
Dolichopodidae Homepage

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Afrotropical Dolichopodinae (Diptera: Dolichopodidae)

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The Afrotropical species of Dolichopodinae are poorly known and have not previously been revised. The last catalogue of Afrotropical Dolichopodinae (Dyte and Smith, 1980) listed 101 species belonging to 9 genera. The author has recently revised the subfamily (Grichanov, in press). He has described 86 new species from the Afrotropical Region, placing in synonymy 18 known names. Two generic names have been also synonymized. Holotypes of 38 and paratypes of 6 more old species have been examined. A record of an undescribed species of the genus *Hypophyllus* from "Southern Arabia" by Dyte and Smith (1980) belongs probably to *Hercostomus scotti* Grichanov. All catalogued species of the genus *Dolichopus* are excluded here from the genus or from the fauna of Afrotropics, although several more species of the genus and one species of *Ludovicus* are recorded for the region. A revised catalogue and keys to all Afrotropical dolichopodine species are also prepared. Now 8 genera and 163 Afrotropical species of Dolichopodinae are known from the Region. *Paracleius* Bigot (including *Pelastoneurus* Loew and *Paraclius* Coquillett) and *Tachytrechus* are almost cosmopolitan genera. *Dolichopus* and *Hercostomus* are mostly Holarctic genera, *Polymedon* is a Palearctic genus; *Lichtwardtia* is a Palearctic genus, *Argyrochlamys* seems to be the same, associating with crabholes along the seacoasts of Indian Ocean and southern Atlantic.

The numbers of Afrotropical species belonging to dolichopodine genera are as follows: *Paracleius* (73), *Hercostomus* (47), *Tachytrechus* (16), *Lichtwardtia* (16), *Dolichopus* (4), *Argyrochlamys* (3), *Polymedon* (3) and *Ludovicus* (1). The well-known fauna of Congo (Kinshasa) comprises 68 species; South Africa numbers 30, Tanzania 22, Kenya 18, Ivory Coast 18, Uganda 17, Cameroon 16, Nigeria 13, Malawi 9, Angola 8 and Namibia 7. Only 7 species were recorded from Madagascar, 3 from the Seychelles and 2 from Mauritius. The most interesting distribution patterns of species are as follows: *Argyrochlamys impudicus* Lamb - Seychelles, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Chagos Archipelago; *Dolichopus festivus* Haliday - Europe, Ivory Coast; *D. flavocrinitus* Becker - Egypt, Turkmenistan, Senegal; *D. sabinus* Haliday - Europe, Tanzania. *Paracleius emascuatus* Parent - Congo (Kinshasa), Ivory Coast, St. Helena; *Tachytrechus tessellatus* Macquart - Senegal, Gambia, Cape Verde Is., Nigeria, Cameroon, Congo (Kinshasa), Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya, Aldabra, Ethiopia, South Africa, Swaziland, Malawi, Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Mozambique, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Socotra; Egypt, Israel; Oriental Region, New Caledonia.

Key words: Diptera, Dolichopodidae, Dolichopodinae, Tropical Africa.

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