

Family PIPUNCULIDAE

Pipunculids, or big-headed flies, consist of about 700 species described worldwide in about 30 genera. All known extant forms are parasitic on Homoptera. Some are important biological control agents of leafhoppers, especially in rice growing area. Adults of living forms can be found hovering in low vegetation. Larvae are found as endoparasites in the abdomens of their auchenorrhynchus hosts.

Most pipunculid fossils are from the Tertiary. However, a possible pipunculid has been recorded from the Lower Cretaceous amber of Canada by McAlpine & Martin (1969). Other undetermined material has been recorded from the Oligocene/Miocene amber of the Dominican Republic (Poinar, 1992).

Ref.: Coe (1966, review of fossil forms), Raphael & De Meyer (1992, generic classification).

Genus CEPHALOSPHAERA Enderlein

***CEPHALOSPHAERA** Enderlein, 1936: 129. Type species: *Pipunculus furcatus* Egger, 1860, by monotypy.

baltica Carpenter & Hull, 1939: 13. PA: Baltic Region (Eocene/Oligocene) [A].

Genus METANEPHROCERUS Aczél

METANEPHROCERUS Aczél, 1948: 120. Type species: *Protonephrocerus collini* Carpenter & Hull, 1939, by original designation.

collini Carpenter & Hull, 1939: 13 (*Protonephrocerus*). PA: Baltic Region (Eocene/Oligocene) [A].

Genus NEPHROCERUS Zetterstedt

NEPHROCERUS Zetterstedt, 1837: 34. *Nomen nudum*.

***NEPHROCERUS** Zetterstedt, 1838: 578. Type species: *Nephrocerus lapponicus* Zetterstedt, 1838, by monotypy.

oligocenicus Carpenter & Hull, 1939: 12. PA: Baltic Region (Eocene/Oligocene) [A].

Genus PROTONEPHROCERUS Collin

***PROTONEPHROCERUS** Collin, 1931: 52. Type species: *Protonephrocerus chiloensis* Collin, 1931, by original designation.

florissantius Carpenter & Hull, 1939: 14. NE: USA (Oligocene) [C].

Genus PROTOVERRALLIA Aczél

PROTOVERRALLIA Aczél, 1948: 108, 111. Type species: *Pipunculus succini* Aczél, 1948 [= *Verrallia succinia* Meunier, 1903], by monotypy.

[In the same work, Aczél treats *Protoverrallia* as both a hypothetical genus and a valid genus. It is here considered to be a valid genus nomenclaturally.]

succinia Meunier, 1903a: 150 (*Verrallia*). PA: Baltic Region (Eocene/Oligocene) [A].

succini Loew, 1850b: 42 (*Pipunculus*). *Nomen nudum*.

succini Aczél, 1948: 111 (*Pipunculus*). PA: Baltic Region (Eocene/Oligocene) [A].

Genus VERRALLIA Mik

***VERRALLIA** Mik, 1889: 137. Type species: *Cephalops aucta* Fallén, 1817, by original designation.

andreei Aczél, 1948: 110. PA: Baltic Region (Eocene/Oligocene) [A].

andrei. Incorrect original spelling of *andreei* (Aczél, 1948: 166).

succinia, not Meunier, 1903, misidentification, (Carpenter & Hull, 1939: 11).

extincta Meunier, 1903a: 148. PA: Baltic Region (Eocene/Oligocene) [A].

extincta, error for *extincta*.

kerteszia Meunier, 1903a: 149 (as *extincta* variety). PA: Baltic Region (Eocene/Oligocene) [A].

***Nomen nudum* in PIPUNCULIDAE**

auctus Loew, 1850b: 42 (*Pipunculus*).