



## The dates of publication of the Diptera depicted on the plates *Dipteros lam. 1* and *Dipteros lam. 2* in Gay's *Atlas de la Historia Física y Política de Chile*

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### Abstract

Dates of publication of the first two plates of Diptera in the *Atlas* of Claudio Gay's *Historia Física y Política de Chile* are given and date changes for new species depicted on them are listed. Seven nominal species of Diptera are found to be published earlier than previously known. One new synonym is found as a result of this dating: *Cephalocera dentitarsis* Macquart, 1849 is found to be younger than *Cephalocera albocincta* Blanchard, 1845 [both now in *Mitrodetus* Mydidae], **syn. nov.**

### Introduction

Claudio Gay's "*Historia Física y Política de Chile*" (1844–1871) comprises 30 volumes (published in 87 *entregas* [parts]). After travelling to Chile in the late 1820s and again in the early 1840s to collect specimens and record the history, culture, geography, and geology of the country, and make illustrations for his 2-volume atlas (cf. Fig. 1) that accompanied the 28 text volumes, Gay returned to Paris to organize the team of specialists and staff for the writing, translation, engraving, and printing of the text and illustrations on plates.

A short paper on the dates of the Diptera in the text of volume 7 of the *Zoologia* was given in Evenhuis (2016). At the time, dates of publication of the plates in the *Atlas de Zoologia* were not completely known. Although it was known that the plates were issued in *entregas* along with the text, it was not known in what *entrega* each plate was issued, thus all plates were dated as 1854 (the date on the title page of each *Atlas* volume). Since then, sources giving better dating have been found and are used here to provide earlier dates for the first two plates of Diptera (titled as *Dipteros lam. 1* and *Dipteros lam. 2*) in volume two of the *Atlas*.

Charles Blanchard was tasked by Gay in the early 1840s with completing the Insecta for Gay's *Historia* but, as he was swamped with many other concurrent works being done by him at the time, his work was for the *Historia* was delayed for almost 10 years and many Diptera species were instead described by Justin Macquart in his *Diptères Exotiques* series. Still, Blanchard was able to describe almost 100 additional new species of Diptera, most in the text. These Diptera were listed in Evenhuis (2016) with many being newly dated as 1854 based on bibliographical research, rather than 1852 as was previously thought.

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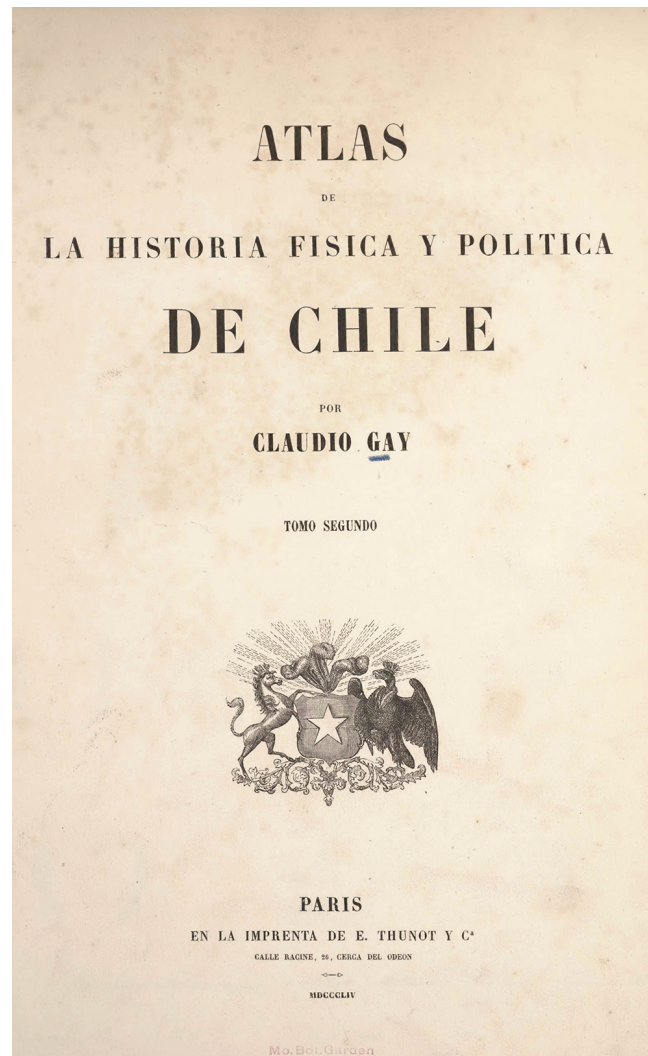


Fig. 1. Title page of Gay's *Atlas de la historia Física y Política de Chile*. Tomo segundo. Image: Biodiversity Heritage Library.

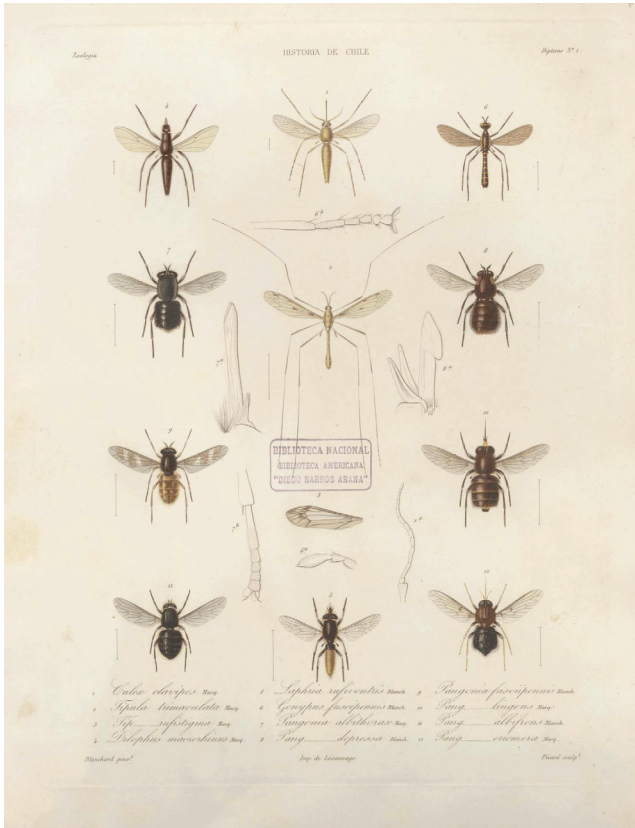


Fig. 2. *Dipteros lam. 1* of Gay's *Atlas*. Colored edition. Image: Biblioteca Nacional de Chile.

**Results**

All the animal plates are found in *Tomo Segundo* of the *Atlas*. Nominal species that were illustrated on each plate are depicted in dorsal habitus with names given in script in the legend at the bottom of the plate. Blanchard knew of Macquart's work and listed him as author of many of the flies depicted on the plates and himself for those he was proposing as new. Results of bibliographical research has found evidence of issuance of the first two plates of the Diptera that are prior to the year ("1854") on the title page of the *Atlas*.

**Dipteros lam. 1**

The first plate (Fig. 2) contains four Nematocera and the remainder are members of the lower Brachycera (mostly tabanids). The plate is dated here as not later than 13 June 1849. The year is based on Schaum (1850) who enumerated two Diptera plates having had appeared by 1849 (plate 2 was issued earlier). Plates were not always issued in numerical order, but the plates referred to by Schaum (1850) can be restricted to the first two plates as they were printed by Lesauvage, who, up until 1849 is listed on the plate only by name; from 1850 to 1853, he is listed as "Lesauvage, rue de Sorbonne 6"; and in 1854, after moving the business, is listed as "Lesauvage, rue des Noyers, 31". The date within the year is based on correspondence between Gay and his Chilean contact, the Minister of Chile in Paris, Francisco Xavier Rosales, which is found in Stuardo (1973: 453-454) where the numbers of *entregas* that have been completed up to the date of that letter are given. There are eight *entregas* (un-numbered) that fall between the dates 15 March and 13 June 1849 that could have contained plate 1. There were no *entregas* issued in 1849 before 15 March and none after 13 June. In September 1849, Gay went to Spain on doctor's order because the

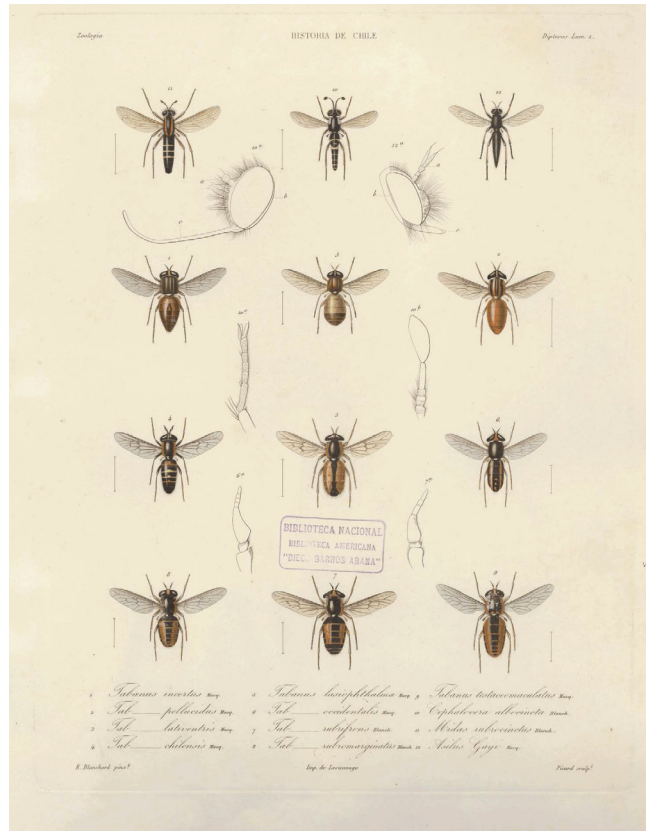


Fig. 3. *Dipteros lam. 2* of Gay's *Atlas*. Colored edition. Image: Biblioteca Nacional de Chile.

stress of organizing the *Historia* was too much for him (combined with a recent divorce and the death of his only daughter). Work on printing the *Historia* ceased until his return and the next *entrega* was not issued until 15 January 1852.

Of the 12 Diptera depicted on the plate (Table 1), nine were described in 1838 by Macquart in his *Diptères Exotiques* series. Blanchard gave authorship for the species on the plate, but got it wrong on a few. Table 1 corrects the inaccuracies. Two species (*Laphria rufiventris* Blanchard, 1849 and *Gonypus fuscipennis* Blanchard, 1849) are made available on the plate and are earlier than their appearance in the text in 1854.

**Dipteros lam. 2**

This plate (Fig. 3) depicts 12 lower brachycerans, mostly tabanids in dorsal habitus. The plate is dated here as 1845 based on Blanchard (1854: 361) where he dated "lam. 2" as being 1845. No textual *entregas* for the *Zoologia* were issued until 1847, so the plate *Dipteros lam. 2*, must have been issued in an *entrega* with other material. Only *entregas* 5 and 6 could have been issued in 1845. *Entrega* 5 may have been issued in 1844 or 1845. *Entrega* 6 was issued on 7 September 1845 based on correspondence between Gay and his patron in Chile, Manuel Montt (Cruz & Stuardo 1962: 74). I here limit the not-after date for this plate to be 7 September 1845.

Of the 12 Diptera depicted on the plate (Table 2), five were described previously by Macquart in his *Diptères Exotiques* series. Again, some authorship attributions by Blanchard are incorrect and are corrected in Table 2. Five nominal species are found here to have been made available on the plate earlier than their appearance in the 1854 text (*Tabanus lasiophthalmus*, *T. rubrifrons*, *T. rubromarginatus*, *Cephalocera albocincta*, and *Midas rubrocincta*).

**Table 1. Diptera depicted on plate *Dipteros lam. 1* published 13 June 1849.**

(taxa with earlier dates in red)

Fig.	Name	Author	Correct author, year	Text ref.*	Notes
1	<i>Culex clavipes</i>	Macquart	Macquart, 1838	1854: 332**	misspelling of <i>flavipes</i>
2	<i>Tipula trimaculata</i>	Macquart	Macquart, 1838	1854: 338	
3	<i>Tipula rufostigma</i>	Blanchard	Macquart, 1838	1854: 337	misspelling of <i>rufistigma</i>
4	<i>Dilophus macrorhinus</i>	Blanchard	Macquart, 1838	1854: 357	as <i>Acanthocnemis</i> in text
5	<i>Laphria rufiventris</i>	Blanchard	Blanchard, 1849	1854: 365	
6	<i>Gonypus fuscipennis</i>	Blanchard	Blanchard, 1849	1854: 371	
7	<i>Pangonia albithorax</i>	Macquart	Macquart, 1838	1854: 388	
8	<i>Pangonia depressa</i>	Blanchard	Macquart, 1838	1854: 388	as “ <i>dépressa</i> ” in text
9	<i>Pangonia fasciipennis</i>	Blanchard	Macquart, 1838	1854: 387	as “ <i>fasciipennis</i> ” in text
10	<i>Pangonia lingens</i>	Macquart	Wiedemann, 1828	1854: 387	
11	<i>Pangonia albifrons</i>	Blanchard	Macquart, 1838	1854: 389	
12	<i>Pangonia eriomera</i>	Macquart	Macquart, 1838	1854: 389	

\* All textual references are to Volume 7 of the *Zoologia*.

\*\* Page misprinted in Volume 7 as “232”.

**Table 2. Diptera depicted on plate *Dipteros lam. 2* published 7 September 1845.**

(taxa with earlier dates in red)

Fig.	Name	Author	Correct author, year	Text ref.*	Notes
1	<i>Tabanus incertus</i>	Macquart	Macquart, 1838	1854: 392	
2	<i>Tabanus pellucidus</i>	Macquart	Fabricius, 1805	1854:393	
3	<i>Tabanus lativentris</i>	Macquart	Macquart, 1838	1854: 393	
4	<i>Tabanus chilensis</i>	Macquart	Macquart, 1838	1854: 395	
5	<i>Tabanus lasiophthalmus</i>	Macquart	Blanchard, 1845	1854: 394	See comment**
6	<i>Tabanus occidentalis</i>	Blanchard	Linnaeus, 1758	1854: 397	
7	<i>Tabanus rubrifrons</i>	Blanchard	Blanchard, 1845	1854: 396	
8	<i>Tabanus rubromarginatus</i>	Blanchard	Blanchard, 1845	—	See comment***
9	<i>Tabanus testaceomaculatus</i>	Blanchard	Macquart, 1838	1854: 394	
10	<i>Cephalocera albocincta</i>	Blanchard	Blanchard, 1845	1854: 361	See comment†
11	<i>Midas rubrocinctus</i>	Blanchard	Blanchard, 1845	1854: 362	as <i>Mydas</i> in rthe text
12	<i>Asilus gayi</i>	Macquart	Macquart, 1838	1854: 370	Page misprinted as “270”

\* All textual references are to Volume 7 of the *Zoologia*.

\*\* Blanchard is given authorship here because he is given on the plate as the one who made the illustration. He is also the author of the text description as he gives no other author attribution.

\*\*\* The figure number for this plate in the text (1854: 396) is given for *Tabanus maculiventris* Macquart, 1850. Both nominal species are currently treated as junior synonyms of *Tabanus chilensis* Macquart, 1838 (González *et al.*, 2022).

† Blanchard (1854: 361) treated this nominal species as a synonym of *Cephalocera dentitarsis* Macquart, 1850. Previous to the current study, *albocincta* was thought to date from 1854. It is now found to be the older of the two names, and *Cephalocera dentitarsis* is here treated as a junior synonym of *C. albocincta*, **syn. nov.**

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