

Superfamily DIOPSOIDEA

58. Family STRONGYLOPHTHALMYIIDAE

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Strongylophthalmyiids are an infrequently encountered group of small dark-colored, thin-bodied acalyprate flies related to the Psilidae, Tanypezidae, and Micropezidae. Their family status is open to question. Griffiths (1972), Cogan (1980a), and D.K. McAlpine (*in litt.*) refer *Strongylophthalmyia* to the Tanypezidae; however, I here follow recent treatments (e.g., Steyskal 1987) in retaining separate family status for this monogeneric family pending a phylogenetic analysis of it and related families.

The biology of these flies is poorly known. Krivosheina (1981) records larvae from under bark in the USSR, and unpublished collecting records from New Guinea show them to mimic the be-

havior of ants with which they were collected on banana leaves. They have also been collected from leaves of *Alocasia* in Australia.

The family is most commonly found in the southeastern Oriental Region, but unpublished records show species to occur also throughout Melanesia and Australia to Fiji (the last record possibly an introduction). Four species in the genus *Strongylophthalmyia* are recorded from the regions covered here, though many more undescribed species are known from both New Guinea and Australia.

Ref.: Steyskal (1971a, key world spp.), Cogan (1980a, cat. Afrotrop. sp.).

Genus STRONGYLOPHTHALMYIA Heller

STRONGYLOPHTHALMUS Hendel, 1902: 179. Type species: *Chyliza ustulata* Zetterstedt, 1847, orig. des. [Preocc. Motschulsky, 1860.]

STRONGYLOPHTHALMYIA Heller, 1902: 226 (n. n. for *Strongylophthalmus*).

LABROPSILA de Meijere, 1914b: 241. Type species: *Labropsila polita* de Meijere, 1914, des. Hennig, 1941: 36.

fascipes Walker, 1860a: 163 (*Sepsis*). Indonesia (Sulawesi); Indonesia (Irian Jaya), PNG (PNG).

immaculata Hennig, 1940: 309. Taiwan; Fiji [?immigrant], Indonesia (Maluku), PNG (PNG); Malaysia (Pen).

lutea de Meijere, 1914b: 244 (*Labropsila*). Indonesia (Java); PNG (Bismarck Arch, PNG), Solomon Is.

nigriventris Frey, 1928b: 101 (*lutea* var.). Philippines; PNG (PNG); Malaysia (Sarawak).