



Genus: *Chrysosyrphus*



Chrysosyrphus nasutus male habitus

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Genus: *Chrysosyrphus* Sedman, 1965

Family:

Syrphidae

Subfamily:

Eristalinae

Tribe:

Brachyopini

Number of species of this genus found in Europe: 2

Description

Head

The head is black with grey dust on the face and vertex. The face has a characteristic shape, which is rather plump and squarish with the lower part extended antero-dorsally. The face and parafacia are long haired. The face of the male has a small facial tubercle that is clearly demarcated and wide. The lower part of the face (epistome) has a clear extension antero-dorsally which is almost as large as the facial tubercle (in the male). The parafacia are wide, but not as prominent as in *Cheilosia*. The frons is shiny black with a deep medial depression. The lunula is black. The ocellar triangle is quite small, with long hairs, and occupies almost the entire vertex. The occiput has long bristles like hairs. The antenna, which is black and short, is inserted at the dorsal 1/3 of the face and has quite long bristles on the pedicel. The basoflagellomere is rounded. The eyes are bare, and in the male they are holoptic. The eye-contiguity is long, around 2 times longer than the length of the ocellar triangle.

Thorax

The thorax is dull black, with greyish dusting and hairs that are rather long and black and white coloured. The postpronotum is hairy.

Wings

The wings are entirely microtrichose, dark-brownish infuscated and with dark-brown to black veins. The stigma is dark-brown. The vein R_{4+5} is straight. Cell r_1 is open.

Crossvein r-m is inserted on the basal 1/3 of cell dm. Vein M₁ meets vein R₄₊₅ at a right angle. The calypters are light greyish and the haltere are whitish.

Legs

The legs are slender and entirely black with predominantly black hairs.

Abdomen

The abdomen is dull black, broadly oval, and white and black haired. The sternites with greyish dust and predominantly white haired.

General comments on identification to species level

Differential diagnosis

This genus comprises smallish (7-9 mm), entirely dull black species with a slightly dusted face, frons and vertex, together with dusting on the pleurae and sternites. The legs are entirely black and have no special characteristics. The wing is darkened basally and has black veins. The face is hairy with a characteristic shape that is somewhat plump and squarish with the lower part (epistome) extended antero-dorsally. The male has a small facial tubercle.

The genus *Chrysosyrphus* can be differentiated from the other Brachyopina (old Chrysogastrini) genera (*Chrysogaster*, *Lejogaster*, *Melanogaster*, *Orthonevra* and *Riponnensia*) by the following characteristics: The lateral part of the face is extensively hairy whereas in the other genera hairs are confined to an area close to the eye margin. The antennae are inserted in the upper 1/3 of the head whereas in the other genera the antennae are placed almost in the middle. The pedicel has bristly black hairs anterodorsally that are longer than the depth of the pedicel whereas in the other genera these bristles are much shorter. The arista is short haired whilst in the other

genera the arista is bare. A subscutellar hair fringe is present in *Chrysosyrphus* but is absent in all other genera.

In the field, the species of *Chrysosyrphus* can be confused with other black species such as *Cheilisia* spp. or *Pipiza* spp.. *Pipiza*, however, has a flat face and no facial tubercle or a pronounced mouthedge, whereas *Chrysosyrphus* males have a facial tubercle and the females have a pronounced mouth edge. Meanwhile, *Cheilisia* spp. have broad parafacia unlike *Chrysosyrphus* spp. in which the parafacia are narrow.



Chrysosyrphus nigra male
head lateral



Chrysogaster virescens
male head lateral



Riponnensia morini male
head lateral



Melanogaster parumplicata
female head lateral

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Geographical distribution and global diversity

This genus is found in the Palearctic and the Nearctic, with about 8 species described. Kassebeer (1995) reviewed the Palearctic species, and recognised three species. In Europe two species are found in Northern Europe: northern Norway, Sweden and Finland, northern parts of European Russia and furthermore across Asia through northern Siberia to Kamchatka. In Siberia and Alaska the third species is found (Violovitsch 1978).

Presence in Europe

Finland, Norway, Russian Federation - European Russia, Sweden.

Biology

Adult behavior and flower preferences. This genus inhabits wetland/forest; aapa mire within boreal *Pinus sylvestris*/*Betula* forest and in taiga wetlands.

Nothing is known about adult behavior although they have been reported to visit the flowers of *Caltha membranacea*, *Dryas octopetala*, *Ledum palustre*, *Rhododendron tomentosum*, *Rubus chamaemorus*, *Cerastium*, *Salix* and *Taraxacum*.

Reproduction and larval biology. Not known, but there is a record of observed oviposition in wet moss at the water edge, in a palsa mire.

Seasonal life cycle. Probably univoltine, flying from mid-June to mid-July.



Type species: n. n. for *Barberiella* Shannon 1922, type for *Barberiella* was *Chrysogaster chilosoides* Shannon

Common names:

FI - suovaskiset;

NB - finnmarkblomsterfluer;

SV - fjällblomflugor

List of species found in Europe:

1. *Chrysosyrphus nasutus* (Zetterstedt, 1838)

2. *Chrysosyrphus nigra* (Zetterstedt, 1843)

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