Pollinator Academy

Genus: *Caliprobola*

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

Genus: *Caliprobola* Rondani, 1845

Family: Syrphidae

Subfamily: Eristalinae

Tribe: Milesiini

Number of species of this genus found in Europe: 1

Description

Head

The face is almost vertical with an inconspicuous facial tubercle; its colour is yellow medially and black ventrolaterally. The gena are black with long yellow hairs. The face and frons are bare except for the yellow hairs along the eye margin on the ventrolateral part of the face. The face is dusted whitish-yellow on the contact area between the yellow and black part and along the eye margin. The frontal prominence is well developed with the lunule and frons yellow and shiny, except for the dusting along the eye margin. The head is holoptic and the eyes are bare. The antenna is yellow, and the third antennal segment is roundish; the arista is bare. The ocellar triangle is black with yellow hairs.

Thorax

The scutum and the scutellum are black in colour, except for the postpronotum which is yellow. The scutum and the scutellum have erect yellow hairs. The pleuron is black with yellow hairs. The posterior anepisternum has a tuft of long yellow hairs on the posterior margin. The metasternum is bare and the post metacoxal bridge is incomplete. The plumule is black or dark brown and the halters are yellow.

Wings

The wing is yellow-tinged with some infuscation in the top half. The wing cell r_1 open towards the wing margin and the wing cell r_{4+5} is closed before apex. The vein R_{4+5} with the last section (i.e., the vein section apically to the junction with vein M_1) longer than crossvein h and usually longer than crossvein r-m. The crossvein r-m is oblique and located after (more apically than) the middle of cell dm. The alula is broader than cell c.

Legs

The tibiae and the tarsomeres of all legs are yellow and have yellow hairs. The last tarsal segments are often darkened.

Abdomen

The abdominal tergites are black and black dusted, with adpressed yellow hairs on the posterior margin. The tergites 2, 3 and 4 have a metallic-green lustre, and they have two black dust bands. One of these bands occurs on the anterior margin of the tergite and the other dust band is located before the apical margin of the tergite and is interrupted medially. The tergites 2–4 have erect yellow hairs, except for the adpressed yellow hairs on the posterior margin and on the middle line of each tergite.

General comments on identification to species level

Caliprobola is quickly recognized by the very characteristic metallic green and black abdominal colour pattern, the golden adpressed hairs on the posterior margin of tergites, the yellow face (black laterally) and the presence of a frontal prominence. The tibiae and tarsomeres are yellow (last tarsomere usually darkened) and the wings are yellow-tinged with some infuscation in the top half.

Geographical distribution and global diversity

There is one species, *Caliprobola speciosa*, which is widely distributed from Denmark to the Mediterranean Basin and from southern England eastwards to Central Europe. Also in the European parts of Russia and into Eastern Siberia. A second species, *C. aurea* Sack, 1910, occurs in Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Iran.

Presence in Europe

Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation - European Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom

Biology

The genus occurs in forest, deciduous forest and evergreen oak forest with overmature and senescent trees.

Type species: *Syrphus speciosus* Rossi, 1790

Common names:
EN – Wood Flies;
SV – praktblomflugor

List of species found in Europe:

1. *Caliprobola speciosa* (Rossi, 1790)

References

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Attributions

This factsheet was created by Taxo-Fly and is one of the outputs from a network of European Initiatives dedicated to pollinators, such as the EU Pollinator Monitoring Scheme (EUPoMS), the Preparatory Action for EU Pollinator Monitoring Scheme and Indicators (SPRING project), the Horizon 2020 Europe research projects (POSHBEE, SAFEGUARD), and European National action plans for pollinators.

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Taxo-Fly Pollinator Academy Funded by the European Commission