

A NEW SPECIES OF *EURHABDUS*
FROM JAMAICA
(DIPTERA: LEPTOGASTRIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

Eurhabdus jamaicensis new species, is described from specimens collected in Jamaica.

Aldrich (1923, p. 2-3) described the genus *Eurhabdus* and its genotype, *E. zephyreus*, from a single specimen, a female, collected at Higuito, San Mateo, Costa Rica. There is one other specimen of this species at the U. S. National Museum with the holotype. It, too, is a female and was collected at the same locality and by the same collector, Pablo Schild. No other species assignable to *Eurhabdus* has been described since, although Hull (1962, p. 317), Farr (1963, p. 20) and Martin (1965, p. 6) referred to an undescribed species occurring in Jamaica. It is this species that is described herein.

Eurhabdus jamaicensis sp. nov.
(Fig. 1-4)

Male: Length, 9.5 mm. Head black, frons and face silver-white tomentose, greatly narrowed by the encroachment of the nearly holoptic eyes, proboscis short, the hypopharynx protruding, antennal segments 1 and 2 light brown, 3 dark brown with style about 5 times the length of segment 3, posterior head region sparsely grey pollinose.

Thorax black, pronotum grey pollinose; mesonotum polished black dorsally, sparsely pollinose laterally, posterior calli and area immediately posterior distinctly grey pollinose, pleura black with a sparse, grey pollinosity; 1 prealar bristle, a few very short setae dorsally increasing in number posteriorly, and a few (7 to 8) setae in the upper mesopleural area. Scutellum very small, bearing a few, short setae.

Abdomen dark brown, combined segments 1 and 2 and segments 3 and 4 sparsely grey pollinose apically, segment 5 pale brown in apical half, setae scant on first 3 segments but increasing gradually posteriorly and fairly conspicuous on the terminalia.

Wings thickly beset with microtrichiae, violaceous iridescent, apical and posterior margins fringed with relatively long, pale yellow hairs; halteres longer than the thorax, pedicel pale yellow, knob black and distinctly flattened longitudinally.

Legs. Fore and middle legs mostly pale, yellow-brown, but distinctly darker in the apical third of the femora; hind femora light brown, clavate, the clavate portion polished dark brown, but lighter at the apex; hind tibiae grey-brown, dark brown in about the apical quarter, apical third swollen; tarsi dark brown. HOLOTYPE: Male, Portland, Hardwar Gap, "Green Hills," 20 July 1967, T. H. Farr. U.S.N.M. Type Number 72363.

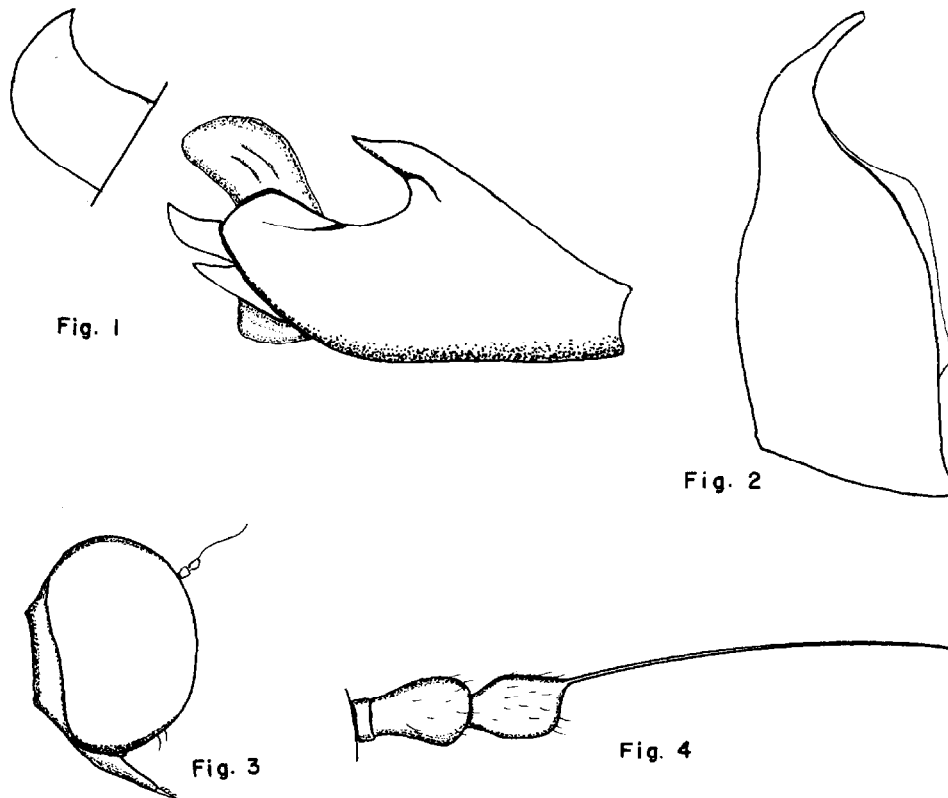


Fig. 1-4. *Eurhabdus jamaicensis*: 1, male terminalia, left lateral aspect, 9th tergite (epandrium) removed; 2, dorsal view of 9th tergite. Both figures prepared from specimen collected at Hardwar Gap, "Green Hills," 14 September 1964; 3, lateral view of head; 4, antenna. Figure drawn from specimen collected at Bath Fountain, 13 January 1955.

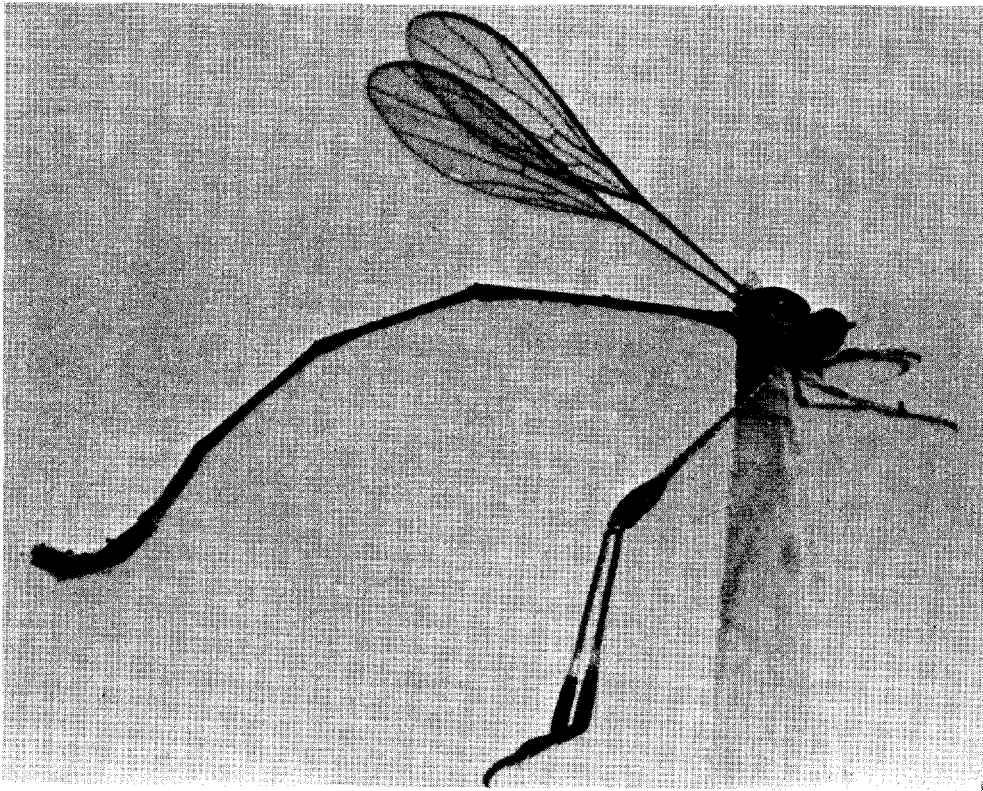
PARATYPES: Portland, Hardwar Gap, "Green Hills," 14 September 1964, August 1967; Ecclesdown, 2 mi. S. W., 24 August 1954. St. Thomas, Bath Fountain, 13 January 1955. All collected by T. H. Farr.

The holotype (Fig. 5) and 1 paratype male, have been placed in the collections of the U.S. National Museum. The other paratypes, 1 male, 2 females, are in the collections of the Institute of Jamaica.

Although I have not seen the holotype, the other specimen of *zephyreus* identified by Aldrich was loaned to me for study. From it, I could come to no definite conclusion as to whether or not the Costa Rican and Jamaican species are conspecific. Until males of *zephyreus* are available for study, it seems wiser to consider the Costa Rican and Jamaican species as separate, which they probably are.

LITERATURE CITED

- Aldrich, J. M. 1923. New genera of two-winged flies of the subfamily Leptogastrinae of the family Asilidae. Proc. U. S. National Museum 62(2466):1-6, 3 Fig.
- Farr, Thomas H. 1963. The robber flies of Jamaica. Institute of Jamaica Science Series Bull. 13(1):1-22, 12 Fig.



Photograph by Dr. J. D. Woodley, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica.

Fig. 5. Holotype of *Eurhabdus jamaicensis*.

Hull, Frank M. 1962. Robber flies of the world. Part 1. Smithsonian Institution, U. S. National Museum Bull. 224:1-430, 29 Fig.

Martin, Charles M. 1968. A catalogue of the Diptera of the Americas south of the United States. Part 35a. Leptogastridae. Departamento de Zoologia, Secretaria da Agricultura, São Paulo 35a:1-11.

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