



Genus: *Anasimyia*



Anasimyia lunulata male (© Sander Bot, licensed to the EU under CC-BY-NC 4.0)

Genus: *Anasimyia* Schiner, 1864

Family: Syrphidae

Subfamily: Eristalinae

Tribe: Eristalini

Number of species of this genus found in Europe: 5

Description

Head

Face concave below the antennal insertion and then convex in the ventral 1/2, without a defined round facial tubercle, yellow, with long yellow hairs laterally, densely yellow dusted except for the anteroventral area between the face and gena, which is black and partly shiny. Frons yellow anteriorly, black posteriorly, densely yellow dusted. Lunule yellow, shiny. Eyes broadly dichoptic in males and females, bare. Ocellar triangle broad. Antennal segments brown to orange; arista bare, orange to light brown.

Thorax

Scutum black, with long erect yellow hairs, black dusted with two submedial longitudinal grey stripes of dusting, and a grey-dusted stripe on each lateral margin. Scutellum mostly yellow, translucent, black laterally. Pleuron black, densely grey dusted and yellow-haired. Metasternum with long hairs.

Wings

Hyaline, entirely microtrichose; wing vein R_{4+5} strongly looped into cell r_{4+5} and wing cell r_1 open at wing margin; wing vein M_1 parallel to wing margin and usually meeting vein R_{4+5} at an acute or right angle.

Legs

Hind femur enlarged, thickened, with black setae on the ventral surface and a patch of black setae anterobasally; colour yellow, with an anterior black spot and a large posterior black spot covering most of its posterior surface, not connected dorsally.

Hind tibia with an anterobasal ridge with black setae and an apical tooth-shaped projection.

Abdomen

Tergites 1–4 largely black in background colour except lateral margins and the background of the dusted spots; heavily dusted, the dusting black on the black areas and grey on the lateral margins, where the background colour is yellow; in addition, oblique or transversal grey dusting markings are present on tergites 2–4.



Anasimyia contracta male (© Sander Bot, licensed to the EU under CC-BY-NC 4.0)

Genitalia

Epandrium with elongated surstylus, rectangular, conical or arrow-shaped, with a relatively large cercus (half to almost the same size as the surstylus) usually rhomboid in shape. Hypandrium massive, curved on the inner margin (in lateral view), with the tip rounded or oblong.

General comments on identification to species level

Anasimyia species have short antennae (shorter than face) with a subbasal arista, face mostly yellow, eyes dichoptic in males and females, longitudinal grey-dusted stripes on the scutum, wing vein R_{4+5} strongly looped into cell r_{4+5} , wing cell r_1 open at wing margin, and grey-dusted spots on abdominal tergites. *Anasimyia* is similar to several genera with similar wing venation and longitudinal grey-dusted strips on the scutum.

Differential diagnosis

Anasimyia differs from *Helophilus* by having a very short pterostigma, resembling a crossvein (elongate pterostigma, longer than broad, in *Helophilus*) and face medially dusted (face with a medial bare stripe in *Helophilus*); and it can be separated from *Lejops vittatus* by the shape and orientation of the grey-dusted spots on abdominal tergites - transversal or oblique in *Anasimyia* and completely longitudinal in *Lejops*.

Mesembriusperegrinus has the katepimeron hairy and the hind basitarsomere with globuliferous hairs basoventrally, while *Anasimyia* species have the katepimeron bare and no such globuliferous hairs on the hind basitarsomere.

Anasimyia is most similar to *Parhelophilus*, but it differs by having the hind tibia apicoventrally produced into an acute or rounded process (truncate in *Parhelophilus*) the hind tibia yellow usually with two dark rings (yellow with a single dark ring in *Parhelophilus*), and by having a long distance from the posterior ocellus to eye margin (in males at least twice the width of an ocellus, in females longer) while *Parhelophilus* has a shorter distance (in males equaling the width of an ocellus, in females up to twice the width of an ocellus).

Eurimyia lineata was considered in the past as a member of *Anasimyia*. It differs from *Anasimyia* species by having the face conically produced, narrowing apically almost to a point (in *Anasimyia* the face may be produced, but is not conical or pointed) and by the

colouration of the hind femur, which is laterally and medially black (in *Anasimyia* the dorsal surface of the hind femur is entirely yellow on basal 3/4 and laterally black).



Helophilus trivittatus male



Lejops vittatus male



Parhelophilus frutetorum male



Mesembrius peregrinus male hind leg lateral



Parhelophilus versicolor male hind leg lateral

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Geographical distribution and global diversity

There are five European species, widely distributed in Europe. While the countries in the Mediterranean Basin have just one or two species, those of central and northern Europe have more.

Presence in Europe

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Biology

The species of the genus *Anasimyia* are frequently found in marshy areas and wetlands, ponds and ditches, where they fly around the vegetation or over the water. The larvae are found in pools and ponds where decaying vegetable matter accumulates.



Type species: *Musca transfuga* Linnaeus, 1758

Common names:

NL – waterzweefliegen;

EN – Duckflies;

FI – rantasurrit;

NO – damblomsterfluer;

DE – damblomsterfluer;

SE – dammblomflugor

List of species found in Europe:

1. *Anasimyia contracta* Claussen & Torp, 1980
2. *Anasimyia femorata* Simić, 1987
3. *Anasimyia interpuncta* (Harris, 1776)
4. *Anasimyia lunulata* (Meigen, 1822)
5. *Anasimyia transfuga* (Linnaeus, 1758)

References

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Attributions

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