ABSTRACT. This paper deals with 15 species of Diptera from Silent Valley, Kerala, belonging to as many as 7 families. Of these, 1 species is new (Asilidae), 4 are new to South India and another 6 are new to Kerala. It also includes other 6 species, which cannot be identified beyond the generic level because they are badly damaged.

Family TIPULIDAE

**Limonia (Bhipidia) antennata** (Brunetti)


**Material**: 1 ex., 5 km. towards Mukkali, 12. xii. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

**Remarks**: The species has characteristically elongate antennae with each flagellar segment bearing a pair of strong diverging bristles above and an elongate palp-like process below. It is recorded for the first time from South India. It is a rare species and this is the third specimen so far collected.

**Tipula** sp.

**Material**: 1 ex., Kariamala Thodu, 29.iv. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

**Dicranomyia** sp.

**Material**: 1 ex., Valiapara Thodu, 2. v. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

**Limnophila** sp.

**Material**: 1 ex., Kariamala Thodu, 29. iv. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

**Styringomyia** sp.

**Material**: 1 ex., way to Valiapara Thodu, 5. xii. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

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Family **THEREVIDAE**

**Psilocephala sequa** (Walker)


**Material** : 1 ex. Road to Mukkali, 8. xii. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai

**Remarks** : This is the first record of the species from South India.

Family **ASILIDAE**

**Microstylum ananthakrishnani** Joseph & Parui


**Material** : 2 exs., Dam site, 27. iv. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

**Remarks** : This species is described from Kerala.

**Ommatius pillaii** n.sp. (Fig. 1.)

A small black species with concolourous legs marked with a little yellowish-brown, and infuscated wings.

**Male** : Length 7-8 mm, wing 6 mm ; **Female** : length 7 mm, wing 6 mm.

**Males** : Head black infuscated with grey tomentum ; mystax black above and pale below ; bristles of front and ocellarium black ; occiput sparsely grey tomentose with black bristles and hairs above and white hairs below. Antenna black, bristles of the basal two segments 1 and 2 nearly equal, 3 longer. Palpi and proboscis black, the former with black and the latter with pale hairs.

**Thorax** black with greyish-yellow to grey tomentum ; pronotum pale haired ; mediolongitudinal stripe of mesonotum indistinct ; pleuron sparsely grey tomentose ; scutellum also sparsely grey tomentose, disc bears sparse pale hairs and the hind border a pair of pale bristles ; bristles of metapleuron pale. Halteres light yellowish-brown.

**Legs** black ; tibia basally light yellowish-brown, more so in the foreleg so much so for considerable part of it is light yellowish-brown, basitarsus of foreleg yellowish-brown but in paratype male yellowish-brown basally and black distally, in the mid and hind legs basitarsi lighter coloured but not yellowish-brown ; hindfemur with
a ventral row of pale bristles, clothing hairs and bristles black and pale, basitarsi of all the legs ventrally bear dense golden yellow clothing hairs.

Wings infuscated except for the extreme base which is hyaline.
Abdomen black, posterolateral sides of tergite 1 and to a lesser extent the succeeding tergite bear long pale hairs, clothing hairs pale. Male terminalia (Fig.) black to dark brown with concolovrous and pale hairs.

Female: Similar, but the mediolongitudinal stripe of mesonotum faintly marked and the hind basitarsi black.


There are a number of similarly coloured, apparently looking alike, species of Ommatius Wiedemann, all of which can be recognised mainly by the structural details of male terminalia. O. pillaii n. sp. is quite distinct in the details of male terminalia from all the other known species under the genus. It shows some similarity to O. nanus Walker in this character. This species is named in honour of Dr. R. S. Pillai, who explored the little known, difficult, Silent Valley.

Machimus sp.


Xenomyza sp.


Family Bombyliidae

Anthrax distigma Wiedemann

Anthrax distigma Wiedemann : Bowden, 1975, A Catalog of Diptera of the Oriental Region 2 : 175.


Remarks: This is the first record of the species from Kerala.
JOSEPH & PARUI: Diptera From Silent Valley

Family SYRPHIDAE

Melanostoma univittatum (Wiedemann)

*Syrphus univittatus* Wiedemann, 1824, *Analecta Ent.* : 36


**Material**: 1 ex., towards Mukkali, 6. xii. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

**Remarks**: This species enjoys wide distribution all over India.

Melanostoma orientale (Wiedemann)


**Material**: 1 ex., road to Cardamam estate, 11 xii. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

**Remarks**: This is the first record of the species from Kerala.

Eristalinus arvorum (Fabricius)


**Material**: 1 ex., towards Mukkali, 6. xii. 1980, Coll. R.S. Pillai.

**Remarks**: This species is very common all over India.

Phytomia (Dolichomerus) crassa (Fabricius)


**Material**: 1 ex., Kumattan Thodu, 7.xii. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

**Remarks**: This species is well distributed in India.
Paragus (Paragus) serratus (Fabricius)

Mulio serratus Fabricius, 1805, Syst. Antl. : 186.
Paragus (Paragus) serratus (Fabricius) : Knutson, 1975, A Catalog of Diptera of the Oriental Region 2 : 327.


Remarks: The species has characteristic serration on scutellum and is widely distributed in India.

Family Muscidae

Musca (Viviparomusca) bezzii Patton and Cragg


Material: 2 exs., 2 km. towards Mukkali, 6. xii. 1980, Coll. R. S. Pillai.

Remarks: In South India the species is so far recorded only from Tamil Nadu.

Orthellia claripennis Malloch


Remarks: Though the species is widely distributed in India, it is the first record from Kerala.

Orthellia timorensis (Robineau-Desvoidy)

Musca coerulea Wiedemann, 1830, Zool. Mag. 3 : 23.
Orthellia coerulea (Wiedemann) : Emden, 1965, Fauna India, Muscidae, 7 (1) : 124-125.

Remarks: The species has been recorded from different places of South India.

Family Calliphoridae

Stomorphina discolor (Fabricius)

Musca discolor Fabricius 1794, Ent. Syst. 4: 320.

Material: 1 ex., road to Cardamam estate, 11. xii. 1980, Col. R. S. Pillai.

Remarks: It is the first record of the species from South India.

Idiella euidielloides Senior-white

Stomorphina euidielloides Senior-white 1923, Mem. Deptt. Agric. India (ent. ser) 7: 166.
Idiella euidielloides (Senior-white): James, 1977, A Catalog of Diptera of the Oriental Region 3: 545.

Material: 1 ex., road to Cardamam estate, 11. xii. 1980, Col. R. S. Pillai.

Remarks: This is the first record of the species from South India.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Dr. B. K. Tikader, Director, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, for placing the material at our disposal for study and to Dr. S. K. Bhattacharyya, Deputy Director of the same department for the encouragements.
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