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# Syritta diversity in the Afrotropical Region

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## Abstract

The revision of the hoverfly genus *Syritta* Le Peletier & Serville, 1828 by Lyneborg & Barkemeyer (2005) comprises approximately 60 species worldwide, with 40 of these recorded from the Afrotropical Region. Over the last decade, we have collected and studied > 2,000 *Syritta* specimens from almost 20 Afrotropical countries and have used morphology and DNA barcoding to identify the species, and to link males to females. This has resulted in at least six new species and the discovery of the missing sex for eight species where only one of the sexes was known. Adding museum collections to the newly collected material allowed us to study the species distributions, diversity, biogeography and predict future distributions using modelling techniques. Moreover, an updated identification key will be provided including high-resolution stacking photographs for both males and females.

**Keywords:** South Africa, Biodiversity hotspots, biogeography, species distribution modelling

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