

# The longlegged flies (Diptera, Dolichopodidae) of the Seychelles

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**Abstract:** Dolichopodids of four islands of the Seychelles republic were studied: Silhouette I., North I., D'Arros (Amirante Is) and Picard I. (Aldabra Is). 28 species were found of which 22 species are recorded for the first time on the Seychelles. *Aldabromyia* gen. nov. is described with *A. plagiochaeta* sp. nov. as type species. Nine species are described as new to science: *Aldabromyia plagiochaeta* sp. n., *Chaetogonopteron marronense* sp. n., *Chaetogonopteron seychellense* sp. n., *Ethiosciapus prysjonesi* sp. n., *Lichtwardtia aldabrensis* sp. n., *Mascaromyia digrediens* sp. n., *Mascaromyia gerlachi* sp. n., *Medetera pachyneura* sp. n. and *Sympycnus allotarsis* sp. n.. Another seven species are briefly described, but not named. Some of the species described by Lamb (1922) have been re-described based on our material. A checklist of the actually 50 species known from the Seychelles is given.

**Key-words:** Seychelles, Diptera Dolichopodidae, new species.

## INTRODUCTION

By their isolated position in the western Indian Ocean, northeast of Madagascar, the Seychelles have a peculiar fauna. In 1922 Charles Georges Lamb published a remarkable article about Diptera species (Asilidae, Scenopinidae, Dolichopodidae, Pipunculidae, and Syrphidae) found during the Percy Sladen Trust expedition to the Indian Ocean in 1905. In this article he described three new genera from the Seychelles within the family Dolichopodidae, viz. *Argyrochlamys*, *Craterophorus*, and *Urodolichus*. In all he mentioned 31 species (including 3 species with only indication of the genus) of Dolichopodidae found on the Seychelles (including Aldabra), 22 of which were new to science.

Before 1922 only one dolichopodid species was known from the Seychelles: *Psilopus leptogaster* Thomson, 1869, mentioned by Giglio-Tos (1895: 359) [now in the genus *Mascaromyia* Bickel, 1994; Lamb's species *Psilopus librativertex* is synonymized with this species by Grichanov (2003: 335)]. After 1922, only two other species were added: *Sympycnus albipes* Lamb, 1926 (now in the genus *Chaetogonopteron*), described by Lamb (1926: 548) from Rodriguez, and mentioned from the Seychelles by Parent (1934: 300), and *Bickelia subparallela* Grichanov, 1996, mentioned from the Seychelles by Grichanov (1996: 121), now considered as a synonym of *Bickelia parallela* (Macquart, 1842) (Grichanov 2003: 331).

The present paper deals with new collected material. In 1976 a malaise trap, placed by R. Prys-Jones into mixed scrub at Picard on Aldabra, yielded some, partly

new, species of Dolichopodidae, and some more species were gathered by Justin Gerlach in 2000, 2001 and 2003 on several isles of the Seychelles (Silhouette, North Island, D'Arros). In all 28 species were found in that material: one new genus and 9 new species are described here. A number of species that are not named because only female specimens are found or that there are doubts about the status, are diagnosed, just to indicate that more species are present in the area.

## Material and methods

Material was collected on four islands: Silhouette I. 20km Northwest of Mahé, North I., 5 km north of Silhouette I., D'Arros (part of Amirante Is) 200km south of Mahé and Picard I. of the Aldabra Island group at 1,150km Southeast of Mahé and 350km northwest of Madagascar.

All material is stored in 70% alcohol in the collections of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels. The number of the glass tubes in which the specimens are stored are given behind the locality (e.g. S7 means tube 7 of the Seychelles samples).

## SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

### Subfamily Sciapodinae.

#### *Aldabromyia* gen. nov.

Etymology: Aldabra, where the type species has been found + Greek *myia*, 'fly'. Gender feminine.

#### Diagnosis of male.

*Head*. Vertex rather deeply excavated; ocellar tubercle high, but not reaching level of upper eye margins. Face very narrow; clypeus a little wider than epistoma, not separated from eye margins, hardly bulging. Palpi and rostrum small. A pair of strong ocellar bristles; two short, thin postocellars; at either side one postvertical bristle; frons at either side with a thin, hairlike bristle. Lower postocular cilia not lengthened. Antenna short; 2<sup>nd</sup> segment dorsally and ventrally with rather short and weak bristles; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment small, more or less triangular; arista dorsal, rather short.

*Thorax*. acr biseriate, very short; 5 pairs of strong dc. Scutellum with long marginals (about 2/3 as long as the marginals).

*Legs*. Fore coxa with 3 strong bristles on apical 1/3; hind coxa with a thin yellow bristle, and some short, yellow bristly hairs. Femora without bristles. Fore and hind tibiae nearly bristleless; mid tibia with a row of av on apical half. 1<sup>st</sup> segment of fore tarsus broadened and flattened; all segments of hind tarsus somewhat broadened and flattened. 1<sup>st</sup> segment of hind tarsus more than twice as long as 2<sup>nd</sup> segment.

*Wing* hyaline, very feebly clouded. m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of less than 90°, and converges towards r4+5 with a pronounced curve, ending above wing tip; m2 not faded, reaching nearly to wing margin. tp straight, oblique, longer than apical part of m3+4.

*Abdomen* very long and slender. Hypopygium small; cercus more or less triangular, blade-like.

Type species: *Aldabromyia plagiochaeta* spec. nova.

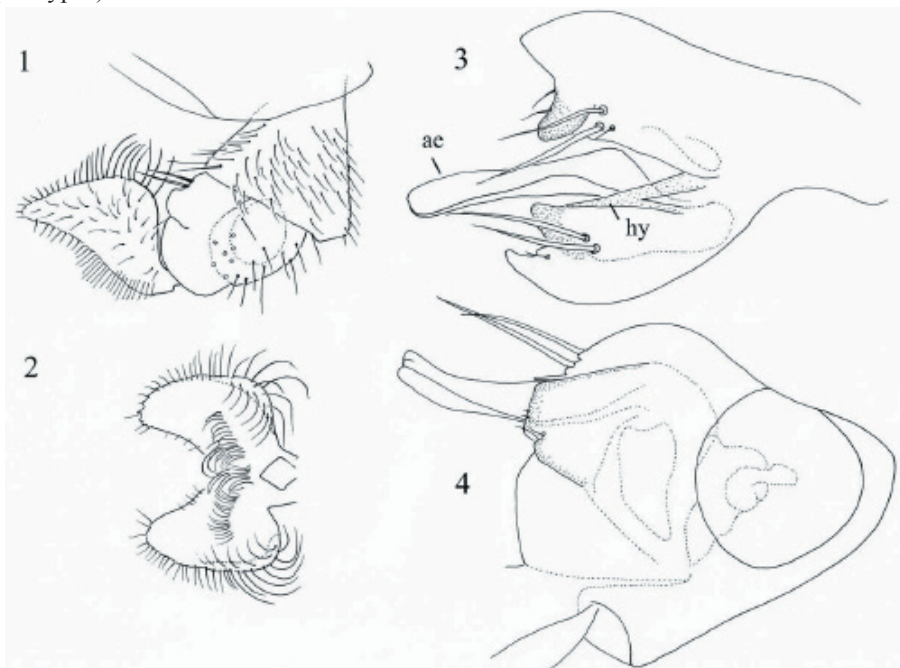
Remarks: This genus does not agree with any of the genera as described by Bickel (1994), owing to the following combination of characters:

- tp straight.
- 5 strong dc; acr short.
- laterals of scutellum very long.
- arista dorsal, relatively short, on a small 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> antennal segment with only short bristles.
- cercus of hypopygium bladelike, not lengthened.
- nearly bristleless legs.
- on either side of frons only one, weak vertical seta.
- narrow face.
- 1<sup>st</sup> segment of fore tarsus remarkably broadened and flattened.

*Aldabromyia* seems to be closely related to *Mascaromyia* Bickel, 1994, but differs from it especially by the long lateral bristles on the scutellum (absent in *Mascaromyia*).

*Aldabromyia plagiochaeta* **spec. nova** Figs. 1-4.

Material examined: Holotype ♂, 3♂♂ paratypes from Aldabra: Picard, 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (malaise trap in mixed scrub), collected by R. Prys-Jones (S50 holotype, S37 paratypes).



Figs. 1-4. *Aldabromyia plagiochaeta* gen. novum, spec. nova., paratype male, 1. tip abdomen; 2. ventral view of cerci; 3. ventral view of epandrium; 4. lateral view of epandrium. Ae: aedeagus; Hy: hypandrium.

Etymology: Greek *plagiós*, ‘on the side’ + *chaitè*, ‘bristle’, alluding to the long lateral bristles on the scutellum.

Male. *Body length*: 4.9-5.4mm; *wing length*: 2.9-3.2mm.

*Head*. Vertex and frons shining metallic green. Face very narrow, metallic green, with a greyish white dusting; epistoma with nearly parallel side margins; clypeus slightly wider than epistoma, ending above level of lower eye margins. Palpus small, brownish black, with a pair of small black bristles. Rostrum short, yellow. A pair of strong, black ocellar bristles. 2 short, thin, black postocellars. At either side 1 black postvertical bristle. Lateral and lower postocular cilia yellowish white. Occiput shining metallic green.

*Antenna* short; basal segments dark brown, 3<sup>rd</sup> segment brownish yellow. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment dorsally and ventrally with rather short and weak black bristlets. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment small, a little longer than deep, more or less triangular, with a rounded tip. Arista dorsal, relatively short (hardly as long as face), thin, black.

*Thorax*. Thorax and scutellum shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections. acr biseriate, very short. 5 pairs of strong, black dc. Scutellum with long laterals (about 2/3 as long as the marginals). Propleura bare.

*Legs*. Fore coxa yellow (coxa narrowly browned at base). Mid and hind coxae dark brown, apically narrowly yellow. Trochanters, femora and tibiae yellow, but hind femur apically, and hind tibia entirely feebly browned. Tarsi strongly darkened, but 1<sup>st</sup> segment of fore tarsus yellow, and 1<sup>st</sup> segment of mid tarsus basally yellowish. *Fore leg*. Coxa anteriorly with pale yellow hairs, and 3 strong, black bristles on apical 1/3. Femur without bristles; ventrally some very short yellow hairs. Tibia a little longer than femur, without bristles, apart from a ventral bristle at apex. 1<sup>st</sup> segment of tarsus soon after its base strongly broadened and flattened, ovaloid, with rows of very short, black bristlets. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.2:0.8:0.3:0.2:0.15:0.1. *Mid leg*. Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with yellow hairs. Femur ventrally without bristles. Tibia longer than femur; anteroventrally on apical half a row of bristles (very short at middle of tibia, growing longer towards its tip). Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 2.0:1.25:0.4:0.25:0.15:0.1. *Hind leg*. Coxa exteriorly with a thin yellow bristle and some short, yellow bristly hairs. Femur without bristles. Tibia much longer than femur (about 4:3); no bristles; some of the dorsal and ventral hairs are slightly lengthened. 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment ventrally shortly spinulose; all tarsal segments somewhat broadened and flattened. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 2.15:1.2:0.45:0.25:0.15:0.1.

*Wing* hyaline, very feebly clouded on apical half towards costa and around m1; veins dark brown. Tp straight, oblique, longer than apical part of m3+4 (about 3:2). No anal vein. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with yellow cilia.

*Abdomen* very long and slender, shining metallic green; terga 2-4 with broad dull black anterior and narrow dull black posterior borders; terga 5 and 6 mostly dull black. Hairs and bristles on terga short, black. Segment 7 very short, blackish brown. Hypopygium small, dark brown, with dark appendages. Cercus more or less triangular, blade-like.

## ***Amblypsilopus* Bigot, 1889**

### ***Amblypsilopus* sp. S4**

Material examined: 1 ♀, North island (0m), 29/7/2000 (S4)

A largely yellow coloured species with antenna pale yellow (arista broken off). 3 acr; 2 dc posteriorly. Two species of *Amblypsilopus* are known from the Seychelles. It was not possible to identify the present female.

### ***Amblypsilopus* sp. S30**

Material examined: 1 ♂, *Hevea brasiliensis* plantation, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (350m). 7-10/7/2000 (S30).

Male: *Body length*: about 5.3mm; *wing length*: 4.7mm.

*Head*. Vertex deeply excavated; ocellar tubercle high, but not reaching level of upper eye margins. Vertex, frons and epistoma shining metallic green. Epistoma hardly bulging, broad, its width beneath antennae about 5/6 of the width of an eye, seen from in front, at same level; inner eye margins parallel. Clypeus yellowish, with a white dusting, narrower and shorter than epistoma, distinctly separated from eye margins, not bulging, slightly narrowing downwards, and ending in a broadly rounded apex below level of lower eye margins. Palpus small, pale yellow, *with yellow hairs bristles*. Rostrum short, pale yellow. A pair of long and strong, black ocellar bristles. No postocellars. At either side 3 thin, yellow postvertical bristle, shorter and much weaker than the ocellars. Frons without hairs or bristles. Postocular cilia yellowish white. Occiput shining metallic green.

*Antenna* yellow, short. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment dorsally and ventrally with a strong, black bristle (a little longer than 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment). 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, triangular, with a blunt tip. Arista apical or dorso-apical, long (longer than thorax), thin, black.

*Thorax*. Thorax and scutellum shining dark *metallic green*, with coppery reflections; metaepimeron yellow. 2 pairs of well-developed, long black acr on anterior half of mesoscutum. 2 pairs of strong, black dc on posterior half, preceded by 3 very short and thin bristlets. Scutellum without laterals. Propleura bare.

*Legs* very long and slender. Legs and coxae yellow; mid and hind coxae exteriorly with a small brown spot. *Fore leg*. Coxa anteriorly with short pale yellow hairs, and 3 rather short, pale yellow bristles at apex. Femur without bristles. Tibia about 1.5 times as long as femur; near apex a thin, curved pv. 1<sup>st</sup> segment of tarsus ventrally at base with a cluster of very short bristlets, and one longer and stronger black bristle. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.8:1.8:0.5:0.4:0.25:0.15. *Mid leg*. Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with *pale yellow* hairs and bristles. Femur ventrally with 2 weak, thin bristles on basal 1/3, and a yet weaker posteroventral bristle at middle. Tibia: no bristles, apart from 2 apicals. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 2.5:1.9:0.55:0.3:0.15:0.05. *Hind leg*. Coxa exteriorly with a yellow exterior bristle. Femur and tibia: no real bristles, but some of the hairs on tibia slightly lengthened and bristlelike. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 3.0:1.4:0.6:0.35:0.2:0.1.

*Wing* hyaline, feebly browned towards its anterior margin on apical 1/3; veins dark brown; costa brown, with very short, black spinules. m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle 32

of about 90°, and converges towards r4+5 with a regular curve, ending above wing tip; m2 faded, but visible on to wing margin. Tp straight, oblique, longer than apical part of m3+4 (about 10:7). No anal vein. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with yellow cilia.

*Abdomen:* segments 1-4 yellow, dorsally and towards apices more or less browned, partly with a metallic green hue; remaining segments shining dark metallic green. Hairs and bristles on terga black. Segments 4 and 5 ventrally with curved black bristles. Segment 7 short, bent back under segment 6, and forming a short stalk to the hypopygium. Hypopygium small, blackish brown, with yellow appendages. Cercus ? (probably broken off).

Remarks: Belongs to the *pallidicornis*-group (Bickel, 1994: 307) (yellow antenna with very long arista; coxae and legs yellow, poorly bristled, with a curved pv near apex of fore tibia; abdomen largely yellow). It is related to the species *pallidicornis* (Grimshaw, 1901), mentioned from the Seychelles by Lamb, with some hesitation; it agrees very well with the description given by Becker of some of the characters (p.e. pleurae of thorax not yellow, but dark metallic green).

### ***Austrosciapus* Bickel, 1994**

#### ***Austrosciapus* sp. S41**

Material examined: 1♀, Malaise trap Aldabra Picard 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (Collected by R. Prys-Jones). Mixed scrub (S41).

*Body length* 3.7mm; *wing length* 3.3mm.

*Head.* Frons shining dark metallic green; face metallic green with a white dusting, nearly parallel-sided, rather narrow (its width beneath antennae less than half the width of an eye, seen from in front, at same level); clypeus about as long as epistoma, and equally wide, adjacent to eye margins. Palpus small, dark brown, with 2 weak black bristles. 2 strong black ocellar bristles; at either side 1 black vertical bristle on frons (much weaker than the ocellar bristles). Antenna dusky brown; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment rather small, rounded triangular, about as long as deep; arista dorsal, short. Lateral and lower postocular cilia white.

*Thorax* shining dark metallic green. 6 dc (most of them broken off); 3 or 4 pairs of short acr. Scutellum with (small) laterals [broken off].

*Legs.* Fore coxa yellow; mid and hind coxae dark brown. Legs yellow; fore and mid tarsi gradually browned from tip of 1<sup>st</sup> segments onward; hind tarsus entirely feebly browned. Fore coxa anteriorly on apical half with 3 strong black bristles. Legs feebly bristled.

*Wing* with extensive brown markings (comparable to fig. 126b on p.367 in Bickel 1994). m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of less than 90°, and converges towards r4+5 with a pronounced curve, ending above wing tip. Tp nearly straight, longer than apical part of m3+4 (about 7:5).

*Abdomen.* Terga shining dark metallic green.

Remarks: Possibly this female belongs to the genus *Austrosciapus*, as described by Bickel (1994: 231), especially because of the brown wing markings; also other characters (shape of face and antennae; bristling of thorax) fit in with it. This genus is hitherto



unknown from the Seychelles (according to Bickel it is entirely Australian, although two species are found also on various Pacific Islands and New Zealand, “undoubtedly the result of accidental introduction” [Bickel 1994: 231]).

### ***Chrysosoma* Guérin-Ménéville, 1831**

#### ***Chrysosoma leucopogon* (Wiedemann, 1824)**

*Dolichopus leucopogon* Wiedemann, 1824: 40.

Material examined: 1♂, edge of marsh and *Calophyllum inophyllum* woodland, North island (0m), 30/7-1/8/2000 (S6)

Remarks: a very widely distributed species from the eastern coast of Africa, Madagascar, Seychelles, Réunion, Aldabra, Rodriguez, Mauritius, India, Sri Lanka, Southeast Asia, Taiwan, New Guinea, Australia, Samoan Islands and Tahiti see Bickel (1994).

### ***Ethiosciapus* Bickel, 1994**

#### ***Ethiosciapus bilobatus* (Lamb, 1922)**

*Psilopus bilobatus* Lamb, 1922: 372; type species of *Ethiosciapus* Bickel.

Material examined: 1♂, Mon Plaisir, Silhouette (550m), 8/7-6/8/2000. Primary moss forest (S1); 1♀, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 9/8/2000. Palm forest (S2); 3♂♂, 21♀♀, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 1/10/2000-30/9/2001, Palm forest (S15); 1♂, 2♀♀, above Dauban mausoleum, La Passe, Silhouette (20m). Malaise trap 1-4/7/2000, open area with herbaceous cover dominated by *Asystasia gangetica* and *Pueraria phaesaloides* (S23); 5♂, 2♀♀, *Hevea brasiliensis* plantation, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (350m). 7-10/7/2000 (S29).

Male: *Body length*: about 5.0mm; *wing length*: 4.9mm.

*Head*. Vertex deeply excavated; ocellar tubercle high, but not reaching level of upper eye margins. Vertex, frons and face shining metallic green, with a coppery hue on clypeus. Epistoma very feebly bulging, broad, its width beneath antennae about 5/6 of the width of an eye, seen from in front, at same level; inner eye margins slightly converging downward. Clypeus narrower and shorter than epistoma, slightly separated from eye margins, feebly bulging, slightly narrowing downwards, and ending in a broadly rounded apex at level of lower eye margins. Palpus small, yellow, with yellow hairs and a pair of black bristles. Rostrum short, pale yellow. A pair of long and strong, black ocellar bristles. 2 short, thin, black postocellars. At either side 1 black postvertical bristle, shorter and much weaker than the ocellars. Frons at either side with 6 rather long, black hairs. Upper and lateral postocular cilia black, uniseriate and short; lower postocular cilia long, hairlike, pluriseriate, yellowish white. Occiput shining metallic green.

*Antenna* dark brown, short. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment dorsally with a rather long, black bristle (longer than 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment), ventrally with 2 slightly shorter and weaker black bristles. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, triangular, with a blunt tip. Arista dorsal, moderately long (about 1.3mm), thin, black.

*Thorax*. Thorax and scutellum shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections.

3 pairs of well-developed, long black acr on anterior half of mesoscutum. 2 pairs of strong, black dc on posterior half, preceded by 3 very short and thin bristlets. Scutellum without laterals. Propleura bare.

*Legs.* Fore coxa and trochanter pale yellow (coxa narrowly dark brown at base). Mid and hind coxae and trochanters blackish brown. Femora and tibiae pale yellow, but hind femur dorsally at apex, and hind tibia at base narrowly browned; hind tibia towards its apex darker coloured than fore and mid tibia. Fore and mid tarsi yellow, feebly infuscated on segments 2-5; hind tarsus more brownish yellow, brown on last 2 segments. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with long, erect, pale yellow hairs (as long as diameter of coxa), and 3 pale yellow bristles on apical 1/3. Femur ventrally with a row of about 11 black bristles (a little longer than greatest depth of femur); posteroventrally a row of slightly shorter, thin, yellow hairs. Tibia about as long as femur; at 3/5 from base a long, black pv; a shorter, black preapical ventral bristle; ventrally the hairs are slightly lengthened. 1<sup>st</sup> segment of tarsus very feebly bent, slightly broadened and flattened, ventrally with a dense row of very short, black bristlets. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.3:0.9:0.35:0.25:0.15:0.15. *Mid leg.* Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with *pale yellow* hairs and bristles. Femur ventrally with a row of weak black bristles, the longest of which are shorter than greatest depth of femur; ventrally at base a row of 4 shorter bristles. Tibia: 1 small ad and 1 small pd before middle, and 1 slightly longer ad beyond middle. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.9:1.35:0.4:0.3:0.15:0.15.

*Hind leg.* Coxa exteriorly with about 6 pale yellow bristles and bristly hairs of unequal length. Femur ventrally with a row of rather weak, bent, black bristles (shorter than greatest depth of femur). Tibia: 1 small ad near base; 2 or 3 small dorsal bristles; some of the dorsal and ventral hairs are somewhat lengthened and bristlelike. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tarsal segments ventrally shortly spinulose; 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> segments broadened and flattened. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 2.5:1.2:0.5:0.3:0.2:0.15.

*Wing* hyaline, slightly browned towards its anterior margin; veins dark brown; costa brownish yellow, with short, black spinules. m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of about 90°, and converges towards r4+5 with a regular curve, ending above wing tip; m2 faded, but visible on to wing margin. Tp straight, oblique, much longer than apical part of m3+4 (about 2:1, if m3+4 is continued un to wing margin). No anal vein. Halter yellow, with darkened stalk. Squama yellow, apically infuscated, with black cilia.

*Abdomen* shining metallic green, with coppery reflections, terga 2-5 with dull black anterior and narrow dull black posterior borders; tergum 6 with dull black anterior half. Venter dark brown. Sternum 3 bears at either side a rather long, heavy, black thorn, consisting of coagulated hairs. Hairs on terga black. [Hindmarginal bristles on terga broken off]. Rather short black bristles along side margins of terga 4-6. Segment 7 short, blackish brown, bearing black hairs and hairlike bristles, bent back under segment 6, and forming a short stalk to the hypopygium. Hypopygium dark brown, with yellow appendages. Cercus as long as hypopygium, darkened at tip, blade-like, with black bristly hairs, bearing at its base a short, bent branch, with a claw-like tip.

Female: Body length 3.7mm; wing length 4.4mm. Like male, with the following differences.

*Head.* Frons without long hairs, bearing at either side a long and strong, black vertical



bristle.

*Thorax* with 4 dc.

*Legs.* Femora ventrally without rows of bristles. Fore tibia with a long pv, but without preapical ventral bristle. Fore tarsus simple. [Segments 2-5 of hind tarsus missing]. The 3 dorsal bristles on hind tibia longer and stronger than with the male.

*Abdomen.* Dull black bands reduced. Hairs and bristles on terga black, long.

Remarks: As Bickel (1994: 142) already remarks, Lamb did not note the flattening and broadening of the 1<sup>st</sup> segment of the fore tarsus with the pale ventral pile. Both authors fail to mention the conspicuous ‘thorns’ on abdominal sternum 3, though they are weakly represented on Lambs drawing (Plate 27, 3c).

***Ethiosciapus prysjonesi spec. nova* Fig. 5.**

Material examined: Holotype ♂, allotype female, 9♂♂ and 6♀♀ paratypes from Aldabra: Picard, 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (malaise trap in mixed scrub), collected by R. Prys-Jones (S51: holotype; S38: paratypes).

Etymology: named after its collector R. Prys-Jones.

Male. *Body length:* 3.0-3.2mm; *wing length:* 2.5-2.7mm.

*Head.* Vertex deeply excavated; ocellar tubercle high, but not reaching level of upper eye margins. Vertex, frons and face shining metallic green, with coppery reflections. Epistoma very feebly bulging, broad, its width beneath antennae about equal to the width of an eye, seen from in front, at same level; inner eye margins slightly converging downward. Clypeus narrower than, and about equally long as epistoma, slightly separated from eye margins, feebly bulging, with more or less parallel side margins, and ending in a broadly rounded apex at level of lower eye margins. Palpus small, black, with yellow hairs and a pair of black bristles. Rostrum short, yellow. A pair of long and strong, black ocellar bristles. 2 short, thin, black postocellars. At either side 2 black postvertical bristles, shorter and much weaker than the ocellars. Frons at either side with about 6 rather long, black hairs. Lateral postocular cilia whitish, uniseriate and rather short; lower postocular cilia longer, pluriseriate, white. Occiput shining metallic green.

*Antenna:* basal segments black, 3<sup>rd</sup> segment dark brown, short. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment dorsally and ventrally with rather short, black bristles (hardly as long as 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment). 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, triangular, with a blunt tip. Arista apicodorsal, moderately long (about 1.0mm), thin, black.

*Thorax.* Thorax and scutellum shining dark *metallic green*, with coppery reflections. 2 or 3 irregular pairs of well-developed, long black acr on anterior half of mesoscutum. 2 pairs of strong, black dc on posterior half, preceded by 3 very short and thin bristlets. Scutellum without laterals. Propleura bare.

*Legs.* All coxae and trochanters dark brown. Femora dark brown. Tibiae yellow to brownish yellow (hind tibia darkest). Fore and mid tarsi yellow, infuscated on segments 2-5; hind tarsus entirely brown. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with short pale yellow hairs, and 3 rather weak pale yellow bristles on apical 1/3. Femur ventrally and posteroventrally with rows of yellowish white, hairlike bristles (on basal half of femur hardly as long as greatest depth of femur). Tibia about as long as femur; posteroventrally, on apical half 4 hairlike pale bristles. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> segments of tarsus not broadened or flattened, but

ventrally with a dense cushion of short, pale hairs. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.8:0.45:0.25:0.15:0.1:0.1. *Mid leg.* Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with *pale yellow* hairs and bristles. Femur ventrally with a row of weak black bristles, the longest of which are shorter than greatest depth of femur; ventrally at base a row of 4 shorter bristles. Tibia: 1 small pd near base. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.0:0.8:0.25:0.15:0.1:0.07. *Hind leg.* Coxa exteriorly with 1 long and about 4 short pale hairs. Femur antero- and posteroventrally with rows of hairlike, pale bristles (the longest of which are slightly longer than greatest depth of femur). Tibia: 1 small ad near base; some of the ventral hairs are somewhat lengthened and bristlelike. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tarsal segments ventrally shortly spinulose; 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> segments slightly broadened and flattened. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.4:0.65:0.27:0.15:0.1:0.07.

*Wing* hyaline; veins mostly dark brown; costa brownish yellow, with short, black spinules. m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of about 90°, and converges towards r4+5 with a pronounced curve, ending above wing tip; m2 faded, but visible on to wing margin. Tp straight, oblique, longer than apical part of m3+4 (about 7:4). No anal vein. Halter yellowish brown. Squama yellow, apically infuscated, with brownish yellow cilia.

*Abdomen* shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections, without dull black bands. Venter brown, with rather long black hairlike bristles. Hairs and bristles on terga black. Segment 7 short, blackish brown, bearing black hairs and hairlike bristles, bent back under segment 6, and forming a short stalk to the hypopygium. Hypopygium rather small, dark brown, with dark appendages.

**Female.** *Body length* 2.2-2.5mm; *wing length* 2.25-2.4mm. As male, with the following differences.



Figs. 5. *Ethiosciapus prysjonesi* spec. nova, paratype male, lateral view genital capsule.

*Head.* Frons without long hairs, bearing at either side a long and strong, black vertical bristle.

*Thorax* with 4 dc.

*Legs.* Femora ventrally with only short hairs. Fore tibia without bristles. Fore and hind tarsi simple. Hind tibia bristleless.

*Abdomen.* Hairs and bristles on terga black, long.

Remarks: Most of the characters (especially bristling of thorax and frons, and the ventral cushion of hairs on fore tarsus) are pointing to the genus *Ethiosciapus* Bickel, 1994. This species is not mentioned by Lamb (1922). The female certainly belongs to this species, although it is smaller than the male.

### ***Mascaromyia* Bickel, 1994**

#### ***Mascaromyia amplicaudata* (Lamb, 1922)**

*Psilopus amplicaudatus* Lamb, 1922: 378.

Material examined: 1♂, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 2-7/7/2000. Palm forest (M2, S3); 4♂♂, 3♀♀, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 1/10/2000-30/9/2001, palm forest (W6, S16, S19).

Male. *Body length:* about 3.6mm; *wing length:* 3.4mm.

*Head.* Vertex hardly excavated. Vertex and frons blackish brown, with a metallic green hue. Face brownish black, very narrow; *eyes nearly touching each other*. Clypeus small, pale yellow, protruding. Palpus small, pale yellow, *with yellow hairs and a weak dark bristle*. Rostrum rather large, pale yellow. A pair of long and strong, black ocellar bristles. At either side 1 brownish yellow postvertical bristle, shorter and much weaker than the ocellars. Lower postocular cilia rather short, yellowish white. Occiput brownish black with a metallic shine.

*Antenna* pale yellow, short. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment with a circle of short marginal bristlets, dorsally with a longer bristle (about as long as 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment), ventrally with a shorter bristle. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, blunt-tipped. Arista dorsal, short (about 0.8mm), brownish.

*Thorax.* Thorax yellow; mesoscutum largely, and scutellum brown with a metallic green shine. *4 pairs of dc; no acr*. Scutellum without laterals. A small, black propleural bristle.

*Legs.* Coxae and legs entirely yellow. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly near base with 3 short, black bristles, and some scattered short, dark hairs; towards apex paler hairs, and at apex 3 bent, black bristles. Femur ventrally with a row of short, weak, brownish bristles (the longest of them hardly half as long as greatest depth of femur). Tibia a little longer than femur, slender, without bristles. 1<sup>st</sup> segment of tarsus ventrally on basal half with a dense row of short, black bristlets. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.4:1.15:0.5:0.35:0.25:0.15. *Mid leg.* Coxa with a brown exterior bristle. Femur ventrally on basal half with a row of 5 dark bristles (slightly longer than greatest depth of femur). Tibia more than 1.5 times as long as femur; 3 ad; 1 very small pd near base; about 6 tiny pv. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 2.4:1.3:0.5:0.4:0.2:0.1. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle. Femur anteroventrally with a row of 8 long and strong bristles (the first 3 of which are straight, and pale; the 5 last bristles are black, and bent);

ventrally on basal half a row of shorter, thinner, pale bristles. Tibia much longer than femur; 1 ad near base, 3 pd, all very small. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 2.75:1.0:0.7:0.45:0.25:0.1.

*Wing* rather narrow, hyaline, with brownish yellow veins; costa with short spinules. m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of less than 90°, and runs towards tip of wing after a rounded rectangular curve; m2 short, faded away before reaching wing margin. Tp straight, a little longer than apical part of m3+4. No anal vein. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with brownish cilia.

*Abdomen* yellow, dorsally faintly browned. Hairs and bristles on terga black; longer bristles only on 1<sup>st</sup> tergum. Segment 7 forms a short stalk to the hypopygium. Hypopygium very large, more or less triangular, yellow, with partly black appendages.

Remarks: The specimens found here correspond completely to the description and the figures given by Lamb (1922). The conspicuous bristling on the mid and hind femora are quite characteristic as well as the huge male genitalia.

*Mascaromyia digrediens* **spec. nova** **Fig. 6.**

*Material examined:* Holotype ♂, allotype ♀, 6♂♂ and 4 ♀♀ paratypes from North Island, edge of marsh and *Calophyllum inophyllum* woodland, at 0m. height, 30/7-1/8/2000, leg. Justin Gerlach (S7, S8). 1♂ and 12♀♀ paratypes from D'Arros, mixed secondary woodland, at 0m. height, leg. Justin Gerlach (S31).

Etymology: the Latin participle *digrediens* means 'deviating'; here it points to some deviations from the original description of the genus *Mascaromyia* Bickel, 1994, especially to the presence of small lateral bristlets on the scutellum.

Male. *Body length:* 2.7-3.1mm; *wing length:* 2.1-2.5mm.

*Head.* Vertex excavated; ocellar tubercle high, just reaching level of upper eye margins. Vertex and frons shining metallic green; epistoma metallic green, with a silvery white dusting; clypeus yellow, dorsally with a silvery white dusting. Epistoma not bulging, rather narrow, its width beneath antennae about 4/7 of the width of an eye, seen from in front, at same level; inner eye margins converging downward. Clypeus *short*, less than half as long as epistoma, clearly separated from eye margins, with a rounded apex, surpassing lower eye margins. Palpus small, yellow, with a short, black apical bristle. Rostrum short, pale yellow. A pair of long and strong, black ocellar bristles. 2 tiny, black postocellars. At either side 1 black vertical bristle, nearly as strong as the ocellars. Frons without lateral bristles or hairs. Upper postocular cilia very short, black; lateral and lower postocular cilia short, yellow. Occiput shining dark metallic green.

*Antenna* dark brown (3<sup>rd</sup> segment somewhat paler coloured), short. Dorsal and ventral bristles on 2<sup>nd</sup> segment about equally long (about as long as 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment). 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, triangular, with a rather blunt tip. Arista dorsal, rather short (about 0.5mm), black.

*Thorax.* Thorax and scutellum shining dark *metallic green*, with coppery reflections; bristles black. 5-6 irregular pairs of small and weak acr. 5 pairs of strong, black dc. Laterals on scutellum very short, hairlike. A weak, hairlike propleural bristle.

*Legs.* Fore coxa yellow. Mid and hind coxae brown, yellowish towards apices. Legs yellow; hind femur dorsally at apex usually very feebly infuscated. Fore and mid tarsi

gradually feebly browned; hind leg feebly browned from apex of tibia onward. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with very short, pale yellow hairs, and 3 strong, but not very long, black bristles near apex. Femur ventrally near base with some very short, scattered bristly hairs; 2-4 short preapical pv. Tibia as long as femur; 2 d and 1 pd, all short and weak. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.75:0.5:0.25:0.2:0.1:0.1. *Mid leg.* Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with some very short pale hairs and short black bristles; near apex 2 longer, bent, black bristles. Femur near apex with a few weak pv, and a stronger preapical ad. Tibia a little longer than femur: 3 ad, 3 pd, 2 v. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.0:0.6:0.3:0.2:0.15:0.1. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a long, black exterior bristle. Femur with a preapical ad, and a weaker preapical pd. Tibia longer than femur (about 5:4): 3 ad, 3 d. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.25:0.45:0.35:0.25:0.15:0.1.

*Wing* hyaline, very slightly browned; veins brown; costa brownish yellow, with short, black spinules. m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of about 90°, and runs, after a rounded angle of 90°, more or less parallel to r4+5, ending just above wing tip; m2 fades away after a short stub. Tp straight, oblique, a little longer than apical part of m3+4. No anal vein. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with a narrow black border, and pale cilia.

*Abdomen* shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections, without dull black bands. Hairs and hindmarginal bristles on terga black. Segment 7 shorter and narrower than segment 6, bent back under segment 6, and forming a short stalk to the hypopygium. Hypopygium rather small, dark brown. Cercus short, rounded, brownish yellow, bearing a few short bristles.

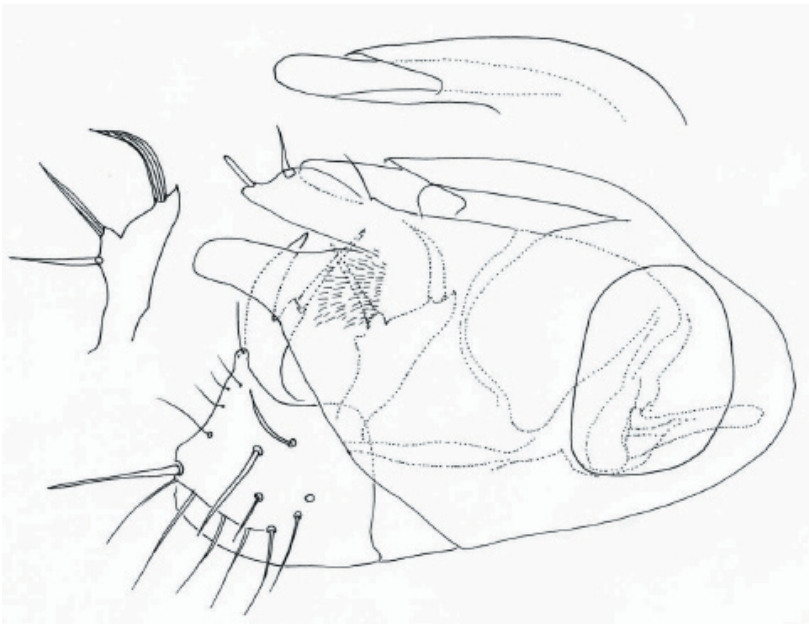


Fig. 6. *Mascaromyia digrediens* spec. nova, paratype male, lateral view genital capsule with detail of hypandrium with tip aedeagus and surstylus.

Female: As male, with the following differences:

*Body length* 2.8-3.4mm; *wing length* 2.4-2.9mm.

*Head.* Face a little broader than in male. Clypeus larger and broader, nearly as long as epistoma, strongly bulging, dark green, with a silvery white dusting.

*Antenna.* 3<sup>rd</sup> segment a little deeper than long.

*Thorax.* Up to 8-9 pairs of short, weak acr.

*Fore leg.* Coxa on its basal half with a row of 3-5 strong, but rather short bristles; near apex 3 bristles as with the male. Femur ventrally, on slightly more than basal half, with a row of 4 (sometimes 5) strong, black bristles, the longest of which are a little longer than greatest depth of femur.

*Wing.* Venation as in male; in one case m1 makes an angle of less than 90°, and bears there a very short stub-vein.

Remarks: This species is not mentioned by Lamb (1922). It does not clearly fit in with any generic description given by Bickel (1994), but probably it belongs to *Mascaromyia* Bickel (short acr, 5 strong dc; arista dorsal, rather short; narrow face; abdominal segment 7 well-developed, forming a stalk to the hypopygium; wing venation), but deviates from it by some of its characters (small laterals on scutellum present; vertex clearly excavated; face narrow, but eyes not nearly holoptic).

Probably the female belongs to this species, because of its colouring, the same bristling of mesoscutum, and equal wing venation. The strong ventral bristles on fore femur do point to the genus *Mascaromyia* (see Bickel 1994: 100).

*Mascaromyia gerlachi* **spec. nova** **Fig. 7.**

Material examined: Holotype ♂, and allotype ♀ from North Island, edge of marsh and *Calophyllum inophyllum* woodland, at 0m. height, 30/7-1/8/2000, leg. Justin Gerlach (holotype S53; paratype, S9). 3♀♀, D'Arros 21/6/03. (0m) Mixed secondary woodland (S32); 1♀, Malaise trap Aldabra Picard 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (Collected by R. Prys-Jones). Mixed scrub (S35); 6♀♀, Malaise trap Aldabra Picard 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (Collected by R. Prys-Jones). Mixed scrub (S39).

Etymology: named after its collector Justin Gerlach.

Male.

*Body length:* 2.9mm; *wing length:* 2.6mm.

*Head.* Vertex rather shallowly excavated; ocellar tubercle high, reaching level of upper eye margins. Vertex and frons shining metallic green, with coppery reflections; face shining metallic green. Epistoma very feebly bulging, rather narrow, its width beneath antennae about 2/3 of the width of an eye, seen from in front, at same level; inner eye margins feebly converging downward. Clypeus shorter than epistoma, clearly separated from eye margins, with a rounded apex, surpassing lower eye margins. Palpus small, yellowish, transparent, with 2 thin marginal bristles. Rostrum short, pale yellow. A pair of long and strong, black ocellar bristles. 2 tiny, black postocellars. At either side 1 black vertical bristle, nearly as strong as the ocellars, and 1 postvertical. Frons without lateral bristles or hairs. Upper postocular cilia uniseriate, short, black; lateral and lower postocular cilia pluriseriate, rather short, hairlike, pale. Occiput shining dark metallic green.



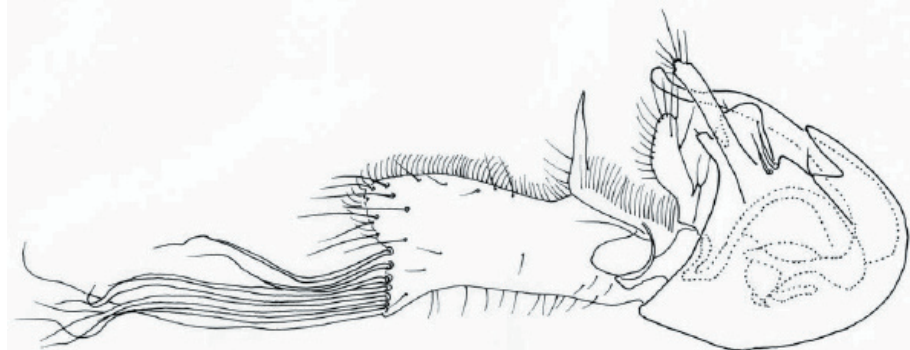


Fig. 7. *Mascaromyia gerlachi* spec. nova, paratype male, lateral view of genital capsule.

*Antenna* short; basal segments black, 3<sup>rd</sup> segment dusky brown. Marginal bristles on 2<sup>nd</sup> segment very short; only the ventral bristles somewhat longer (shorter than 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment). 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, about as long as deep, triangular, with a rather blunt tip. Arista dorso-apical, rather short (about 0.65mm), black.

*Thorax*. Thorax and scutellum shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections; bristles black. 5 irregular pairs of small and weak acr. 4 pairs of rather strong, black dc. Scutellum without laterals. Propleura bare.

*Legs* long and slender. Fore coxa yellow. Mid and hind coxae brownish black, apically narrowly yellow. Legs yellow; 5<sup>th</sup> segment of fore tarsus contrasting brownish black; last three segments of mid and hind tarsi feebly browned. *Fore leg*. Coxa anteriorly with short, pale yellow bristly hairs, and 4-5 long, but thin, yellow bristles. Femur without bristles. Tibia much longer than femur (about 3:2), without bristles. 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment ventrally with a fringe of very short bristlets. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.2:0.7:0.25:0.15:0.1:0.08. *Mid leg*. Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with some yellow hairs and bristles. Femur with only a short preapical pd. Tibia longer than femur (about 4:3): 2 ad. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.15:0.9:0.3:0.25:0.15:0.1. *Hind leg*. Coxa with a thin, yellow exterior bristle. Femur with only a weak preapical pd. Tibia longer than femur (about 7:5): a small ad; some of the hairs are feebly lengthened and bristlelike. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.5:0.65:0.35:0.25:0.15:0.1.

*Wing* hyaline; veins dark brown; costa brown, with short, black spinules. m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of about 90°, and converges towards r4+5 with a regular curve, ending well above wing tip; m2 fading, but visible un to wing margin. Tp straight, oblique, about 1.5 times as long as apical part of m3+4. No anal vein. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with pale cilia.

*Abdomen* shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections, with narrow dull black bands at anteriormargins of terga 3, 4 and 5. Hairs and hindmarginal bristles on terga black. Segment 7 shorter and narrower than segment 6, bent back under segment 6, and forming a short stalk to the hypopygium. Hypopygium more or less triangular, dark

brown, rather small, but with long and broad yellow cerci, that end in a long tuft of coagulated yellow hairs.

Description of female. As male, with the following differences:

*Body length* 2.9mm; *wing length* 2.6mm.

*Head.* Face a little broader than in male. Clypeus about as long as epistoma, rather strongly bulging.

*Antenna.* 3<sup>rd</sup> segment dark brown.

*Thorax.* 6-7 pairs of short, weak acr.

*Fore leg.* Coxa with 3 long yellow bristles. Femur and tibia without bristles, as in male. 5<sup>th</sup> tarsal segment coloured as with the male. *Mid leg.* Tibia with 2 ad, and 2 very short pd.

*Abdomen* without dull black bands.

Remarks: Not mentioned by Lamb (1922). Probably belongs to *Mascaromyia*, especially because of the bristling of the mesoscutum and the scutellum.

### ***Mascaromyia grandicaudata* (Lamb, 1922)**

*Psilopus grandicaudatus* Lamb, 1922: 378

Material examined: 7♂♂, 12♀♀, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 1/10/2000-30/9/2001, palm forest (S17, S20).

Male: *Body length:* 3.3-3.7mm; *wing length:* 2.6-2.7mm.

*Head.* Vertex shallowly excavated. Vertex and frons shining dark metallic green. Face greenish black, with a brownish yellow dusting, very narrow; eyes nearly touching each other. Clypeus small, heavily dusted pale yellowish grey, hardly protruding. Palpus small, yellow, with yellow hairs and a weak, black apical bristle. Rostrum rather large, pale yellow. [Ocellar bristles broken off in all specimens]. At either side 1 rather weak postvertical bristle. Lower postocular cilia very short, pale. Occiput greenish black, with a metallic shine.

*Antenna* yellow, short. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment with a circle of short marginal bristlets, the longest of which are a little shorter than 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, rounded triangular, blunt-tipped, about as long as deep. Arista dorsal, short (about 0.6mm), brownish.

*Thorax.* Mesoscutum and scutellum entirely shining dark metallic green, with coppery and violet reflections; pleurae yellow; postnotum dark brown. 4 pairs of dc; no acr. Scutellum without laterals. A very small, hairlike, black propleural bristle.

*Legs.* Coxae and legs yellow, but hind leg distinctly more brownish; mid leg brownish from about middle of tibia; fore tarsus very feebly browned. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with very short, scattered pale hairs; at apex 3 rather weak, bent, black bristles. Femur antero- and posteroventrally with rows of hairlike bristles, longest on basal half of femur (there hardly longer than greatest depth of femur). Tibia about as long as femur, without bristles. 1<sup>st</sup> segment of tarsus ventrally on basal half dense rows of very short, black hairs. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.0:0.75:0.4:0.3:0.2:0.1.

*Mid leg.* Coxa with 2 weak, black exterior bristles. Femur without bristles; ventral (especially anteroventral) hairs slightly lengthened. Tibia much longer than femur (about 8:5); 1 ad near base, and 1-2 very small ad on apical half; 3 very small pd; some tiny pv. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.6:1.0:0.4:0.3:0.2:0.1. *Hind leg.* Coxa

with a black exterior bristle. Femur on basal 2/3 anteroventrally with a row of about 7 strong, but rather short bristles (the longest of them are a little longer than greatest depth of femur). Tibia much longer than femur (about 3:2); 1 short ad near base; 4-5 very short d. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.9:0.55:0.45:0.3:0.2:0.1.

*Wing* narrow, without axillary lobe, hyaline, very feebly browned, with dark brown veins; costa with short spinules. m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of about 90°, and runs towards tip of wing after a rounded rectangular curve; m2 short, faded away before reaching wing margin. Tp straight, about as long as apical part of m3+4. No anal vein. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with a narrow black margin, and brown cilia.

*Abdomen.* Terga brown to dark brown; 1<sup>st</sup> tergum partly yellow; 2<sup>nd</sup> tergum with a rather broad basal yellow border; sterna brownish yellow. Hairs and bristles on terga very short, black; longer bristles only on 1<sup>st</sup> tergum. Segment 7 forms a stalk to the hypopygium. Hypopygium very large, more or less rounded triangular, yellow on ventral half, dark brown on dorsal half; cerci small, brownish yellow, apically with a tuft of pale, wrinkled hairs (see Lamb, 1922, pl. 28, fig. 7).

Remarks: Answers well to the description and figures given by Lamb (1922). The only feature that does not fit in well is his remark 'The pleura is rather blackened'.

### ***Mascaromyia pollicifera* (Lamb, 1922)**

*Psilopus pollicifer* Lamb, 1922: 375.

Material examined: 2♂♂, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 1/10/2000-30/9/2001, palm forest (S18).

Male: *Body length:* 4.4mm (only specimen A measured); *wing length:* 3.0-3.2mm.

*Head.* Vertex hardly excavated, rather narrow. Vertex and frons dark metallic green. *Eyes touching each other over a long distance*, leaving from face two yellowish brown triangles. Palpus small, brownish yellow, *with a black apical bristle*. Rostrum pale yellow. A pair of long, black ocellar bristles. At either side 1 short and weak vertical bristle, and a slightly longer, weak, black postvertical bristle. Lower postocular cilia short, whitish. Occiput black with a green metallic shine.

*Antenna* brownish yellow, short. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment with a circle of short marginal bristles, the longest of which are hardly as long as 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, with rounded tip, about as long as deep. Arista dorsal, rather short (about 0.9mm), black.

*Thorax.* Mesoscutum and scutellum shining dark metallic green; pleurae brownish black, partly with a metallic green shine (in specimen B whole thorax and scutellum brownish yellow, dorsally with a metallic gloss). *4 pairs of dc; no acr.* Laterals on scutellum minute, hairlike. No propleural bristle.

*Legs.* Coxae and legs pale yellow; 1<sup>st</sup> segment of fore tarsus feebly browned towards its tip (in specimen A), and segments 2-4 nearly white. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with pale hairs and bristles (the longest of which are a little longer than diameter of coxa; at apex a long, strong, pale bristle, that is bent at tip. Femur spindle-shaped (thick at base, thin and very slender towards its tip), without bristles. Tibia longer than femur, slender, without bristles. Tarsus very slender and thin; 1<sup>st</sup> segment very long, ventrally on apical 2/5 with a row of about 7 erect, thin bristles; 4<sup>th</sup> segment apically lengthened into a pointed lobe, that reaches to halfway the somewhat broadened 5<sup>th</sup> segment. Length of

tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.0:1.3:0.25:0.25:0.13:0.07. *Mid leg.* Coxa with 2 pale exterior bristles; at apex a dense brush of short, pale hairs. Femur without bristles. Tibia slender, nearly twice as long as femur (about 9:5); 1 ad near base. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.8:1.3:0.35:0.3:0.15:0.1. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a long, thin, pale exterior bristle. Femur without bristles, apart from a small preapical av; at tip a short posteroventral lobe (not clearly visible in specimen B). Tibia much longer than femur (about 11:7); some of the hairs in the dorsal row slightly lengthened and bristlelike. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 2.2:0.95:0.5:0.35:0.2:0.1.

*Wing* rather narrow, feebly browned (hyaline in specimen B), with brownish yellow veins; costa with short spinules. m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of about 90°, and runs towards tip of wing after a rounded rectangular curve; m2 short, faded away before reaching wing margin. Tp straight, longer than apical part of m3+4 (about 4:3). No anal vein. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, blackened at apex, with brownish yellow cilia.

*Abdomen.* Tergum 1 brown; terga 2-4 yellow, with a brown dorsal band, and brown hind margins; terga 5 and 6 brown; sterna yellow (in specimen B the abdomen is entirely brownish yellow). Hairs and bristles on terga short, black; longer bristles only on 1<sup>st</sup> tergum. Segment 7 shorter than 6; forming a short stalk to the hypopygium. Hypopygium relatively small, brownish black, with small yellow cerci (Lamb, 1922, pl. 27, fig. 5e).

Remarks: Clearly this is the species described by Lamb as *Psilopus pollicifer*. His description of the 5<sup>th</sup> tarsal segment of fore leg is not completely correct probably due to a misinterpretation of this small structure: the 5<sup>th</sup> tarsomere does not carry a thumb-like structure, but the 4<sup>th</sup> tarsomere is apically lengthened into a pointed lobe, that reaches to halfway the somewhat broadened 5<sup>th</sup> tarsomere. The colour of the abdomen he describes as 'blackish with a suspicion of shininess (in side view) here and there; pale on sides and venter except just at the tip'; so there seems to be some variation in colouring.

### *Mascaromyia* sp. S21

Material examined: 26♀♀, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 1/10/2000-30/9/2001. Palm forest (S21)

This also could be the female of the species described here as *M. amplicaudata* (Lamb), mainly on the base of its colouring, but the fact that the 1<sup>st</sup> abdominal tergum is entirely yellow, the yellow colour of the bristles on fore coxa, and the slightly smaller size seem to point to a different species. Remarkable is the amount of 26 specimens, whereas there seems to be no corresponding male in this sample.

### *Mascaromyia* S40

Material examined: 3♀♀, Malaise trap Aldabra Picard 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (Collected by R. Prys-Jones). Mixed scrub (S 40).

Female: *Body length* 2.8-3.9mm; *wing length* 2.6-3.3mm.

*Head.* Frons and epistoma dusky metallic green, with a white dusting; clypeus yellow, with a white dusting. Palpi yellow, with yellow hairs and bristles. 2 strong black ocellar bristles; at either side 1 strong black vertical bristle on frons. Antenna yellowish white, short; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment small, rounded triangular, about as long as deep; arista dorsal (near to tip of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment). Lateral and lower postocular cilia yellow.

*Thorax entirely yellow; only scutellum contrasting shining dark metallic green.* 4 dc (in the largest specimen a row of 4 and a row of 5 dc); no acr (but in the largest specimen a few very small acr on anteriormost mesoscutum). Scutellum without laterals.

*Legs slender, feebly bristled, entirely yellow.* Fore coxa anteriorly with yellow hairs, and 3 strong yellow bristles.

*Wing hyaline.* m1 rises from m1+2 with an angle of about 90°, and converges towards r4+5 with a regular curve, ending above wing apex. Tp straight, longer than apical part of m3+4 (about 7:4).

*Abdomen yellow; only anterior margin of 4<sup>th</sup> tergum brown.* Rows of hindmarginal bristles on terga well developed, black.

Remarks: Agreeing with all characters of *Mascaromyia*, as given by Bickel (1994). By its remarkable colouring it differs from all hitherto known species.

### **Sciapodinae indet.**

One species was found that could not be identified to genus level.

1♀: North island (0m), 29/7/2000 (S5); 1♀: above Dauban mausoleum, La Passe, Silhouette (20m). Malaise trap 1-4/7/2000. Open area with herbaceous cover dominated by *Asystasia gangetica* and *Poueraria phaesaloides* (S24).

Entirely shining dark metallic green; basal segments of antenna black; 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment black, longly triangular, about 3 times as long as deep; arista apical, rather long. Frons with at either side a black vertical bristle. Mesoscutum with 3 strong black acr, and 2 strong black dc, preceded by 3 short and weak bristles. Legs yellow; coxae dark, but fore coxa yellow with black base; fore coxa with 3 pale bristles at apex. Fore femur ventrally with long pale setae; fore tibia with 3 long black d, and 1 long black v.

### **Subfamily Dolichopodinae.**

#### ***Hercostomus* Loew, 1857**

#### ***Hercostomus* sp. S48**

Material examined: 1♀, Malaise trap Aldabra Picard 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (Collected by R. Prys-Jones). Mixed scrub (S48).

Female: *Body length* 2.6mm; *wing length* 2.5mm.

*Head.* Frons shining dark metallic green, with a brownish hue; face broad, dark metallic green, with a white dusting; clypeus protruding. Palpi yellow, with short, black bristly hairs. Antenna yellow; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment a little longer than deep, with rounded ventral margin, and an upwards shifted blunt apex; 1<sup>st</sup> segment with a few dorsal black hairs; arista dorsal (inserted about middle of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment). Postocular cilia black.

*Thorax* dorsally dark metallic green, feebly shining, with a brownish yellow hue laterally, especially so on alar calli; pleurae brownish yellow, partly with a greenish metallic shine. Bristles black; 5 dc; acr biseriate; 1 propleural bristle. No hairs present in front of posterior spiracle (*Hercostomus* s.l.)

*Legs.* Coxae and legs yellow; mid coxa more brownish yellow. Fore coxa with black

hairs, and a row of about 6 weak black bristles near apex; fore tibia: 1 d, 1 pd, and a short anterodorsal serration on apical half. Mid femur with an anterior preapical; mid tibia: 3 ad, 1 pd. Hind femur with a strong anterior preapical; hind tibia: 3 ad, 3 pd; a preapical d; 2 small and 1 longer v; 1<sup>st</sup> segment of hind tarsus shorter than 2<sup>nd</sup> segment (about 5:7).

*Wing* hyaline. m1+2 parallel to r4+5, ending at wing apex. Tp straight, shorter than apical part of m3+4 (about 4:7).

*Abdomen* dark metallic green, feebly shining.

Remarks: Hitherto no species of *Hercostomus* or *Gymnopternus* were mentioned from Seychelles.

### ***Lichtwardtia* Enderlein, 1912**

***Lichtwardtia aldabrensis* spec. nova** Figs. 8-9.

Material examined: Holotype ♂ and 2 ♂♂ paratypes from Aldabra: Picard, 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (malaise trap in mixed scrub), collected by R. Prys-Jones (holotype S54; paratypes S42).

Etymology: named after Aldabra, the isle where this species has been found.

Male. *Body length:* 2.3-2.8mm; *wing length:* 2.4-2.6mm.

*Head.* Vertex and frons shining dark metallic green. Face nearly parallel-sided, covered by a silvery-white dusting. Palpus small, yellow, with short, black bristlets. Rostrum small, yellow. 2 diverging, strong, black ocellar bristles; 2 converging, black vertical bristles, nearly as strong as the ocellars; 2 much shorter, black postvertical bristles, in row with the postoculars. Postocular cilia uniseriate, yellow.

*Antenna* yellow; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment feebly gradually infuscated on its apical half. 1<sup>st</sup> segment dorsally with some short black bristlets. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment with a circle of short marginal bristlets. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment rather large, about 1.5 times as long as deep, with an upward shifted blunt apex. Arista dorsal, inserted near middle of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment, very shortly pubescent.

*Thorax* and scutellum shining dark metallic green. Bristles black; 5 dc; acr biseriate. Scutellum with 2 strong black marginals. A strong black propleural bristle.

*Legs.* Mid and hind coxae brown, yellowish at apices; fore coxa and legs yellow. Mid and hind tarsi browned from tips of 1<sup>st</sup> segments onward. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with short, black bristly hairs, at apex a row of about 6 rather short, black bristles. Femur without bristles, apart from a very short and weak preapical pv. Tibia about as long as femur; 1 ad and 1 posterior bristle before middle, both about 1.5 times as long as diameter of tibia; a short dorsal bristle about middle. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.65:0.35:0.15:0.125:0.1:0.1. *Mid leg.* Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with short black bristly hairs; apically some longer bristles; a black exterior bristle. Femur without bristles. Tibia a little shorter than femur; 2 ad; 1 pd, 1 av, all rather strong; a circlet of 5 rather strong apical bristles. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.0:0.5:0.25:0.2:0.15:0.1. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle. Femur with a preapical ad. Tibia about as long as femur; 3 ad, 3 pd; 2-3 very weak and short v. 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment a little shorter than 2<sup>nd</sup> segment, bearing 1 dorsal bristle; last tarsal segments not broadened.



Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.15:0.45:0.5:0.25:0.15:0.1.

*Wing* hyaline. Apical part of m1+2 twice broken, as is usual in the genus; the stubs of m1 and of m2 about as long as the connecting vein. Apical part of m3+4 a little longer than tp (about 6:5). Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with black cilia.

*Abdomen* shining dark metallic green; sterna yellowish, partly brown. Hairs and bristles on terga black. Hypopygium dark brown; cercus ovaloid, pale yellow, with narrowly browned margin, bearing long black bristly hairs.

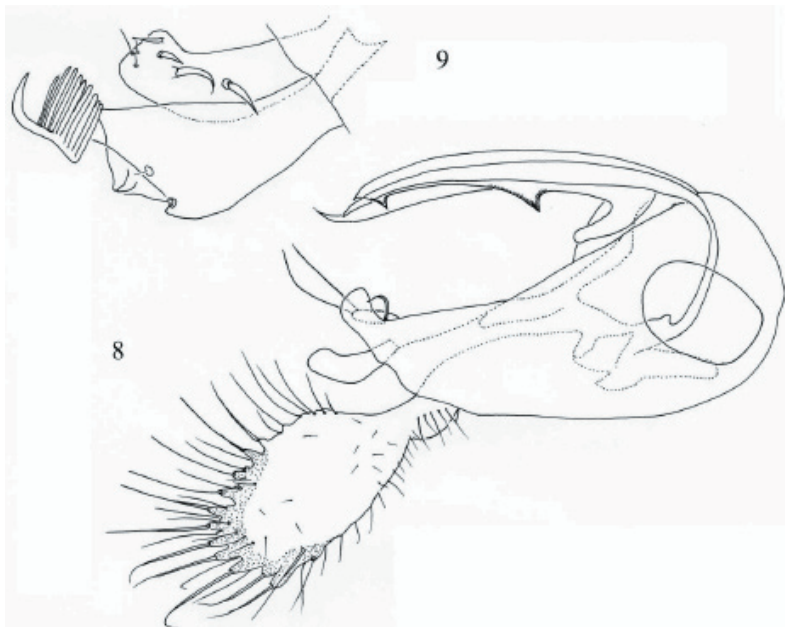
Remarks: The genus *Lichtwardtia* hitherto was not known from the Seychelles. This species has much in common with *Lichtwardtia fractinervis* (Parent, 1929), known from a large area in Africa (Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, Congo, Uganda, Angola, Namibia, Malawi, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Botswana; see Grichanov (2004): 61), but has different male genitalia.

### ***Tachytrechus* Haliday, 1851**

#### ***Tachytrechus tessellatus* (Macquart, 1842)**

*Tachytrechus seychellensis* Lamb 1922: 389.

1♂ (without abdomen), 3♀♀, above Dauban mausoleum, La Passe, Silhouette (20m). Malaise trap 1-4/7/2000. Open area with herbaceous cover dominated by *Asystasia gangetica* and *Poueraria phaesaloides* (S25).



Figs. 8-9. *Lichtwardtia aldabrensis* spec. nova, paratype male, 8. lateral view of genital capsule; 9. Detail of surstylus.

Answers completely to the description given by Lamb (1922) of *T. seychellensis*. This morphospecies has a very wide distribution and is very common throughout the old world tropics: from the West coast of Africa (Nigeria, Senegal), Egypt, Ethiopia, Malawi, Tanzania, Madagascar, Sokotra, Seychelles, Mauritius, India, Southeast Asia (Singapore, Indonesia), Taiwan, Philippines to New Caledonia.

### Subfamily *Medeterinae*

#### *Medetera* Fischer von Waldheim

##### *Medetera pachyneura* spec. nova Figs. 10-12.

Material examined: Holotype ♂, allotype ♀, 4♂♂ and 13♀♀ paratypes from Aldabra: Picard, 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (malaise trap in mixed scrub), collected by R. Prys-Jones (Holotype: S55; paratypes: S43, S44).

Etymology: *pachyneura* is the feminine form of *pachyneurus*, ‘with thickened veins’ (from Greek *pachýs*, ‘thick’, and *neûron*, ‘vein’), alluding to the thickened vein m3+4.

Male. Body length: 1.5-1.7mm; wing length: 1.35-1.5mm.

Head. Vertex, frons and face dark metallic green, moderately shining. Face nearly parallel-sided. Palpus small, blackish, with short, white bristlets. Rostrum brown to dark brown, with short, yellow bristlelike hairs. 2 diverging, strong, black ocellar bristles; 2 black vertical bristles, a little shorter and weaker than ocellars. Postocular cilia yellow.

Antenna yellow. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment small, rounded, about as long as deep. Arista dorso-apical.

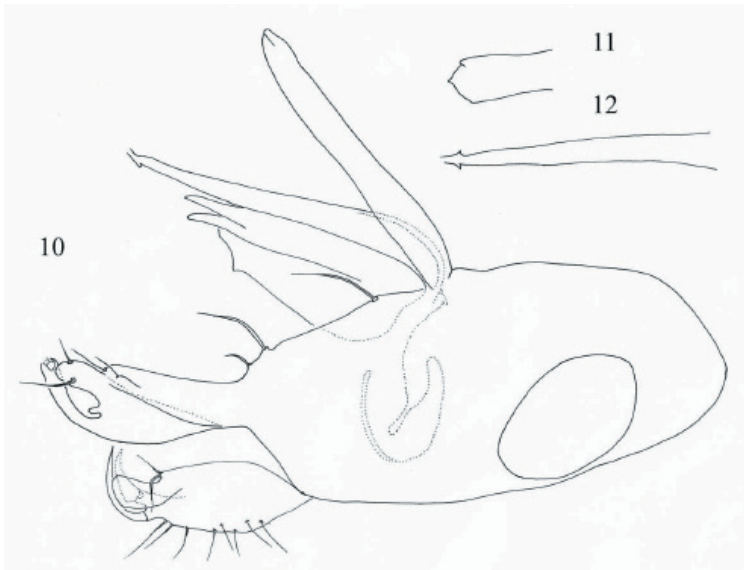


Fig. 10-12. *Medetera pachyneura* sp. nova paratype male, 10. lateral view of genital capsule; 11. tip of hypandrium; 11. tip of aedeagus.

*Thorax* and scutellum shining dark metallic green. Bristles yellowish; 2 long dc, preceded by about 5 small bristlets; acr biseriate. Lateral bristles of scutellum much shorter than the marginal bristles (about 1/3). 1 propleural bristle.

*Legs.* Coxae and legs yellow; coxae feebly browned towards their bases. 5<sup>th</sup> segments of all tarsi browned. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with short, pale bristly hairs. Femur posteroventrally with a row of short pale bristles. Tibia about as long as femur, without bristles, apart from 2 very small apical bristlets. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.4:0.18:0.12:0.09:0.05:0.05. *Mid leg.* Femur anteroventrally with a row of very short pale bristlets. Tibia about as long as femur; 1 ad and 1 pd, near base, both rather short. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.55:0.25:0.15:0.1:0.05:0.05. *Hind leg.* Femur anteroventrally with a row of short bristles (the longest of them shorter than greatest depth of femur). Tibia a little longer than femur; no real bristles. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.65:0.15:0.2:0.15:0.05:0.05.

*Wing* hyaline. Apical part of m1+2 very feebly arched, nearly straight; distance between tips of r4+5 and m1+2 about half as great as the greatest distance between these veins. Apical part of m3+4 about 1.75 times as long as tp; m3+4 from base to tp clearly thickened. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with yellow cilia.

*Abdomen* shining dark metallic green, ventrally partly brownish. Hypopygium dark brown to black; cercus yellow.

Description of female. As male; vein m3+4 not thickened.

Remarks: Only two species of *Medetera* (?*M. grisea* De Meijere, 1916 and an undetermined species) are mentioned by Lamb (1922) from Seychelles. The above described species differs clearly from them in its yellow antennae, and especially by the thickened vein m3+4.

## Subfamily Sympycninae.

### *Chaetogonopteron* de Meijere, 1913

*Chaetogonopteron marronense* spec. nova. Figs. 13-14.

Etymology: named after the place where it was been found: Jardin Marron, Silhouette.

Material examined: Holotype ♂, allotype ♀, 3♂♂ and 1♀ paratype, from Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 1/10/2000-30/9/2001, leg. Justin Gerlach (Holotype S56; paratypes: S12).

Male. *Body length:* 1.65-1.8mm; *wing length:* 1.5mm.

*Head.* Vertex and frons broad, shining metallic green. Face rather broad, narrowing downward, below about as wide as depth of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment, dark brown, with a metallic green gloss. Eyes pubescent (the pubescence is longest anteriorly). Palpus small, yellow, apically browned, with short hairs and a short apical bristlet. Rostrum small, yellow. Ocellar and vertical bristles broken off in all specimens; 2 black postvertical bristles. 2 tiny postocellars. Postocular cilia uniseriate, dark.

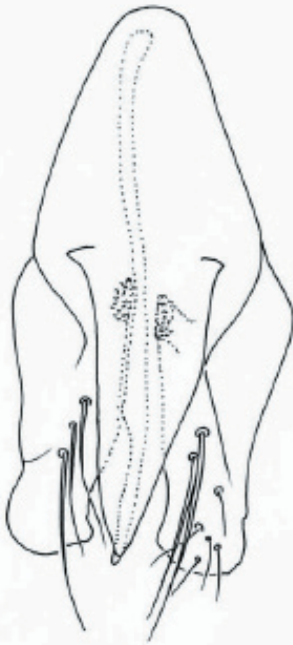
*Antenna* relatively large, brownish yellow to yellowish brown. 1<sup>st</sup> segment bare. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment with a circle of rather short marginal bristlets. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment longly triangular

with a blunt apex, nearly 1.5 times as long as deep, shortly pubescent. Arista dorsal, inserted near base of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment [broken off in all specimens].

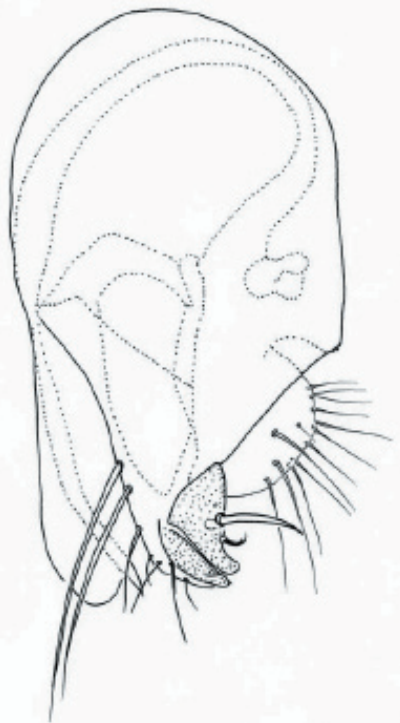
*Thorax* dorsally brownish yellow, with a dark metallic green gloss, that becomes more intensive backwards; scutellum yellow of brownish yellow, dorsally with a dark metallic green gloss. Pleurae yellow. 5 dc [broken off in all specimens]; acr uniseriate. [Marginal bristles of scutellum broken off in all specimens]. No propleural bristle.

*Legs.* Coxae and legs yellow. Mid and (especially) hind tarsi feebly infuscated. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with scattered black hairs, and a row of short black bristles. Femur without bristles. Tibia shorter than femur (about 11:9), without bristles. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.45:0.3:0.15:0.12:0.1:0.07. *Mid leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle. Femur without bristles; anteroventral hairs near apex slightly lengthened. Tibia a little shorter than femur; 2 weak ad. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.7:0.35:0.17:0.13:0.1:0.1. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle. Femur without bristles; some of the av and pv hairs before apex of femur slightly lengthened. Tibia a little longer than femur; 1 ad, 2 d, 1 v, all weak. 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment much shorter than 2<sup>nd</sup> segment, slightly thickened; ventrally bearing long, bent hairs, including 2 very long, thin hairs near base (longer than 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment). Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.9:0.18:0.25:0.17:0.15:0.1.

13



14



Figs. 13-14. *Chaetogonopteron marronense* spec. nova., paratype male, 13. ventral view of genital capsule; 14. lateral view of genital capsule.

*Wing* hyaline, with dark brown veins. Apical part of m1+2 parallel to r4+5, but distinctly diverging from it on apical half, ending just below wing tip; wing boss near to tp. Apical part of m3+4 a little more than 1.5 times as long as tp. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with browned margin, and black cilia.

*Abdomen.* Terga brown, feebly shining; sides of 2<sup>nd</sup> tergum broadly yellow; incisures between terga yellow; venter yellow. Hairs and bristles on terga very short, dark. Hypopygium small, brown, partly dark brown; cercus very small, yellow.

Description of female. *Body length* 1.8-2.1mm; *wing length* 1.6-1.7mm. As male, with the following differences:

*Head.* Face below wider than depth of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment.

*Fore leg.* Hairs and bristles on fore coxa shorter than with the male *Hind leg.* 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment without long hairs, shorter than 2<sup>nd</sup> segment (about 3:5).

*Abdomen.* Oviscapt small, yellow, with 8 very short, black acanthae.

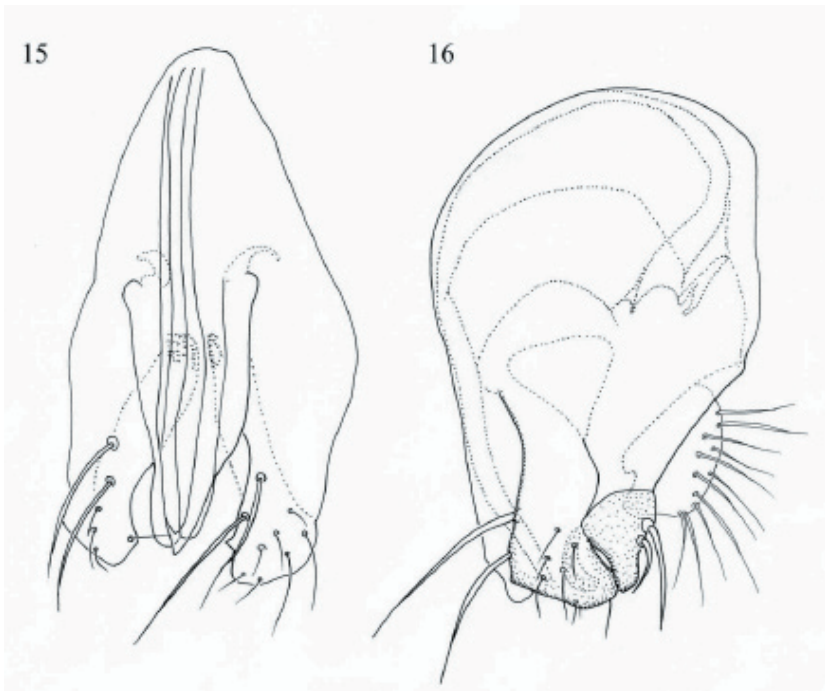
Remarks: see under the next species.

***Chaetogonopteron seychellense spec. nova.*** Figs. 15-16.

Etymology: named after the Seychelles, the isles where this species has been found.

Material examined: Holotype ♂, allotype ♀, and 7♀♀ paratypes from Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), Palm forest, 1/10/2000-30/9/2001, leg. Justin Gerlach (S13).

Male. *Body length:* 2.0mm; *wing length:* 1.9mm.



Figs. 15-16. *Chaetogonopteron seychellense spec. nova.*, holotype male, 15. ventral view of genital capsule; 16. lateral view of genital capsule.

*Head.* Vertex and frons broad, shining metallic green. Face blackish; eyes nearly touching each other on middle of face. Eyes pubescent (the pubescence is longest anteriorly). Palpus small, yellow, apically blackish, with short hairs and a short, black apical bristle. Rostrum small, yellow. 2 diverging, black ocellar bristles; 2 converging, black vertical bristles, as long as the ocellars, but a little weaker; 2 much shorter, black postvertical bristles, in row with the postoculars; 2 tiny postocellars. Postocular cilia uniseriate, black.

*Antenna* relatively large, yellow; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment browned along margin. 1<sup>st</sup> segment bare. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment with a circle of short marginal bristlets. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment with upper and lower margins more or less parallel, with quadrangular basal angles, and broadly rounded apex, about 1.5 times as long as deep, very shortly pubescent. Arista dorsal, inserted near base of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment, very shortly pubescent, rather long (about 0.8mm).

*Thorax* dorsally brownish yellow, with narrow darker lines along rows of acr and dc; sides of mesoscutum behind suture browned; a triangular blackish spot in front of scutellum; scutellum brownish yellow, with a darker median area. Pleurae yellow. Bristles black; 5 dc; acr uniseriate. Scutellum with strong black marginals; a remarkable row of short bristly hairs along margin. A weak propleural bristle.

*Legs.* Coxae and legs yellow. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with short, brown hairs, at apex a row of 5 short, thin hairlike bristles. Femur without bristles, apart from a very short and weak preapical pv. Tibia a little shorter than femur, with a short anterodorsal serration. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.7:0.45:0.2:0.15:0.1:0.1. *Mid leg.* Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with black hairs; a black exterior bristle. Femur with a rather strong preapical pv. Tibia a little shorter than femur; 2 ad; 1 pd near base. Length of tibia and 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segments [segments 2-5 broken off] (in mm): 1.0:0.5. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle. Femur without bristles. Tibia a little longer than femur, gradually somewhat thickening towards its apex; 3 rather short d; ventrally a row of lengthened, bent hairs. 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment much shorter than 2<sup>nd</sup> segment; ventrally near base 2 strong, slightly flattened bristles (shorter than 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment). Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.2:0.2:0.3:0.15:0.12:0.1.

*Wing* hyaline. Apical part of m1+2 more or less parallel to r4+5, ending at wing tip; wing boss near to tp. Apical part of m3+4 a little less than 1.5 times as long as tp. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with broadly blackened margin, and black cilia.

*Abdomen.* Terga 3-6 dark brown, feebly shining; terga 1 and 2 yellow; tergum 2 with hind margin narrowly brown, and a brown anvil-shaped spot at middle. Sterna yellow. Hairs and bristles on terga black. Hypopygium rather small, dark brown; cercus adjacent, small, yellow.

Description of female. *Body length* 2.1-2.9mm; *wing length* 2.0-2.35mm. As male, with the following differences:

*Head.* Face shining dark metallic green, below nearly as wide as depth of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment.

*Antenna.* 3<sup>rd</sup> segment brownish yellow to brown, broadly rounded, about as long as deep.

*Thorax.* Mesoscutum may be more largely brown; as in male there is always a blackish triangle in front of scutellum. Scutellum with a marginal row of bristly hairs, as male.



*Mid leg.* 2 ad, 1 pd, 1 av. *Hind leg.* Tibia not thickened. 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment without long bristles, shorter than 2<sup>nd</sup> segment (about 3:5).

*Abdomen.* Oviscapt small, yellow, with 8 very short, black acanthae.

Remarks: Describing his *Sympycnus violaceus* Lamb (1922: 405) remarks ‘The general appearance of the insect is not very reminiscent of the ordinary European forms, as it is more delicate and far less bristly, but the differences are not sufficient to warrant the erection of a new genus for a single species’.

The two species described here have much in common with Lamb’s species (1<sup>st</sup> segment of hind tarsus short, bearing some long hairs or bristles; rather large antennae; uniseriate acr; feebly bristled legs; small hypopygium), but differ in some points (2<sup>nd</sup> tarsal segment of hind leg much less than twice as long as 1<sup>st</sup> segment [in *violaceus* about 2.25 times as long], not modified as in Lamb’s species; size larger [Lamb’s species: male 1 1/3mm]). Provisionally these species (including *violaceus*) are included here in the large genus *Chaetogonopteron* de Meijere, 1914, mostly because of the shortened 1<sup>st</sup> segment of hind tarsus. Perhaps the uniseriate acr, and the long ventral hairs or bristles on 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment of hind leg could lead to the erection of a new genus.

### ***Chaetogonopteron* sp. S46**

Material examined: 1 ♂, Malaise trap Aldabra Picard 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (Collected by R. Prys-Jones). Mixed scrub S46

Male: *Body length:* 2.3mm; *wing length:* 2.3mm.

*Head.* Vertex and frons shining dark metallic green. *Eyes touching each other*, leaving from face only two small shining dark metallic green triangles. Palpus very small, dark, with short pale hairs. Rostrum small, yellow. 2 diverging, black ocellar bristles; 2 black vertical bristles, nearly as long as the ocellars; 2 tiny postocellars. Postocular cilia uniseriate, short, yellow.

*Antenna* small; basal segments dark brown; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment yellow, small, about as long as deep, rounded, with a subacute, downward shifted apex. Arista dorsal, inserted at the middle of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment, very shortly pubescent.

*Thorax* dorsally shining dark metallic green; sides of mesoscutum behind suture with a brownish hue; alar callus yellow; *scutellum* yellow, at base with a small, triangular, dark metallic green spot. Pleurae and postnotum yellow. Bristles black; 5 dc; acr uniseriate. Scutellum with strong black marginals. A weak propleural bristle.

*Legs.* Coxae and legs yellow. Segments 1-3 of fore tarsus blackish brown, segments 4 and 5 white. Extreme apex of hind tibia, and segments 1 and 2 of hind tarsus very feebly browned. *Fore leg.* Coxa at apex with 3 short, thin, hairlike black bristles. Femur ventrally near base with a few thin, hairlike bristles. Tibia a little shorter than femur; posteroventrally a regular row of 7 thin, hairlike bristles (all nearly twice as long as diameter of tibia). Tarsus: 1<sup>st</sup> segment posteroventrally with a regular row of 5 thin, hairlike bristles; 2<sup>nd</sup> segment gradually feebly broadened towards its tip; segments 3-5 somewhat bradened and flattened . Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.65:0.4:0.3:0.18:0.12:0.12. *Mid leg.* Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with only short, black hairs; a black exterior bristle. Femur without bristles. Tibia [broken off after its middle]; 2 feeble ad, and 1 pd near base. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle.

Femur without bristles, apart from a weak and short anterior preapical. Tibia a little longer than femur, gradually somewhat thickening towards its apex; 2 rather short d; at about 2/3 from base a thin, straight, erect pd. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tarsal segments shortened and partly flattened; a thin, vermiform, wrinkled yellow clidium. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.1:0.15:0.12:0.4:0.2:0.11.

*Wing* hyaline. Apical part of m1+2 more or less parallel to r4+5, ending at wing tip; wing boss before its middle. Apical part of m3+4 a little less than twice as long as tp. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with black cilia.

*Abdomen.* Terga 1 and 2 yellow; terga 3-6 dark brown, dorsally with a metallic green shine. Sterna yellow. Hairs and bristles on terga short, black. Hypopygium small, dark brown, apically blackish; cercus adjacent, small, yellow.

Remarks: This species is nearly related to *Chaetogonopteron albipes* (Lamb, 1926), described by Lamb as a *Sympycnus* species from the Island of Rodriguez (Lamb 1925: 548), and mentioned from the Seychelles by Parent (1934: 300).

Compared with Lamb's description of *albipes* this species differs from it as follows:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment yellow (in *albipes* 'the antennae are entirely black')
- thorax with a row of at least 8 uniseriate acr (in *albipes* '2 or 3 longish single rowed acrostichals')
- fore tibia with a row of 7 pv (in *albipes* 'tibia with 6 long hairs below')
- 1<sup>st</sup> segment of fore tarsus with a row of 5 pv (not mentioned in *albipes*)
- hind tibia with 2 d and remarkable erect pd (*albipes*: 'two bristles of a superior row')
- terga 1 and 2 of abdomen yellow, terga 3-6 dark brown (in *albipes* 'the entire abdomen is almost black except for the 2nd segment which is dull orange').

Perhaps Lamb made some mistakes in describing his species (number of acr, that may partly be broken off, as is the case in our specimen; 6 instead of 7 pv on fore tibia; colour of 1<sup>st</sup> abdominal tergum, difficult to see in bad light) and possibly he did not mention the row of pv on fore metatarsus, and the remarkable pd on hind tibia (might be broken off!). A problem could be the 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment colour, but here some variation may be possible (this segment is yellowish at base in subspecies *nepalensis* (Hollis, 1964)). The drawings in Lamb (1926) (p.549 fig.8 [fore leg], fig.9 [hind leg]; p.550 fig.10 [basal tarsal segments of hind leg]) correspond very well with the characters of our specimen.

We hesitate to describe the above species as a new species since we did not see Lamb's types.

## *Sympycnus* Loew, 1857

*Sympycnus allotarsis* spec. nova. Figs. 17-18.

Etymology: from Greek *allos*, 'other', 'deviating', and *tarsos*, 'tarsus', alluding to the peculiar shape and ornamentation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> segment of hind tarsus.

Material examined: Holotype ♂, allotype ♀, 1♂ and 4♀♀ paratypes from Aldabra: Picard, 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (malaise trap in mixed scrub), collected by R. Prys-Jones. (Holotype: S58; paratypes: S47)

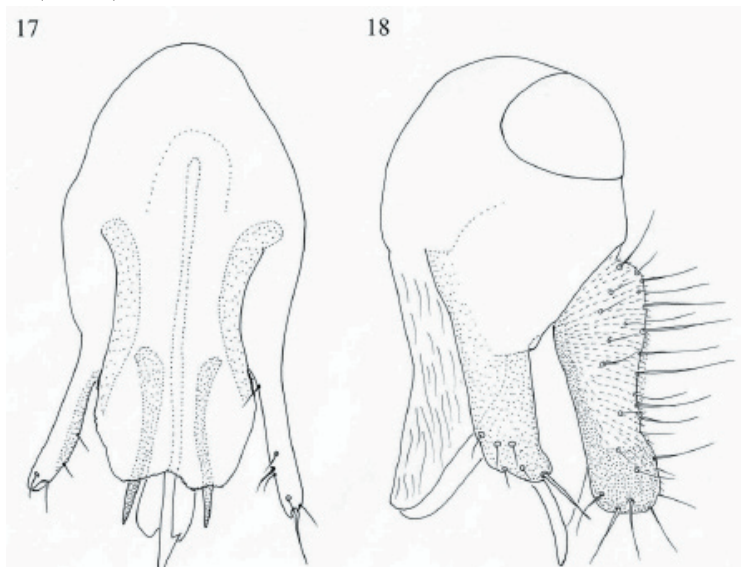
Male. *Body length:* 2.0-2.2mm; *wing length:* 1.75-1.8mm.

*Head.* Vertex and frons dark metallic green, with a brownish grey dusting. Eyes touching each other, leaving from face only two small dark metallic green triangles, with a brownish grey dusting. Palpus very small, yellowish. Rostrum very small, brown. 2 diverging, black ocellar bristles; 2 black vertical bristles, as long as the ocellars; 2 tiny postocellars. Postocular cilia uniseriate, short, yellowish white.

*Antenna.* Basal segments brownish; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment yellow, rather small, about as long as deep, rounded triangular, with a blunt apex. Arista dorsal, inserted at the middle of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment, very shortly pubescent.

*Thorax* and scutellum dorsally shining dark metallic green. Pleurae dark brown, partly with a metallic green gloss. Bristles black; 5 dc; acr biseriate. Scutellum with strong black marginals, without laterals. 2 short and weak propleural bristles.

*Legs.* Coxae and legs yellow. Mid coxa, hind femur dorsally towards its apex, and most of hind tarsus feebly browned. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with short yellow hairs, that become bristlelike at apex. Femur with only a short, thin, hairlike pv at apex. Tibia: a very small ad; on apical half a very short, inconspicuous dorsal serration. Last three segments of tarsus shortened. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.45:0.2:0.1:0.07:0.06:0.06. *Mid leg.* Coxa with a weak black exterior bristle. Femur with a preapical av. Tibia a little longer than femur: 3 ad, 2 pd. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.7:0.3:0.13:0.1:0.08:0.07. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle. Femur with a preapical av, preceded by some lengthened bristly hairs. Tibia a little longer than femur: 4 rather short pd; 5-6 very short, hairlike pv. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tarsal segments not shortened, ventrally shortly spinulose; 3<sup>rd</sup> tarsal segment shortened and slightly broadened, ventrally spinulose and bearing an apical bristle. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.8:0.24:0.19:0.1:0.15:0.1.



Figs. 17-18. *Sympycnus allotarsis* spec. nova., holotype male, 15. ventral view of genital capsule; 16. lateral view of genital capsule.

*Wing* hyaline, very feebly browned. Apical part of m1+2 more or less parallel to r4+5, ending at wing tip; wing boss before its middle. Apical part of m3+4 about twice as long as tp. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with black cilia.

*Abdomen* brown, dorsally with a metallic green shine; terga 2 and 3 largely yellowish. Sterna yellow. Hairs and bristles on terga short, black. Hypopygium small, brown to yellowish brown; cercus brownish yellow.

Female: *Body length*: 2.1-2.5mm; *wing length*: 1.75-2.2mm. As male.

*Head*. Eyes broadly separated; face nearly parallel-sided. Palpus yellow, with a few short black bristlets; rostrum brownish yellow.

*Legs*. Fore and hind coxae yellow; mid coxa feebly browned, apically yellow. Legs yellow, but hind femur dorsally and towards its apex usually very feebly browned. Hind tarsus: 1<sup>st</sup> segment nearly twice as long as 2<sup>nd</sup> segment; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment not modified.

Remarks: The fact that 1<sup>st</sup> segment of hind tarsus is longer than 2<sup>nd</sup> segment, indicates that this species does not belong to the genus *Chaetogonopteron*.

## Diaphorinae

### *Chrysotus* Meigen, 1824

#### *Chrysotus seychellensis* Lamb, 1922

*Ch. seychellensis* Lamb, 1922: 400.

Material examined: 1 ♂: edge of marsh and Calophyllum inophyllum woodland, North island (0m), 30/7-1/8/2000 (S10); 1 ♀: Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 1/10/2000-30/9/2001, Palm forest (S14); 6♂♂, 3♀♀: above Dauban mausoleum, La Passe, Silhouette (20m). Malaise trap 1-4/7/2000. Open area with herbaceous cover dominated by *Asystasia gangetica* and *Pueraria phaesaloides* (S26); 1♂, 4♀♀: D'Arros 21/6/03. (0m) Mixed 2<sup>nd</sup> woodland (S33, S34)

*Body length*: 1.7mm; *wing length*: 1.5mm.

*Head*. Vertex and frons blackish brown, with a metallic green hue. *Eyes touching each other*. Palpus small, yellowish brown, with a short apical bristlet. Rostrum small, yellowish brown. A pair of long and strong, black ocellar bristles; vertical bristles as strong as ocellars. 2 small postocellars. Postocular cilia rather short, dark.

*Antenna* blackish brown, short. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment with a circle of rather short marginal bristlets, dorsally with a longer bristle (longer than 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment), ventrally with shorter bristles. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, rounded, deeper than long. Arista apical, rather short (about 0.4mm), very shortly pubescent.

*Thorax*. Thorax shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections; bristles black. 5 dc, preceded by a short bristle; about 7 irregular pairs of short acr. Laterals of scutellum hairlike, about ¼ times as long as the marginal bristles. A small, black propleural bristle.

*Legs*. Coxae and femora black, with a metallic green gloss; trochanters yellowish; fore and mid femora apically yellow; fore femur anteriorly slightly brownish. Tibiae and tarsi yellow; last 2 or 3 segments of tarsi very feebly infuscated. *Fore leg*. Coxa

anteriorly set with brownish yellow hairs, some of which are slightly longer, but not really bristlelike. Femur with 2 or 3 short and weak, hairlike preapical pv. Tibia about as long as femur, slender, with a short and weak d at about 2/5 from base, and some very short and weak bristlets at apex. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.5:0.25:0.12:0.08:0.06:0.06. *Mid leg.* Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with some hairlike, brownish yellow bristles. Trochanter with 2 short, thin, black bristles. Femur: 2 weak preapical pv; the hairs of the av row grow somewhat longer towards apex of femur. Tibia about as long as femur; a rather strong ad at about 2/5, preceded by a tiny bristlet; a short ad about middle; apical crown with 2 longer bristles. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.6:0.35:0.15:0.1:0.07:0.06. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle. Femur: 2 rather weak preapical pv. Tibia a little shorter than femur; 2 short ad, 4 yet shorter d; 2 longer bristles in apical crown. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.7:0.25:0.17:0.1:0.07:0.06. *Wing* hyaline, with dark brown veins. m1+2 parallel to r4+5, ending just above wing tip. Tp about 4.5 times as long as apical part of m3+4. Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with black cilia.

*Abdomen* shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections. Hairs and bristles on terga black. Hypopygium hidden; cercus threadlike, black.

Remarks: Answers well to the description given by Lamb (1922: 400-401), but according to him mid tibia has a small ad at middle, and a larger ad between this bristle and tip of tibia; perhaps this is a mistake? Hind femur of one male with some long av on apical half. Perhaps more than one species of *Chrysotus* is present on the Seychelles.

### ***Diaphorus* Meigen, 1824**

The genus *Diaphorus* is reported here for the 1<sup>st</sup> time on the Seychelles. Two species were found. They are diagnosed but not named since a revision is needed of the Afrotropical and Oriental species in order to be sure that they are new for science.

### ***Diaphorus* sp. S11**

Material examined: 2♂♂, 1♀, Jardin Marron, Silhouette (390m), 1/10/2000-30/9/2001. Palm forest (S11).

Male: *Body length:* 4.3-5.5mm; *wing length:* 3.7-4.0mm.

*Head.* Eyes touching each other on frons over a long distance, leaving from frons only two very small, black triangles. Antennae inserted well below middle of head. Face blackish, somewhat sunken between the eyes, with nearly parallel side margins, about half as wide as the width of an eye, seen from in front. Palpus small, yellow, with black hairs and a weak, black apical bristle. Rostrum brown. A pair of strong, black, diverging ocellar bristles. 2 small postocellars. Upper postocular cilia very short, black; lateral and lower postocular cilia yellowish, becoming longer and pluriserial below. Occiput black.

*Antenna* short; basal segments brownish black; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment brownish yellow, slightly infuscated along apical margin. 2<sup>nd</sup> segment with a circle of rather short marginal bristlets, that are somewhat longer dorsally. 3<sup>rd</sup> segment short, rounded, about 1.5 times as deep as long. Arista dorsal, very shortly pubescent, about 2/3 times as long as the height of an eye.

*Thorax.* Thorax black, with a green shine, probably with a brownish dusting; bristles black. 5 pairs of nearly equally long dc; acr short, biseriate. Laterals of scutellum short and weak (about  $\frac{1}{4}$  as long as marginals). 1 longer, and 1-2 shorter propleural bristles.

*Legs.* Coxae brown (fore and hind coxae more yellowish brown), apically yellowish; trochanters yellow. Fore leg yellow. Mid leg yellow, with basal half of femur dark brown, and tarsus feebly infuscated from tip of 1<sup>st</sup> segment onward. Hind leg dark brown, with basal half of tibia yellowish. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with black hairs, and 3 strong black bristles [broken off in the larger specimen]. Femur posteroventrally with a row of short bristly hairs, that grow slightly longer towards apex of femur (being there about as long as greatest depth of femur). Tibia a little longer than femur, slender, with 3 short and weak dorsal bristles. No claws; pulvilli strongly enlarged, about 1.5 times as long as tarsomere 5. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.15:0.6:0.25:0.2:0.12:0.1. *Mid leg.* Coxa with black hairs and bristles. Femur with 1-2 preapical av. Tibia a little longer than femur; 1 long and 1 short ad; 2 small pd; 2-3 small v. Claws present; pulvilli not enlarged. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.4:0.8:0.35:0.25:0.1:0.07. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle. Femur on apical half anteroventrally and posteroventrally with rows of longer hairs and bristles. Tibia longer than femur (16:13); 1 small ad near base; a row of d, 3 or 4 of which are longer. Claws present; pulvilli not enlarged. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.6:0.5:0.5:0.3:0.15:0.1.

*Wing* of typical *Diaphorus* shape (broadest before its middle), rather strongly browned. Tip straight, more than half as long as apical part of m3+4. Anal vein not reaching wing margin. Halter pale yellow. Squama yellow, with black cilia.

*Abdomen* dark brown to brownish black; 2<sup>nd</sup> segment yellow (tergum and sternum). Hairs and bristles on terga black; longer marginal bristles on sterna 2-3. Tip of abdomen with 4 black macrochetae. Hypopygium brown, hidden; cerci rather short, brown.

*Female:* Body length 3.3mm; wing length 3.2mm. As male except:

*Head.* Inner margins of eyes parallel on frons and face; frons and face equally broad. Antennae inserted above middle of head. Palpi brown, a little larger than with the male. Vertical bristles present, as strong as the ocellars.

*Fore leg.* Claws present; pulvilli not enlarged. *Hind leg.* Tibia yellow, only browned towards its apex.

*Abdomen* entirely brownish black.

*Remarks:* There is no mention of *Diaphorus* spp. from the Seychelles in Lamb (1922), nor in the Catalogue of Afrotropical Diptera (Dyde & Smith: Dolichopodidae) (1980). There are slight differences in size and bristling between the two male specimens. The female seems to belong to the same species, in spite of the different colouring of the abdomen and of the hind tibia; it has 3 strong bristles on fore coxa, like the male.

### ***Diaphorus* sp. S45**

*Material examined:* 1♂, 10♀♀, Malaise trap Aldabra Picard 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (Collected by R. Prys-Jones). Mixed scrub (S45).

*Male:* *Body length:* 2.3mm; *wing length:* 2.0mm.

*Head.* Eyes touching each other on frons, leaving from it only a small dark metallic green coloured triangle above antennae. Face broad, nearly parallel-sided, dark metallic



green, with a brownish dust. Palpus small, yellow. Rostrum small, brownish yellow. [All bristles broken off]. Postocular cilia yellow.

*Antenna* small; basal segments dark brown; 3<sup>rd</sup> segment yellowish brown, about twice as deep as long, with downward shifted, blunt apex. Arista short, dorsal (giving the impression of being apical, inserted far above blunt apex of 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment).

*Thorax* dark metallic green, feebly shining. 5 dc; acr irregularly biseriate [most bristles broken off]. A weak propleural bristle.

*Legs*. Fore coxa brownish yellow; mid and hind coxae brown. Fore and mid femora yellowish brown, apically broadly yellow. Fore and mid tibiae and tarsi yellow; 5<sup>th</sup> tarsal segments feebly infuscated. [Hind legs both broken off]. *Fore leg*. Coxa anteriorly with short, pale hairs, and a row of 4 rather weak black bristles. Femur posteroventrally with a row of weak black bristles, growing longer towards tip of femur (being there nearly as long as greatest depth of femur). Tibia about as long as femur, without bristles. 5<sup>th</sup> tarsal segment without claws, with enlarged pulvilli. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.6:0.3:0.15:0.1:0.07:0.05. *Mid leg*. Coxa anteriorly and exteriorly with some bristly black hairs; trochanter with 2 thin dorsal bristles. Femur anteriorly and posteriorly with rows of black hairs. Tibia about as long as femur; 1 ad near base, some apical bristles. 5<sup>th</sup> tarsal segment with claws; pulvilli not enlarged. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.7:0.35:0.2:0.12:0.08:0.07. *Hind leg*. Coxa with a black exterior bristle. [Both hind legs broken off].

*Wing* hyaline. Apical part of m1+2 more or less parallel to r4+5, ending at wing tip; wing boss just before its middle. Apical part of m3+4 about twice as long as tp. Halter yellowish white. Squama yellowish white, with white cilia.

*Abdomen*. Terga dark metallic green, with a brownish hue, feebly shining, with black hairs. Sterna brown. [Macrochetae at tip of abdomen broken off]. Hypopygium small, with blackish appendages; cercus adjacent, small, dark.

Female: *Body length*: 2.2-2.4mm; *wing length*: 2.0-2.2mm. As male.

*Head*. Frons and face wide, equally broad, nearly parallel-sided.

*Legs*. Fore femur yellowish brown to brown, apically broadly yellow; mid and hind femur brown, apically narrowly yellow. Hind tibia and tarsus yellow; 5<sup>th</sup> tarsal segment feebly infuscated. *Fore leg*. Row of pv on femur less developed than in male, the longest bristles much shorter than greatest depth of femur. 5<sup>th</sup> tarsal segment with claws; pulvilli not enlarged. *Mid leg*. Femur with only short hairs. *Hind leg*. Femur with short hairs; near apex some antero- and posteroventral hairs slightly longer. Tibia: 1 ad, 3 pd, 1 v, all weak and short, some apical bristles. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.8:0.3:0.25:0.16:0.1:0.1.

## Hydrophorinae

### *Thinophilus* Wahlberg, 1844

The genus *Thinophilus* is recorded for the first time in Seychelles.

### *Thinophilus* (*Schoenophilus*) sp. S27

Material examined: 2♀, *Hevea brasiliensis* plantation, Jardin Marron, Silhouette

(350m). 7-10/7/2000 (S27).

Female: Body length 2.0-2.1mm; wing length 2.2-2.3mm.

Belongs to subgenus *Schoenophilus* (4 equally long, short, but strong dc; no acr; scutellum without laterals; 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment rounded; arista almost apical).

Thorax and abdomen brownish black. Legs dark brown (yellowish on trochanters and apices of femora, less so on tarsi), very feebly bristled (no preapical bristle on hind femur). 1<sup>st</sup> segment of hind tarsus nearly twice as long as 2<sup>nd</sup> segment. 5<sup>th</sup> segments of all tarsi lengthened. Wing feebly brownish tinged. Apical part of m3+4 more than 3 times as long as tp.

### ***Thinophilus indigenus* Becker, 1902**

Material examined: 1♂, Malaise trap Aldabra Picard 27/4/1974-21/1/1976 (Collected by R. Prys-Jones). Mixed scrub (S49).

Male: Body length: 3.4mm; wing length: 2.7mm.

*Head.* Vertex, frons and face shining dark metallic green, with indistinct pale dusting. Clypeus feebly protruding. Palpus large, as is usual in the genus, yellow, with scattered black bristlets and bristly hairs. Rostrum large, dark brown, apically yellow. 2 black vertical bristles; [other bristles broken off]. Postocular cilia pluriserial, yellow-white.

*Antenna.* Basal segments yellow; [3<sup>rd</sup> segment broken off].

*Thorax.* Mesoscutum and scutellum shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections; sides of mesoscutum behind suture with a dull black spot in front of the wings; small oval dull black spot in front of the scutellum; along the lines of the dc vague darker bands. Pleurae shining dark metallic green, with coppery reflections. Bristles black; 6 dc; no acr. [Bristles of scutellum broken off]. 2 weak, yellow propleural bristles.

*Legs.* Fore coxa yellow, darkened at extreme base; mid and hind coxae dark brown, with a metallic green shine, apically yellow. Legs yellow; 5<sup>th</sup> segments of all tarsi feebly browned. *Fore leg.* Coxa anteriorly with 2 rather long black bristles, and about 7 scattered black hairs; at apex a row of 4 bent black bristles. Femur ventrally on basal 2/3 with an irregular row of thin black bristles; on apical 1/3 a row of 3-4 long black bristles (nearly as long as greatest depth of femur). Tibia a little shorter than femur; 1 short d about middle; posteroventrally the hairs are more bristlelike, and give the impression of a very short comb. 1<sup>st</sup> tarsal segment posteroventrally with a comparable comb of very short bristly hairs. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 0.8:0.35:0.125:0.125:0.1:0.125. *Mid leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle, and some scattered black hairlike bristles; at apex a row of weak, bent black bristles. Femur ventrally with a row of short black bristles; posteroventrally near apex 2 rather short pv, preceded by some short hairlike bristles. Tibia about as long as femur: 2 ad, and some apical bristles. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.0:0.55:0.22:0.15:0.1:0.125. *Hind leg.* Coxa with a black exterior bristle. Femur with 4 ad. Tibia about as long as femur: 3 ad, 2 weak pd, 3 short v. Length of tibia and tarsal segments (in mm): 1.4:0.35:0.3:0.2:0.125:0.125.

*Wing* hyaline, with feeble infuscations along tp and around wing boss. Apical part of m1+2 converging with, but apically more or less parallel to r4+5, ending at wing tip; wing boss before its middle. Apical part of m3+4 a little longer than tp (about 6:5). Halter yellow. Squama yellow, with yellowish white cilia.

*Abdomen.* Terga 1-5 shining dark metallic green, with coppery and bluish reflections (the bluish reflections are more distinct on tergum 4, and especially on tergum 5); tergum 6 blackish, with a bluish shine. Sterna greyish black, partly with a metallic shine, bearing brown hairs. Hairs and bristles on terga very short, black. Hypopygium small, dark brown; cercus leaf-shaped, blackish with a metallic green shine.

Remarks: A comparison with Becker's specimens from Egypt and specimens from Africa in our collection suggest that the species of the Seychelles is indeed *Th. indigenus*. Anyway the genitalia are the same.

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