

Gonomyia (s. str.) hippocampi sp.n., a new european Eriopterinae (Diptera, Limoniidae)

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Gonomyia (s. str.) hippocampi sp.n., a new european Eriopterinae
(Diptera, Limoniidae)

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The new species *Gonomyia (s.s tr.) hippocampi* sp. n. is described. Some comments on the relationships, distribution and ecology of this new species are also given.

Keywords: *Gonomyia hippocampi* sp. n., Limoniidae, Bulgaria, Great Britain, Switzerland

DESCRIPTION

Gonomyia (s.s tr.) hippocampi sp. n (Figs 1-3)

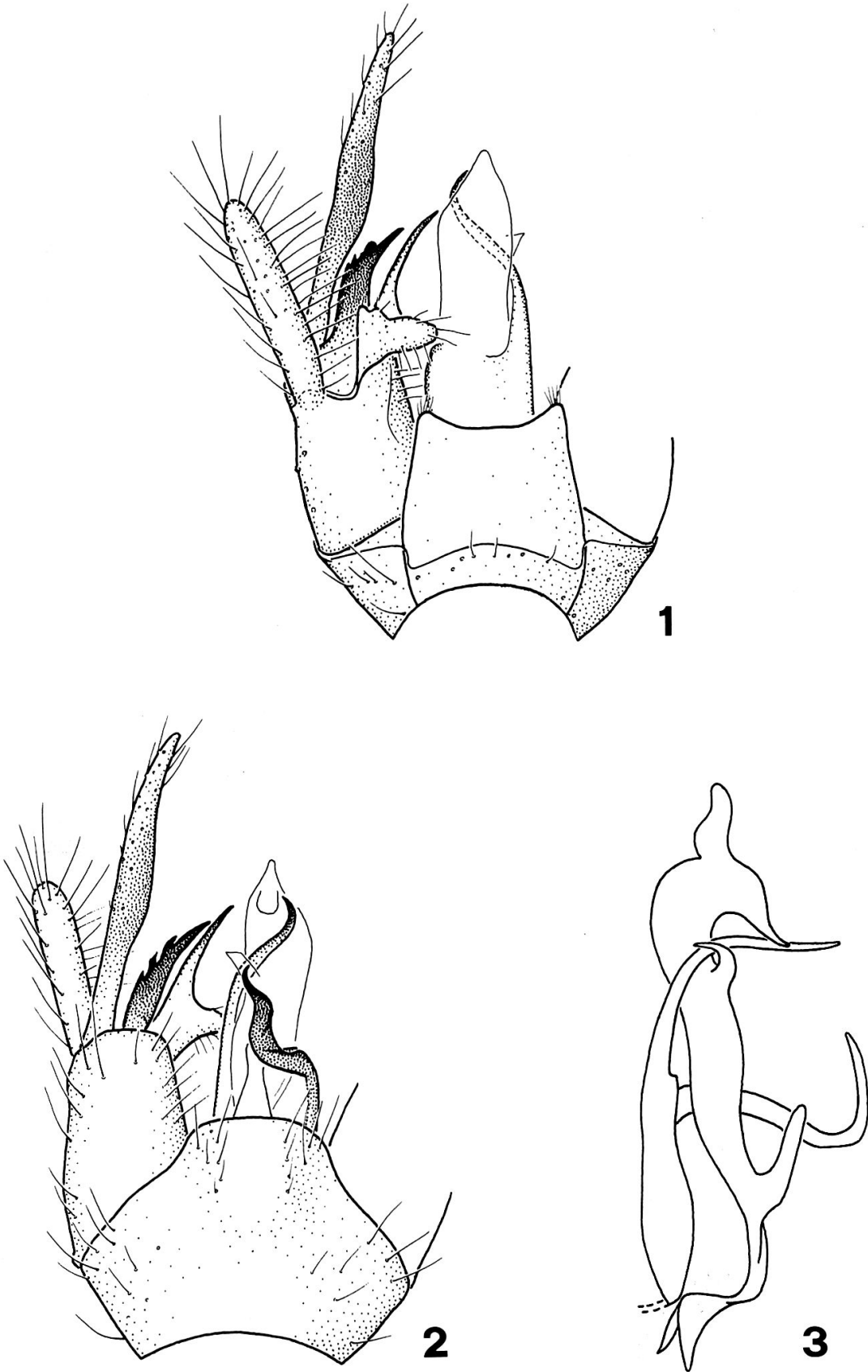
Locus typicus: Hatch, Basing, North Hampshire, GB.

General appearance: basic colouring pale yellow, rusty brown markings on thorax, banded abdomen. Body length: 4 mm. Wings length 5 mm.

Head pale yellow. Antennae with 16 segments. Scapus and pedicel large, dark brown to blackish. Flagellum brown. First three flagellomeres swollen, other ones slender, more or less spindle-shaped. Lower verticils a little longer than respective flagellomeres. Palpi dark brown to blackish. Rostrum yellow, except dorsal surface, dark brown. Lower part of collum blackish.

Thorax pale yellow. Praescutum rusty brown resulting from pattern of a pair of dorsal stripes which only have a very indistinct pale line separating them and lateral stripes with only a vague narrow yellowish zone separating them from dorsal stripes, in dried specimen these pale zones seemingly joining posteriorly in the mid line of praescutum; notopleural areas and front shoulders pale yellow. Scutum with brown lateral stripes, leaving a broad pale yellow zone in the mid-line and yellow posterior humeri. Scutellum pale yellow with brown mark in centre above and brownish at lateral corners. Postnotum brown, pale yellow laterally and in a narrow band across centre. Pleurae pale yellow except a rusty brown mid-pleural stripe and a marking ventrally on sternopleurae; another brownish mark lies just above base of halteres. A blackish stripe is placed over coxa 1. Legs yellowish brown. Wings faintly yellowish hyaline. Halteres with pale stem and somewhat darkened knob.

Abdominal tergites dark brown with conspicuous pale yellow posterior margin giving a strong banded pattern, sternites yellow. Male genitalia (Figs 1-2) yellowish. Gonocoxite (GX) short, bearing a long finger-like appendage apically. Outer gonostyle (OG) very long and slender, parallel-sided in basal half, tapering distally. Inner gonostyle (IG) complex with a lateral blunt lobe, a long spine half way along and a hairy finger-like apex with a few long curved hairs at tip, also, arising at the base, a dark spine with a small tooth near the apex. Aedeagus (Fig. 3) with the main process forked near the base giving rise to an appendage and bearing a hooked apex with an apical crest; another process forks into two long spines one of which is strongly hooked, the more posterior one held by a curved spine arising from the main process.



Figs 1-3. *Gonomyia hippocampi* sp. n., male genitalia. Genestrerio (Ticino, Switzerland). 1-2: general view, dorsal (1), ventral (2). 3: Aedeagus.

MATERIAL

The material is deposited in the following collections: Musée d'Histoire naturelle de la Ville de Neuchâtel (MHNVN); Natural History Museum, London (NHML); Jaroslav Stary, Olomouc (JS).

Holotype. ♂ Hatch, Basing, North Hampshire, England, 14.7.1973 (Alan Stubbs) in NHML. Dry material.

Paratypes. 1♂ Kaloferska Planina Mts, Kalofer, 21.6.1982 (Wieslaw Krzeminski) in JS (dry material). This specimen was listed as *G. ingrlica* LACKSCHEWITZ, 1964 in KRZEMINSKI & STARY (1989). Genestrerio, Ticino, Switzerland, (Christophe Dufour & Willy Geiger) (alcohol 70%): 1♂ (without genitalia) 18-24.6.1979, 3♂♂ 25.6-1.7.1979, 1♂ 16-22.7.1979 in MHNVN; 2♂♂ 2-8.7.1979 (JS).

RELATIONSHIPS

G. superba ALEXANDER, 1913, *G. tristylata* SAVTSHENKO, 1983 and particularly *G. ingrlica* LACKSCHEWITZ, 1964 have male genitalia whose structure could be confused with that of *G. hippocampi*. The shape of IG and OG, as well as that of the process of aedeagus easily allows recognition of the new species.

DERIVATIO NOMINIS

The name of the new species refers to the sea horse shape of the main process of the aedeagus.

DISTRIBUTION

G. hippocampi. sp.n. was captured in England, Switzerland and Bulgaria. The Bulgarian specimen of *G. ingrlica* (KRZEMINSKI & STARY, 1989) belongs to the new species (STARY, pers. com.). *G. ingrlica* is therefore known only from the region of Leningrad.

ECOLOGY

The English specimen was swept in a narrow strip of *Salix cinerea* L. beside a small chalk stream. Craneflies were abundant, many of them under fairly dense canopy and by heavily shaded mud beside the stream, as well in situations where more light penetrated. *G. (s.str.) recta* TONNOIR and *G. (Ellipteroides) lateralis* (MACQUART) were common in this place. The Swiss material comes from a light trap placed in a small broadleaves wood near a stream.

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LITERATURE

KRZEMINSKI, W. & STARY, J. 1989. Limoniidae of Bulgaria, 2. *Polskie Pismo ent.*, 59:253-279.

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