

A NEW SPECIES OF *LONCHOPTERA* MEIGEN (DIPTERA : LONCHOPTERIDAE)  
FROM NORTH WEST INDIA

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ABSTRACT

*Lonchoptera guptai* sp. n. is described from North West Himalaya.

Through the courtesy of Dr. V. K. Gupta of Delhi University we have received a small collection of Lonchopteridae which include one new species. Hitherto only three species of *Lonchoptera* Meigen are known from India, viz., *Lonchoptera lutea* Panzer, *L. anderssoni* Joseph and Parui and *L. brunettii* Joseph and Parui.

***Lonchoptera guptai* sp. n.**

*Female* : Body length 2.5 mm, wing length 3.5 mm.

*Head* black to dark brown with black bristles, the hairs of proboscis and those on lower part of occiput yellow. Antenna including arista dark brown.

*Thorax* black to dark brown with black bristles ; anterior border and posterolateral sides of mesonotum comparatively lighter coloured ; scutellum posteriorly lighter coloured ; pleura dark brown to yellowish-brown. Legs pale yellow, tarsi and sometimes tibia brownish, hind femur apically marked brown. Fore femur with 1d ; fore tibia with 1 pv ; mid femur in holotype with 1 ad whereas in paratype 1p ; mid tibia in holotype with 2d, 1a whereas in paratype 1d, 1ad and 1p ; hind femur with 2d, 1pv ; hind tibia in holotype with 2d, 1ad, 2v whereas in paratype an additional ad also present.

*Wings* (Fig. 1) light yellowish with light brown veins.  $m_{1+4} : m_{1+2} ; m_1 = 14 : 14 : 28$ . The proportional length of these divisions are that the first and second divisions are equal

Key to Indian Species of the genus *Lonchoptera* Meigen

1. Wings hyaline with yellowish tinge. ... .. 2  
Wings with a distinct sub-apical dark brown band. ... *brunettii* Joseph & Parui
2. Thorax shining brown with an indistinct median stripe, antennae black. ... *lutea* Panzer  
Thorax yellow or black without stripe. ... .. 3
3. Legs pale yellow, hind femur apically brown marked, antennae dark brown. ... *guptai* sp. n.  
Legs yellow without apical marking on hind femur, antennae yellow. ... *anderssoni* Joseph and Parui

and the third equal to the combined first and second divisions. Halteres light yellowish, stalk lighter than knob.

*Abdomen* black or dark brown, ventrally lighter coloured.

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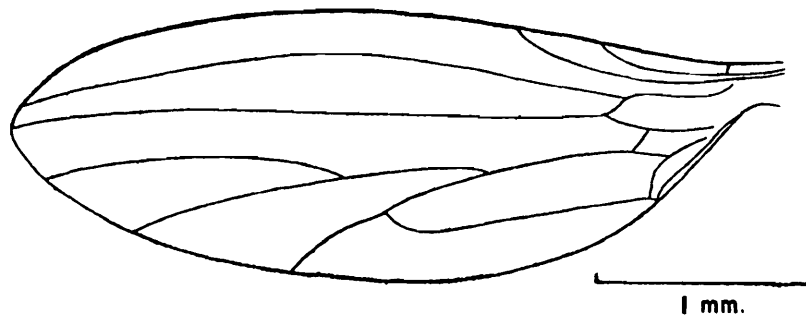


Fig. 1. *Lonchoptera guptai* sp. n., wing.

*Holotype* ♀, India : N. W. Himalaya : Garhwal : Ghangharia, 1. vi. 1965, Coll. D. Ram. In Delhi University, Delhi. *Paratype* ♀, Regd. No. 6572/H<sub>6</sub>, details as for holotype.

*Lonchoptera guptai* sp. n. is quite similar to *L. lutea* Panzer but can be readily recognised by the uniform dark brown mesonotum and the proportional length of the divisions of *m* ( $m_{1+4}$ ,  $m_{1+2}$ ,  $m_1$ ), in the latter division 3 being about thrice the length of divisions 1 or 2.

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