

A NEW GENUS OF TACHINIDÆ FROM THE CANADIAN NORTHWEST.*

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Saskatchewania, new genus.

Proboscis long, slender, about two times as long as the dorso-ventral diameter of the head. Labella not well developed. Palpi small, well developed. Head slightly broader than the thorax. Facial plate with broad, highly raised, distinct median carina. Facial ridges bare. Eyes bare. Antennæ inserted near a line drawn through the middle of the eye, descending but slightly below the middle of the face. Parafrontals bare outside of the frontal row. Frontal bristles not descending below base of antennæ. Ocellar bristles weak, proclinate. Orbital bristles absent in each sex. Diameter of head at the vibrissæ as long as at the base of antennæ. Abdomen not bearing the usual macrochætæ. Tip of apical cell ending at the extreme wing tip. Apical cell closed, long petiolate, the petiole as long or slightly longer than the posterior cross-vein. Posterior end of the hind cross-vein nearer to the small cross-vein, than to the margin of the wing. Fourth longitudinal vein, beyond the bend, with a short distinct stump.

Type of the Genus—*Saskatchewania canadensis*, new species.

Saskatchewania canadensis, new species.

Black, densely brassy-gray pollinose. Length 5-6 mm. Frontal vitta bright opaque, brownish black, slightly concave. At narrowest part somewhat wider than the parafrontals at the same point. Front at narrowest part not more than two times as wide as the distance between the posterior ocelli. Ocellar triangle and sides of front grayish pollinose. Head as viewed from the side projects but little in front of the eye. Parafacials grayish pollinose with a strong brassy tinge; about one-fifth as wide as the median depression. Cheeks covered with black bristly hairs, gradually simulating macrochætæ on the anterior margins. About one-fifth to one-fourth as wide as the eye height. Transverse impression of face well defined, concave, piceous. Antennæ black, the first joint scarcely discernible, brownish black. Second and third joints opaque black, the third joint not over two times as

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long as the second. Arista thickened on less than the basal half, the penultimate joint as broad or broader than long. Antennal fovea deeply concave. Median facial carina on its upper surface convex, as broad as the third antennal joint at its greatest width. Vibrissæ cruciate, situated on a level with the front edge of the oval margin, one or two weak bristly hairs above each. Proboscis shining black, once geniculate. Palpi black, slightly thickened at the tip. Occiput, except the epicephalon, covered with numerous short bristly black hairs.

Thorax black, brassy-gray pollinose with four distinct subshining brownish black vittæ, the outer vittæ considerably wider than the two median. Bearing three dorso-central bristles (the anterior two, sometimes very weak), and two distinct sternopleural bristles. Scutellum rather small, broader at the base, gradually narrowing to a rounded point apically. Bearing a pair of long basal and a single pair of long apical, marginal scutellar bristles. Median discal scutellar bristles weak.

Abdomen black, brassy-gray pollinose with a distinct median brownish black vitta. Clothed with numerous long sub-erect bristly hairs, which are somewhat stouter in the male. Hypopygium in the male black, pollinose, bearing black bristly hairs, protruding forward beneath the venter. In the female shining black, distended outward, a narrow deep median hollow groove on the dorsum. The outer margin thickly beset with rather long, flattened, pointed spines, directed upwardly.

Legs black, faintly pollinose. Knees reddish. Middle tibiæ each bearing a single short bristle on the outside below the middle. Hind tibiæ with a few short bristles on the outer margin. Last joint of front tarsi slightly longer than the tarsal claws. Pulvilli whitish.

Wings hyaline with a yellowish tinge at the base. First and third longitudinal veins not bristly. Posterior cross-vein straight. Bend of fourth longitudinal vein right angular, beyond bend approaching the third longitudinal vein in a straight line. Last section of the fifth longitudinal vein much shorter than the preceding section. Calypteres whitish, with a yellowish tinge along the borders.

Habitat—Saskatchewan, Canada.

Described from two males and four females collected June, August, and September, 1907, at Farwell Creek, South Saskatchewan, Canada. This genus is named in honour of the Saskatchewan region, a very rich collecting ground in the Canadian northwest.

Holotype—One male, Cat. No. 19213, U. S. N. M.

Allotype—One female, Cat. No. 19213, U. S. N. M.

Paratypes—One female in collection of the Boston Society of Natural History; one female in collection of the Massachusetts Agricultural College and a specimen of each sex in author's collection.

GEOMETRID NOTES—NEW SPECIES AND VARIETIES.

BY L. W. SWETT, BOSTON, MASS.

Stamnodes blackmorei, n. sp.

Expanse 21-27 mm. Palpi very short, head dark brown, antennæ mottled brown and white. Thorax and abdomen fuscous, of about the same colour as in *Diastictis inceptaria*. Wings full and rounded, the general colour fawn brown, as in *inceptaria*. The insect at first sight looks like *gibbicostata* Walk., to which it is closely allied. Fore-wings form base to outer two-thirds clear fuscous, except at costa, where they are heavily shaded with brown. About one-fourth out from body the costa is intersected by a white dash and about the middle there is another white dash, followed by a large brownish patch, which extends to the median vein. Beyond this is a broad white band running from costa, at a slight angle, to median vein; then curving inward toward the body and almost disappearing as it nears the inner margin. Bordering this white line at costa is a very dark brown and black patch, sometimes square, sometimes elongated. It is very distinct on all specimens, and is edged outwardly with yellow, followed by two white spots on edge of costa, then a black dot at almost apex of wing. Fringe light brown, with black checks at ends of veins, heavily shaded with dark fuscous from outer to inner margin. Discal dots absent, or, if present, too small to be apparent. Hind wings of same colour as fore wings. Viewed from beneath, the difference between this species and *gibbicostata* is most apparent. Fore-wings beneath darker than above with a rosy hue, the brown markings on the costa above being replaced by reddish beneath. There are the same white spots to the extra-discal band, and the

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