reddish, with black dorsal surface; antennal bristles yellowish; front fuscous black, greyish pollinose, with several long white and black hairs; ocellar callus black, bare of pollen, with yellow bristles; occiput black, golden pollinose, especially along orbital margins; occipital bristles yellow and black; beard black.

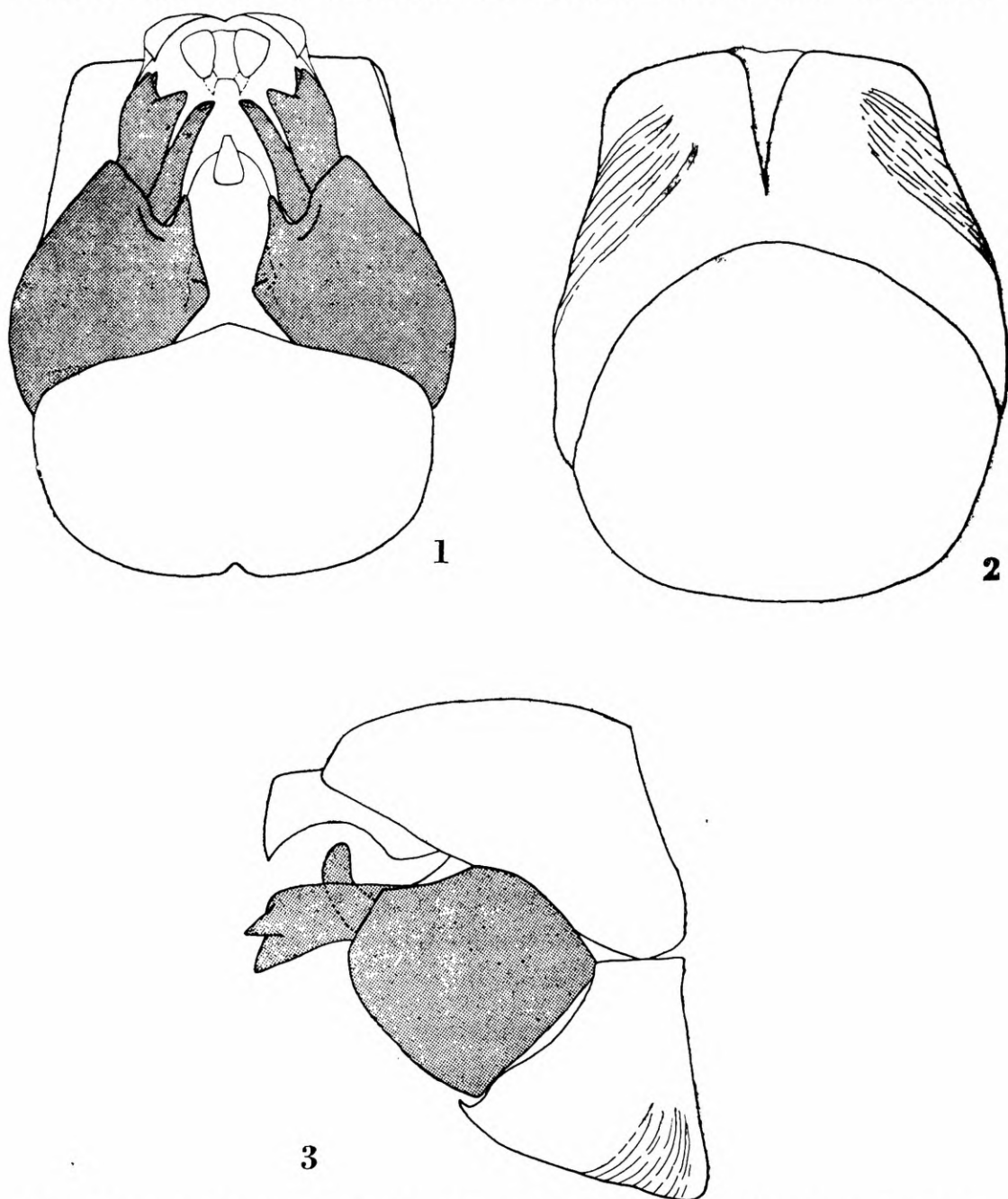
Thorax: pronotum black, with scarce golden pollinosity and black hairs; humeral calli ferrugineous, with dense cover of golden pollinosity on anterior margin; mesonotum mostly fuscous black on disc, its lateral and posterior margins ferrugineous; the black area covered with greyish-yellow pollinosity; bristles and hairs golden-yellow; scutellum ferrugineous, the marginal bristles reduced to slightly over half the length of scutellum, and weak; pleurae entirely fuscous black, bare of pollen, but with a patch of golden tomentum on hypopleura; postscutellum fuscous black; postscutellar slopes golden tomentose.

Wings brownish, especially on proximal half; discal cell, 4th posterior cell, anal and axillary cells, hyaline, giving a characteristic pattern to the wing; veins brownish; halteres reddish-brown.

Legs: coxae black, grey tomentose, with long white hairs; femora ferrugineous in small area at apex, remainder black, with yellowish hairs; anterior tibia ferrugineous at base, but mostly black on remainder, with yellow hairs, especially abundant on the posterior surface of the tibia and yellow bristles; tarsi dark brownish-black, with dense covering of yellow pile; middle tibia light-yellowish, with black apex and light-yellowish hairs and

bristles; posterior tibia almost like the middle one, but the black apical area occupies almost one third of the length of the tibia; middle and hind tarsi brownish, and bristles on the inferior surface of all tarsi black; claws black, pulvilli yellowish.

Abdomen: first segment ferrugineous, or very dark red, especially on its anterior portion; remaining segments black on anterior portion, dark red or ferrugineous on the posterior portion; the red areas diminish in extension in each segment, towards the caudal end of the insect; segments 1-4 with a narrow rim of golden



Saropogon wilcoxi, sp. n. Fig. 1: male genitalia, ventral view; fig. 2: same, dorsal view; fig. 3: same, lateral view. (Semi-schematic; bristles omitted; gonopode shadowed).

tomentum on the posterior margin, which becomes larger at the posterolateral margins of the tergites; hairs golden-yellow; sternites black, more or less shining, with black hairs; genitalia (figs. 1-3) black, with yellow hairs.

♀ — The female differs from the male in several aspects of coloration: the mystax and the pollinosity of the head are golden; the antennae are entirely yellow; the red areas of the mesonotum occupy a much larger extension, leaving the black area restricted to the center of the mesonotum, where it occupies a variable extension; the pollinosity of the mesonotum is golden; the postscutellar slopes and the mesopleura have in some specimens a ferruginous colour; the black areas of the abdomen may be restricted to a very narrow stripe in the anterior margin of each tergite, becoming broader laterally; the legs are either of the same pattern of the male or entirely yellow, with a black spot on the dorsal surface of the femora, and with smaller dots of black in the posterior margin of the hind tibiae.

Holotype ♂, from Mexico, Morelos, Cuernavaca, Highway 136, km 22, 10.X.1960 (C. H. Martin col.), in the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco.

Additional material:

Five ♀ paratypes, from Mexico, Morelos, Cuernavaca, IX-X. 1960 (C. H. Martin col.) and Guerrero, Chilpancingo, 4200 feet, 28.VIII.1959 (R. H. & E. M. Painter col.), in the California Academy of Sciences. One ♂ paratype and two ♀ paratypes, from Mexico, Morelos, Cuernavaca, IX-X.1960 (C. H. Martin col.), in the Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo.

Taxonomic discussion

Saropogon wilcoxi, sp. n., belongs to the group of *Saropogon* species with reduced scutellar bristles. It can be distinguished from other species in the genus especially by the characteristic pattern of the wings, the colours of the body and the morphology of the male genitalia.

It is our pleasure to dedicate the species to Dr. Joseph Wilcox, for his valuable contribution to the knowledge of the *Saropogon* of North America.

