
A revision of the hover fly genera *Chrysogaster* and *Orthonevra* (Diptera: Syrphidae: Eristalinae) from the Afrotropical Region

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Abstract

Hover flies (Diptera: Syrphidae) deliver important ecosystem services such as pollination, pest control and nutrient cycling. Currently, 62 genera of Syrphidae are known to the Afrotropical Region (*i.e.*, Africa, south of the Sahara). Despite the growing number of taxonomic studies, the taxonomic status of many hover fly genera within the Afrotropical Region are not well known. The genera *Chrysogaster* Meigen, 1803 and *Orthonevra* Macquart, 1829 are good examples of this. In contrast to the better studied Palearctic and Nearctic relatives, specimens of both genera are rare among museum collections and most species are only known from the type material. Our recent collecting efforts, however, have substantially increased the number of specimens, and the availability of fresh material allows the inclusion of molecular analysis in the study of the taxonomy of both genera. Here, we present the preliminary results of a taxonomic revision underway of both genera within the Afrotropical Region.

Keywords: Taxonomy, Africa, flower fly, pollinators

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