

**DASYPOGON KUGLERI, A NEW SPECIES OF ASILIDAE (DIPTERA) FROM
YUGOSLAVIA**

MEDEEA WEINBERG

Museum of Natural History "Grigore Antipa", Bucharest

ABSTRACT

Dasygogon kugleri n.sp. is described from Yugoslavia. **KEY**
WORDS: Asilidae, *Dasygogon kugleri* s. sp. Yugoslavia.

INTRODUCTION

In 1980, Prof. Theodor published a volume on the family Asilidae in the Fauna Palestina series. He mentioned (pp. 172-176) the occurrence in Israel of *Dasygogon diadema* (Fabricius), having at his disposal only a single male from Quneitra, Golan Heights (collected on June 14, 1969). The female was described by Theodor after specimens from Central and Southern Europe. Theodor (1980:172), like Engel (1930: 470), remarked that the species is very variable and that a number of local forms have been described. He also stated that some of these forms, *cylindricus* Fabricius and *melanopterus* Loew, may prove to be different species if the genitalia were examined.

In 1975, while examining type specimens of *Dasygogon* at the museum fur Naturkunde, Humboldt-Universitat, Berlin, I illustrated the genitalia of *Dasygogon melanopterus* Loew, (Weinberg, 1975: 216,218) considering it a good species. As the species of *Dasygogon* are difficult to determine I examined the most common species. The source of the material was: various species in the Alexander Konig Museum in Bonn, unidentified specimens in the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, and palaeartic specimens provided by Mr. Milan Hradsky from Czechoslovakia. The specimens identified as *Dasygogon diadema* (Fabricius) proved to belong to different species, some of which are new according to the structure of the genitalia. This also applies to the male genitalia illustrated by Theodor (1980, figs. 306-310). However, according to Theodor (personal communication), these genitalia belong to a specimen from southeastern Europe and not from Israel. Due to courtesy by Prof. Theodor, I was able to examine the slide on which this illustration was based, and although this specimen is not included as a paratype, I am satisfied with it and the illustration represent the new species from Yugoslavia, which is described below.

I dedicate this paper to Professor Jehoshua Kugler, a remarkable dipterologist, on the occasion of his 70th anniversary.

Dasypogon kugleri Weinberg n.sp.
(Figs. 1-2)

Male

Length: 18-26 mm. Wings: 14-18 mm.

Head: Setae and hairs black. Face with greyish – white tomentum. Beard with several rows of strong black setae in lower half of face and with a median stripe of shorter hairs touching the base of antennae. Antennae black, segment 3 brick-red coloured at the base. Segments 1 and 2 (equally long); segment 3 longer than segments 1 and 2 combined.

Thorax: Black; with setae and hairs black. Yellowish tomentum on the humeral calli, on the mesopleuron, on the wing calli and on the base of scutellum. Scutellum with 4 black marginal setae intercrossed at the tip.

Wings black. The wings of the male change coloration according to its age. In younger males, the wings are darker on most of the surface, being paler in the middle of cells, and apically. Legs black with black setae.

Abdomen: Completely black, the apical margin of sternites may be brick-red to brownish. Setae and hairs black.

Genitalia (illustrated by Theodor, 1980, figs. 306-310): Epandrium large, apically slightly excavated. Hypandrium triangular, apically rounded with a tuft of long black hairs. Gonopods have an inner process of basistyle as long as dististyle. Aedeagus elongate.

Female

Length: 22-23 mm. Wings: 15-16 mm.

Head: Face with whitish yellow tomentum; yellow and brownish in the middle to the basis of the antennae and on the whole frons. Mouth margin black. Beard with several rows of yellow setae in the lower half of the face, and with several short, black hairs in its dorsal part, that do not reach the antennae. The other hairs of the head may be black or yellow. The first 2 segments of the antennae are yellow; the 3rd segment is black with the basal part yellow.

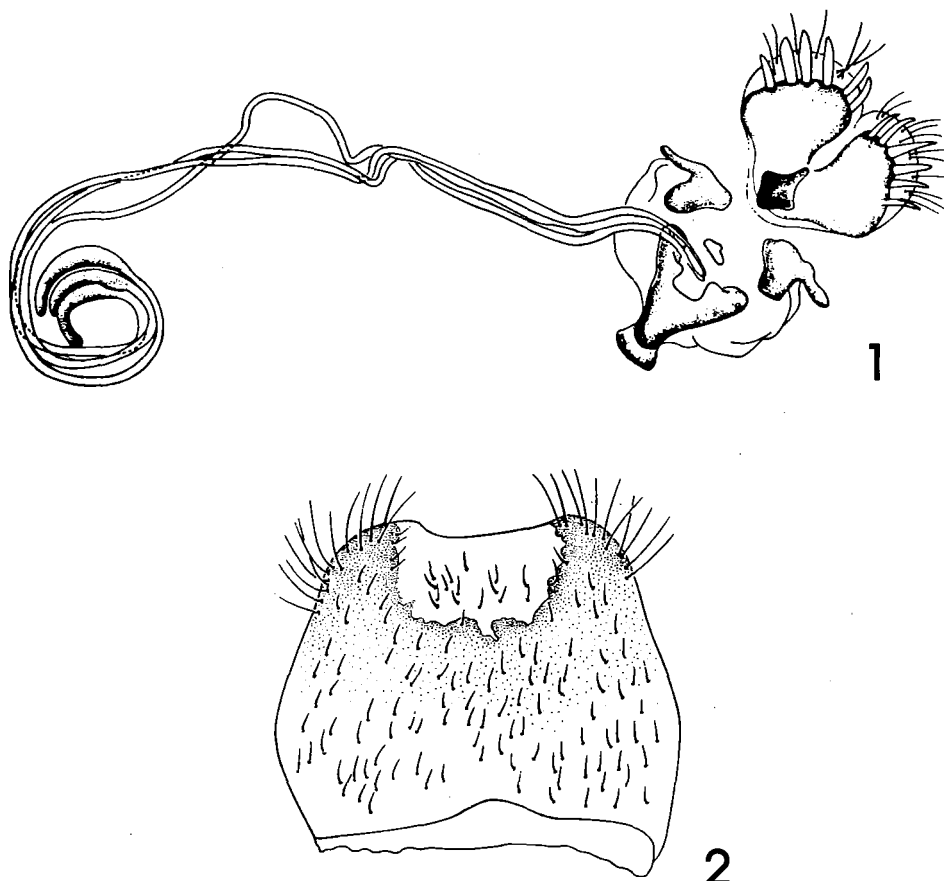
Thorax: Generally with brick-red colour, black in the middle and is all covered with silvery tomentum. From the numeral area begin 2 brick-red stripes along the median stripe to near the dorsocentral hairs. Scutellum black, with silvery tomentum at the base and with 4 black setae at the margin, intercrossed at the tip.

Wings yellow, costal vein darker. *Legs* yellow, coxae, trochanters and anterior femora black to the apical third. The other femora show a slight dark shade dorsally. Hairs as in the male.

Abdomen: Completely black, or tergites 4-7 may be partly reddish. Spots of whitish tomentum laterally on the posterior part of tergites 1-5. Acanthopores with 6 thick yellow spines (Fig. 1).

Genitalia: Furca (= gonopodema) V-shaped (Fig. 1). Sternite 8 strongly chitinized basally and with long hairs laterally; its apical third is weakly chitinized, with few hairs (Fig. 2).

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Holotype, YUGOSLAVIA, labelled: Lapad, Dubrovnic,



Figs. 1-2. *Dasygogon kugleri* n. sp. female. 1. Cerci, furca and spermathecae. 2. Sternite 8.

1967, Dr. Dlabola, deposited in Museum of Natural History "Grigore Antipa" Bucharest. Allotype, same collecting and depository data as holotype. Paratypes: YUGOSLAVIA, Dalmatia, Perovec, VII.1966, A. Görtler (1 ♂) deposited in the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle "Grigore Antipa" Bucharest; Roving, 6.1960, I. Bosch (1♀) deposited in Museum Alexander König Bonn.

REMARKS. This species differs from the other species of *Dasygogon* in the structure of the genitalia in both sexes.

Dasygogon kugleri resembles *D. octonotatus* Loew from which it differs in both sexes in the shape of genitalia components as follows: epandrium apicomediaally shows a little excavation; hypandrium, gonopods and aedeagus differ *biometrically*, in these two species.

Note should be made that the dististyles of *D. kugleri* grow narrower apically starting from their middle and the lateral processes of aedeagus are doubly wide in the basal half from where they gradually become narrower and more flattened towards the tip. On apex, they are pointed and superimposed.

In *D. octonotatus*, the dististyles show the same width, being narrower only on their middle and the lateral processes of aedeagus are circular and show the same width up to their apical third from where they gradually grow narrower towards the tip. On apex, they are pointed, but do not touch each other.

The Furca (gonapodema) has a totally different shape in these two species; while in *D. kugleri*, it is V-shaped, in *D. octonotatus* it is widened, showing parallel sides.

The wing colour of the male was determined by examination of a large series of different species of *Dasygogon* from Rumania.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my deepest gratitude to Dr. H. Ulrich of the Alexander König Museum (Bonn) and Mr. M. Hradsky who put at my disposal the material dealt with in this paper. I wish to thank Professor O. Theodor (Israel) for his linguistic corrections of the manuscript. Special thanks are due to Dr. Amnon Freidberg for the generous assistance in the preparation of this paper.

REFERENCES

- Engel, E.O. 1930. Asilidae in: Die Fliegen der Palaearktischen Region IV₂: 1-491. Stuttgart.
- Theodor, O. 1980. Diptera: Asilidae in: Fauna Palaestina Insecta II Jerusalem; 1-448. Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities.
- Weinberg, M. 1975. Revision of some type specimens of the genus *Dasygogon* Mg. (Diptera, Asilidae) from collections of the Berlin Museum. Travaux Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle "Grigore Antipa" Bucharest, 16: 215-221.