

who made a large collection for me in Kiusiu in 1922. In the brooks and rice-ditches I got plenty of the little 'Medaka,' which I called *Oryzias*." Dr. Tanaka, in a letter dated March 20, says: "Your letter received, and allow me to state that *Fundulichthys virescens* does not exist so far as I am aware. What was described as such is in reality the young of a cyprinoid fish resembling externally a figure found in the 'Fauna Japonica,' named *Fundulichthys virescens*. I am pretty sure the fish is the young of *Pseudorasbora parva*." Dr. Tanaka does not make it quite clear whether it is Schlegel's fish, or his own recorded specimens, or both, that he believes is *Pseudorasbora*. However, this does not make much difference, as he definitely states that he does not believe Schlegel's species exists. As to the resemblance of the head of *Pseudorasbora* to a Pœciliid, I may say that I have examined Chinese specimens of this genus in the American Museum, and find that the head is somewhat Pœciliid-like; but the body is very characteristically Cyprinoid, as is the body in Schlegel's figure of *Fundulichthys*.

Schlegel's definite statement regarding the teeth is hard to explain, but as he never saw the fish, and as the reproduction of Bürger's figure does not show them, I think we may reasonably assume that a mistake was made somewhere. Thus, from all the evidence available, it would seem that the species *Fundulichthys virescens* (Schlegel) must be dropped from the system, and that thereby a most perplexing question in the geographical distribution of the killifishes is closed.

XXIX.—A new Species of the Drosophilid Genus *Gitona* (Diptera), bred from Figs in Cyprus. By Prof. M. BEZZI, Turin, Italy.

(1924)

IN the recent general work on Drosophilidæ, by A. H. Sturtevant*, three species only are recorded as belonging to the genus *Gitona*, Meigen. But of these species *Gitona* ? *pruinosa*, Bigot, from Djerba †, is certainly not a member of the genus, being probably a Chloropid. And even

* Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1921, Publication No. 301, p. 54.

† 'Exploration scientifique de la Tunisie,' Zoologie, Diptères, Paris, 1888.

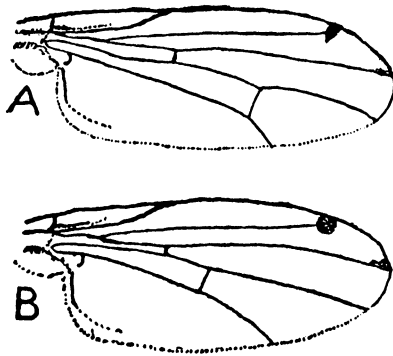
Gitonides perspicax, Knab*, placed here by Sturtevant, seems to be generically distinct, as in typical specimens from Honolulu, received by the late Dr. Fr. Knab, the second basal cell of the wings is separated from the discal cell.

The genus *Gitona* is thus at present monotypic, being restricted to the type-species *distigma*, Meigen, which is not rare in South Europe. The bionomics of this species are almost unknown; the fly has been bred from the flower-heads of the composite plant, *Sonchus arvensis*, and the larvæ are suspected to be aphidiphagous. In middle Italy I have met with the species only on windows in houses.

It is important to know that in the Mediterranean sub-region there is a second species of the genus, recently sent me for determination by Dr. Guy A. K. Marshall. The description is as follows:—

Gitona distans, sp. n., ♀.

Very near *distigma*, but at once distinguished by the much more distant cross-veins of wings.



A. Wing of *Gitona distans*, sp. n.
B. Wing of *Gitona distigma*, Meigen. Greatly enlarged.

♀. Length of body 3 mm., of wing 3.2 mm. Head entirely yellowish, grey-dusted; eyes red, not banded. Frons parallel-sided, subquadrate; dark grey in the middle, with whitish sides and a whitish triangle in front of the ocellar plate; the orbits have 2-3 blackish dots on each side at the insertion of the orbital bristles. Cephalic bristles

* 'Insector Inscitiæ Menstruus,' Washington, 1914, ii. p. 165.

black, disposed as in *distigma**; the setulæ of the ocellar plate and of the anterior part of the frontal stripe are likewise black. Antennæ more broadly separated than in *distigma*; they are entirely yellowish with minutely pubescent arista. Face yellowish, with its broad carina more pale along the middle; peristomialia twice as broad as in *distigma*; palpi and proboscis yellowish.

Mesonotum grey, with numerous minute dark dots as in *distigma*, but with distinct brown stripes, resolved into separate elongate spots; these stripes are approximately five, but only the middle one is continuous. Pleuræ paler, yellowish below, with two narrow brown stripes, one in the middle of mesopleura, the other at upper border of sternopleura. Chætotaxy as in *distigma*; all the bristles black; setulæ of back disposed in more numerous rows. Scutellum of considerably greater size than in *distigma*, quite bare above, with four marginal bristles; it is whitish grey, with three brown stripes on the basal half and a yellowish hind border. Halteres white with yellowish stalk.

Abdomen yellowish, whitish-dusted; the segments from the third to the fifth have a black spot in the middle and a black band on each side; the second segment has only the bands, being destitute of the middle rounded spot. These bands are not in contact with the hind border of the segments, as they are in *distigma*. Venter unspotted, yellowish. Hairs and bristles black.

Legs entirely pale yellowish, with last joints of tarsi blackened; bristles and hairs black.

Wings hyaline, with yellowish veins disposed as in *distigma*; the black spot at end of second vein is smaller and not rounded; the black spot at end of third vein is less developed. The cross-veins are much more distant than in *distigma*; the hind cross-vein (text-fig., A) is about as long as the portion of fifth vein beyond it, while in *distigma* (text-fig., B) the above-named cross-vein is about one-third the length of the distal part of the fifth vein.

Some female specimens from Cyprus, 11th September, 1923, bred from figs (*D. S. Wilkinson*).

Type in British Museum; one paratype in the writer's collection.

* For chætotaxy of *Gitona*, compared with that of *Acletozenus*, see Oldenberg, Archiv für Naturgesch. lxxx. 1914, pp. 29-30.