A Further Note on *Cosmetopus dentimanus* Zetterstedt (Diptera: Scatophagidae)

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In the recent paper adding this species to the British list (Chandler & Stubbs, 1974) we stated that the discovery of males would be desirable to confirm beyond doubt the identity of the insect.

This has now, surprisingly soon after the aforesaid publication, been achieved. On 29th June, 1974 a single male was observed by one of us (P.J.C.) when it was running slowly up the underside of an isolated willow (*Salix* species) branch over-hanging a backwater of the River Test, about five feet above the surface of the water close to the bank. The actual situation was on Beat 12 of the Leckford Estate, about half-a-mile from the location of the previous captures of the species but on the same watercourse. Half an hour’s vigorous searching in the vicinity failed to reveal any more examples. The capture of a male on this date might suggest a later season for the species in 1974 than was the case in 1970 and 1971 when females were obtained on 21st June and 4th July respectively.

Mr. H. Andersson of Lund published (1974) simultaneously with our paper a revision of the North European species of *Cosmetopus*, in which he illustrated diagnostic features in the male genitalia for three species, one of them described as new. Dissection of our male has confirmed that it belongs to *C. dentimanus* Zetterstedt, which Andersson records from several localities in Sweden and Norway; most of these were in northern districts but one record was from south Sweden. Apart from genitalic differences, the other two species have long narrow palpi with an enlarged apical disc, while the palpi of *dentimanus* are more evenly strap-shaped. There should, therefore, be no difficulty in recognising them as distinct, should they turn up here.

As mentioned in our previous paper, the male fly is figured by Séguy (1952). It resembles the female in size and colouration but the abdomen is proportionately longer, more slender at the base and widening apically into a club-shape owing to the large hypogynium. The palpi are more developed, being slightly longer than the proboscis and entirely black while in the females they are only a little over half as long and paler at least basally. The other secondary sexual character, which we referred to before, is the structure of the front legs. The femora are basally strongly thickened in both sexes but in the male there are a short pair of thick blunt teeth centrally situated on the ventral surface and a corresponding deep notch on the tibia. There is a protuberance below this notch and a longer double undulated one above; these bear rows of closely set short black
spinules, interrupted at the notch, which are also present in the female but in that case forming a complete ventral row on all but the basal fifth of the tibia.

Acknowledgements

Once again we wish to thank the administrators of the Leckford Estate for facilitating our collecting visits there. The fly which is the subject of this note was collected on one of the angler's preserves where we were enabled to collect for the first time on this date through the kindness of Cdr. W. L. R. E. Gilchrist.

References


A New Species of Gynacantha Rambur, 1842 (Odonata: Aeshnidae) from India

By Tridib Ranjan Mitra and A. R. Lahiri
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Gynacantha rammohani1 sp. nov.

Head: Large globular. Labium yellowish white. Labrum yellow with a brownish band across its base, rest pale olivaceous. Postclypeus and frons brownish yellow, anteclypeus bluish; a black T-shaped mark on the roof of the frons. Eyes darker than the labrum. Occiput yellow, nearly obsolete and triangular, black behind.

Thorax: Prothorax yellow, a brown mark lying middorsally on the middle and posterior lobes. The posterior lobe is fringed with hairs. Pterothorax brown, ventrolateral sides olivaceous. Dorsal carina black, a blackish brown humeral stripe. Legs short brown; fore femora black, other femora brown with apices black; all tibiae brownish. Hind femora with two rows of short closely set spines on the ventrolateral margin. Wings: whole area of both wings enfumed with opalescent white. Indistinct brown marking at the base of both wings, but it is slightly more extended in hind wings. Membrane greyish obsolete. Pterostigma pale yellow, extending over four cells in both wings. The pterostigma of fore wing is bigger than that of the hind wing. Nodal index 19–27 / 28–20. Discoidal cell elongate, 20–21 / 20–21

1 The species has been named in honour of Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772-1833) for his sincere advocacy (1831) in the formation of Supra National Organisation for settling all disputes among nations and for furthering the cause of peace in the world.