

LYCORIELLA SOLANI (WINNERTZ) FROM THE CROZET ISLANDS (Diptera : Sciaridae)

By Wallace A. Steffan¹

Abstract: *Lycoriella (Lycoriella) solani* (Winnertz) is recorded from the Crozet Islands. The adults are redescribed and figured.

The following species, which is apparently *Lycoriella (Lycoriella) solani* (Winnertz) sensu Tuomikoski (1960), was collected by Dr Lewis Davies of the University of Durham, England, on Possession Island in the Crozet Islands in 1968. He kindly sent them to me for identification. The kindness of the French authorities in allowing Dr Davies to visit the Crozet Islands as their guest to collect insects is also acknowledged and appreciated.

Lycoriella (Lycoriella) solani (Winnertz) Fig. 1 a-h.

♂. *Head:* Interfacetal hairs abundant, extending well beyond outer curvature of facets; eye bridge 4 facets wide. Antenna: flagellomere 4 (fig. 1 a) about 2 × as long as wide, neck short but distinct, hairs about 1/3 width. Prefrons with 28-30 long setae. Clypeus with 2 median setae. Palpus 3-segmented (fig. 1 b); 1st with distinct sensory pit and 8 dorsal setae, 2nd about 1/2 as long as 1st and 3rd, which are subequal. *Thorax:* Scutum dark. Acrostichals short, biserial; dorsocentrals with mixture of long and short setae. Posterior pronotum bare, anterior pronotum with 3-4 short setae. Proepisternum with 10 scattered setae. *Legs:* Fore leg: length of coxa 0.37 mm; femur 0.53 mm; tibia 0.60 mm; basitarsomere 0.33 mm; fore tibial comb composed of row of 14 long apical setae, spurs only slightly longer than width of tibial apex. Claws simple. *Wing* (fig. 1 d): Length 2.27 mm, width 0.84 mm. Posterior veins bare. R-M index 1.7, r-m/bM 0.9, stCu/bM 0.3, C-M index 0.7. *Genitalia* (fig. 1 e, f): Basimere with median lobe with about 14 setae. Tergum IX as illustrated (fig. 1 f). Tegmen lightly sclerotized, densely so along basal margin. Genital rod short with U-shaped fork. Distimere with stout apical spur, several medial setae and 1 long whip-like seta near base.

♀. Similar to male except for larger size. Wing length 3.07 mm. R-M index 1.24. Cerci and vaginal furca as illustrated (fig. 1 g, h).

Remarks: The identification of this species should be considered provisional since these flies are very difficult to identify unless they can be directly compared with the type. This species has also been recorded from Tristan da Cunha (as *Bradysia mycorum* Frey) (Frey 1954). Tuomikoski (1960) synonymized *B. mycorum* under *L. solani* and also lists several other synonyms. *L. solani* would also appear to be close to *Sciara auberti* Séguy (1940) described from Kerguelen Island, but appears to differ from that species in the relative lengths of veins r-m, bM and stCu. Séguy (1959) presents a key to the *Sciara* of the Antarctic Islands but it is based largely on wing venation.

Dr Davies (pers. commun.) stated that all specimens were collected in or very close

1. Bernice P. Bishop Museum, P. O. Box 6037, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818.

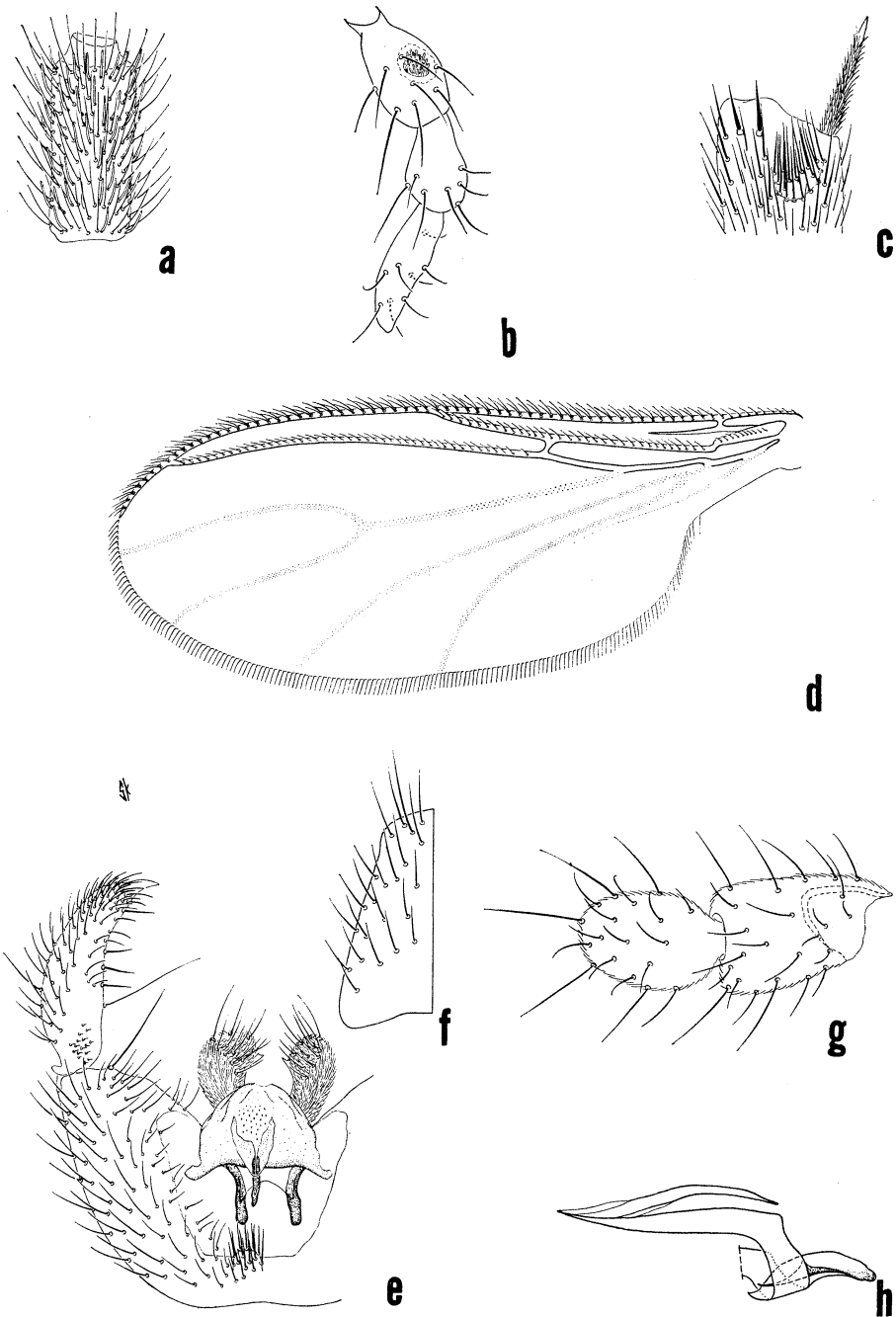


Fig. 1. *Lycoriella solani* (Winnertz), ♂, a, flagellomere 4; b, maxillary palpus; c, apex of fore tibia; d, wing; e, genitalia, ventral view; f, tergum IX; ♀, g, vaginal furca; h, cercus.

to the base buildings on Possession and he never found them at any distance from these dwellings although he collected up to 7 miles from them. Since large quantities of potatoes and other vegetables are imported from France regularly, introduction of *L. solani* could have occurred in this manner (Davies, pers. commun.).

LITERATURE CITED

- Frey, R. 1954a. Diptera Brachycera and Sciaridae von Tristan da Cunha. Results of the Norwegian Scientific Expedition to Tristan da Cunha. **26**: 1-55.
- Séguy, E. 1940b. Croisiere du Bougainville aux Iles australes francaises. IV. Diptères. *Mém. Mus. N. S.* **14**: 203-267.
- 1959a. Insectes Diptères de l'île Amsterdam (Mission de M. Patrice Paulian, 1955-1956). *Mém. Mus. Nat. d'hist. Nat. (A)* **17**: 133-153.
- Tuomikoski, R. 1960a. Zur Kenntnis der Sciariden (Dipt.) Finnlands. *Ann. Soc. Zool. Bot. Fennica "Vanamo"* **21**: 1-164.