



Genus: *Eriozona*



Eriozona syrphoides male habitus

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Genus: *Eriozona* Schiner, 1860

Family: Syrphidae

Subfamily: Syrphinae

Tribe: Syrphini

Number of species of this genus found in Europe: 1

Description

Head

The face is yellow with yellow facial tubercle without any median stripe. The male is holoptic, the female dichoptic, both with densely haired eyes. The frontal triangle is black in ground colour, widely yellowish dusted along the eyes. The vertical triangle is narrow and black, only slightly dusted. The antenna is all black with paler, brownish-black virtually bare arista. The basoflagellomere is about 1.8 times as long as high, distinctly longer than scape and pedicel together.

Thorax

The thorax is all dull black in ground colour, except the whitish-yellow scutellum. It is covered in dense long erect hairs that are mostly intensively black, but whitish-yellow hairs form transverse stripes over the anterior part of the scutum and over the scutellum, these stripes overlap at the pleura and base of the abdomen. The anterior anepisternum is bare and the metasternum has only a single transverse row of several long black hairs anteriorly, otherwise appears bare. The upper and lower katepisternal hair

patches are narrowly joined posteriorly, otherwise broadly separated.

Wings

The wing has usually two brown to dark-brown areas on the otherwise hyaline wing membrane, first in the middle of the wing and second at the extreme base of the wing. Wing membrane outside of vein M_1 and cross vein $dm-m$ is rather narrow and not undulating. Vein R_{4+5} is almost straight. The upper surface of the lower lobe of the calypter is without long erect hairs.

Legs

The legs are simple, without modifications. They are mostly reddish-yellow with the basal parts of the femora darker, reddish-brown to black.

Abdomen

This is broadly oval, convex above and with marginal sulcus. The abdomen is black in ground colour without yellow markings and with a reddish-yellow posterior apex. The abdomen is covered in long dense erect hairs that are whitish-yellow at the base of the abdomen, intensively black around the middle of the abdomen and reddish-yellow on the reddish-yellow apex of the abdomen.



Eriozona syrphoides male habitus



Eriozona syrphoides female head



Eriozona syrphoides female abdomen

General comments on identification to species level

Differential diagnosis

The genus *Eriozona* is a small genus of large robust bumblebee-like species with densely and long-haired eyes and all body. Its body is black in ground colour with the exception of a red abdominal apex and whitish-yellow scutellum (in European species). It is the only one among the Syrphini that closely resembles a species of bumblebee with its hair colour pattern (Vockeroth 1969). All other Syrphini normally have, mostly transverse, yellow or greyish-white pattern on the abdomen, including superficially similar *Leucozona*, that has tergite 2 largely yellowish-white in ground colour. However, *Eriozona* has a bare postpronotum and a yellow face like other

related genera of Syrphini, which distinguish this genus from other superficially similar bumblebee-like hoverflies from unrelated genera, e.g. *Eristalis*, *Mallota* or *Criorhina*.



Leucozona lucorum male habitus



Criorhina ranunculi male habitus



Mallota fuciformis male habitus



Eristalis oestracea male habitus

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Geographical distribution and global diversity

Only 4 species are consigned to this genus, distributed in the Palearctic and Oriental regions. One species is widespread throughout the boreal and temperate forest zone of the Palearctic region, two are known from the northern Oriental region (India, Taiwan) and another new species was recently described from China on the border between the Oriental and Palearctic regions (Vockeroth 1969, Peck 1988, Knutson *et al.* 1975, Huo *et al.* 2007, Barkalov & Mutin 2018).

Presence in Europe

Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France - Mainland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Isle of Man, Italy - Mainland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation - European Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Biology

Eriozona contains largely arboreal species, larva which are predators of aphids on trees, e.g. on *Picea*. Adults often visit flowers along ridges or edges of conifer plantations, and mixed and also deciduous woodland (Speight 2020a, Bartsch *et al.* 2009b, Kula 1983, Ball *et al.* 2011).



Type species: *Syrphus oestriformis* Meigen, 1822

Common names:

FI - kimalaiskirvarit;

SV - barrblomflugor;

NB - narskogblomsterfluer

List of species found in Europe:

1. *Eriozona syrphoides* (Fallén, 1817)

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