DESRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF HAPLEGINELLA DUDA  
(DIPTERA : CHLOROPIDAE) FROM INDIA 

P.T. CHERIAN AND K.G. EMILIYAMMA  
Zoological Survey of India, 100 Santhome High Road, Chennai-600 028 

INTRODUCTION 

The genus Hapleginella Duda is recorded for the first time from the Oriental Region and a new 
species, H. orientalis is described from India.  

Hapleginella Duda is a relatively small genus hitherto reported only from the Holarctic 
Region. Though Andersson (1977) and Kanmiya (1983) placed the genus in the Oscinella genus 
group, Nartshuk (1987) considered it belonging to the tribe Botanobiini along with Gaurax Loew, 
Pseudogaurax Malloch and other congeneric forms. One new species, H. orientalis from 
Meghalaya in north-eastern Himalaya is described here. This is also the first record of the genus 
from the Oriental Region. 

The type specimens are deposited in the collections of the Southern Regional Station, 
Zoological Survey of India, Chennai. 

Genus Hapleginella Duda  
1933. Hapleginella Duda, Palaeark. Fliegen, 68 : 77. Type species : Hapleginella laevifrons (Loew) 
(= Oscinis laevifrons Loew). By original designation and monobasic. 

Head higher than long, mostly black; frons subshiny, with a few fr; frontal triangle large, 
glabrous, reaching anterior margin of frons ; if in one row on the triangle; face concave, facial 
carina low, rarely reaching lower facial margin ; antenna mostly yellow ; arista slender with short 
hairs; eye large, suboval, with sparse, almost inconspicuous fine pubescence; gena partly 
tomentose; labella slightly elongated; head bristles moderately long with 6-7 orb and rather 
recline oc; scutum convex, shining with short dense hairs at times arising from punctae; 
scutellum wider than long, tomentose with slightly convex disc; pleura glabrous; anepst bare; 
thoracic bristles rather well developed with 1 h, 1+2 npl, 1+1 pa, 1 dc, 2-4 ss and not 
approximated as; tibial and femoral organs present, the latter with two indistinct rows of warts; 
m-m cross-vein oblique; anal angle well developed; haltere yellow; male genitalia with bowl-
shaped phallapodemic sclerite and short, stout phallus. 

Distribution : Holarctic and Oriental Regions. 

Hapleginella orientalis, sp. nov.  
(Figs. 1-5) 

Male and Female : Head (Fig. 1) higher than long, length, height and width in ratio 11 : 13 : 
18. Frons sloping, slightly projecting above eye in front, subshiny, brownish black with straight
Figs. 1-5. *Hapleginella orientalis*, Sp. nov. 1, Head, lateral view; 2, Scutellum; 3, Wing; 4, Epandrium; 5, Hypandrium and Phallic complex.
anterior margin and a few fr; frontal triangle large, glabrous, shiny, reaching anterior margin of frons and ending with obtuse apex. Face concave, brownish black; facial carina low, linear, reaching lower facial margin. ant 2 short, yellowish brown; ant 3 yellow with darkish tinge at apex above, width 1.33x the length; arista dorsal, slender, dark brown with distinct, concolourous pubescence. Eye large, with very fine scattered pubescence, long axis vertical. Genae brownish, width one fourth that of ant 3; vibrissal angle developed, a right angle; vibrissae distinct. Labella prolonged, very slender, brownish black; palpi short, yellow. Face and upper half of gena silvery grey tomentose. All head bristles and frontal hairs fairly stout, black; ov 1 and ov 2 subequal, the latter erect and cruciate; ivt shorter than ov 1; orb 6, reclinate, anterior ones progressively becoming shorter, longest half the ov 1; ac reclinate, convergent, equal to orb; if in a row of 7-8 on the triangle on each side.

Thorax wholly black. Scutum as long as wide, shiny, with dense piliferous punctae bearing short black hairs. Scutellum (Fig. 2) wider than long, width and length in the ratio 7 : 6, nearly rounded in outline with slightly convex, dull, tomentose disk bearing punctate hairs. Pleura glabrous, shiny; anepist without and keps with a few hairs. All thoracic bristles fairly stout; h 1, short; npl 1+2, subequal, a little longer than ov 1; pa 1 and 1 dc equal to npl; pa 2 slightly shorter than pa 1; as somewhat approximated at base, nearly as long as scutellum; ss 1 two-fifths the as, ss 2 two-thirds the ss 1, ss 3 two-thirds the ss 2 and ss 4 half the ss 3. All scutellar bristles rather spine-like, borne on small warts.

Legs short, not thickened; femora broadly brownish black in the middle, with yellow basal and distal ends; coxae partly dark brown; rest of the areas of all the legs yellow; tibial organ present; femoral organ with two rows of warts.

Wing (Fig. 3) hyaline with pale brown veins; length to width 12 : 5; proportions of costal sectors 2 to 4 in ratio 16 : 9 : 6; r-m cross-vein beyond middle of discal cell, opposite 0.67 of its length; m-m cross-vein strongly oblique; terminal sectors of veins r 4+5 and m 1+2 nearly parallel, both a trifle bent towards costa at tip; anal area developed. Knob of haltere pale yellow with a brown spot, stalk dark brown.

Abdomen oval, black but the two basal segments broadly in the middle yellow. Female cerci slender. Male genitalia (Figs. 4 & 5): Very much similar to that of the type species laevifrons but surstyli are a little more pointed as also the cerci; postgonites short, blunt at apex.

Length: Male, 1.7 mm, Wing 1.7 mm. Female, 1.9 mm., Wing 1.89 mm.


H. orientalis is closely related to laevifrons (Loew) but it is easily distinguished by the densely punctate thoracic hairs. Besides, in orientalis facial carina is complete and reaches lower facial margin and scutellar bristles are borne on small but distinct warts.

Remarks: Two of the specimens were collected from the leaves of a shrub overhanging a small waterfall and the other by sweeping bushes.
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Abbreviations: anepst, anepisternum; as, apical scutellar bristle; dc, dorsocentral bristle; fr, frontal hairs; h, humeral bristle; if, interfrontal bristle; ivt, inner vertical bristle; kepst, katepisternum; npl, notopleural bristle; oc, ocellar bristle; orb, fronto-orbital bristle; ovt, outer vertical bristle; pa, postalar bristle; pvt, postvertical bristle; ss, subapical scutellar bristle.

REFERENCES


