BEE FLIES OF THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS (DIPTERA: BOMBYLIIDAE)

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Heretofore no bee flies have been recorded from the British Virgin Islands (BVI) (Evenhuis, 1983, 1992). Survey work for other insects in the BVI by The Conservation Agency from 1984 to 1993 has recorded 6 species of bee flies from a total of 9 islands. The intensity of survey has varied considerably from island to island. Guana Island

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Fieldwork was based on Guana Island and many specimens were collected in Malaise traps at North Bay. Guana is a small island on the north side of Tortola in the British Virgin Islands (18°28'N, 64°35'W). While it is small, only 297 ha, and the maximum elevation is 266 m, it bears a relatively rich biota and has sustained less damage by feral animals and man than have many adjacent islands (Becker & Miller, 1992). Scott E. Miller and collaborators were in the field VII-1984, VII-1985, VII-1986, VII-1987, VII-1988, and X-XI-1990. Roy R. Snelling was in the field X-1991, X-1992, IV-1993, and VI-VII-1993. Material is split between the Bishop Museum and Smithsonian Institution, with synoptic vouchers in the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and The Natural History Museum (London). A few additional records were provided from the private collections of Michael Ivie (Norman Island) and Richard Miller.

The material available is summarized in Table 1. All the BVI species are known from Puerto Rico, and all but *Exoprosopa cubana* are known from the U.S. Virgin Islands (Curran, 1928, 1931). Most of these are also more widespread in the West Indies. Despite recent collecting in the BVI and U.S. Virgin Islands, *Chrysanthax nero* Fabricius remains known only from the type described from "Americae meridionalis insulis" (either St. Thomas or St. Croix). Species known from Puerto Rico and the South American continent, but not yet recorded from the BVI include: *Anthrax insulans* Marston, *Poecilanthrax lucifer* Fabricius, and *Ligyra cerberus* Fabricius. We believe that with further collecting in the BVI, these species may also be found.

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SUMMARY

Six species of bee flies are known from the British Virgin Islands, including records from 9 islands. The BVI fauna is a subset of that of the Puerto Rican Bank.

TABLE 1. DISTRIBUTION OF BOMBYLIDAE IN THE BRITISH VIRGIN	J ISLANDS.
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	Anegada	Eustacia	Great Camanoe	Guana	Necker	Norman	Scrub	Tortola	Virgin Gorda
Heterostylum ferrugineum (Fabr., 1805)				x					
Anthrax oedipus Fabr., 1805				х			х		
Chrysanthrax gorgon (Fabr., 1805)	x		х	х			х		x
Neodiplocampta roederi (Curran, 1931)	x			х				х	
<i>Villa lateralis</i> (Say, 1825)		x	х	x	х	x	x	х	x
<i>Exoprosopa cubana</i> Loew, 1869								x	

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