Superfamily EPHYDROIDEA

97. Family CURTONOTIDAE

By Neal L. Evenhuis

These small gray to dark brown humpbacked flies are worldwide in distribution but are poorly represented in the Australasian/Oceanian Regions.

The immature stages have been recorded as scavengers within egg pods of the desert locust, Schistocerca gregaria (Forskål), by Greathead (1958). Cuthbertson (1936) reared an Afrotropical species, Cyrtoma albomacula Curran, from human feces in Zimbabwe.

The family has at various times been placed in the Drosophilidae, Diastatidae, and Ephyridae (Enderlein 1914d, 1917; Hendel 1917; Duda 1924a). Following the lead of contemporary authors (e.g., Hennig 1958, Delfinado 1969, Griffiths 1972, Wirth 1977, Wirth & Tsacas 1980), they are here given family rank.


Genus AXINOTA Wulp

AXINOTA Wulp, 1886: cviii. Type species: Axinola pictiventris Wulp, 1886, mon.
APSINOTA Wulp, 1887b: 178 (unjust. emend. of Axinota).
THAUMASTOPHILA Hendel, 1914a: 112. Type species: Thaumastophila hyalipennis Hendel, 1914, mon.
ANASEIOMYIA Malloch, 1930h: 328. Type species; Anaseiomyia uniformis Malloch, 1930, orig. des.
pictiventris Wulp, 1886: cvii [1887: 178 (as Apsinota)]. Indonesia (Java); Australia (Qld), Indonesia (Irian Jaya, Maluku), PNG (PNG), Solomon Is; widesp. Oriental Reg.