

Milichiidae

Irina Brake (1998 Checklist: László Papp)

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Diagnosis: Small, mostly black acalyptrate flies. Body shiny or more or less grey dusted. The family contains about 400 extant and 10 fossil species in 18 genera and has a worldwide distribution.

Most Swiss species can be recognised by the presence of two lateroclinate orbital setae and two medioclinate frontal setae. Proboscis often elongate and palpi in some species enlarged. Costa with humeral and subcostal breaks.

Biology: The behavior of several species of Milichiidae is very specialised. For example, in some species the adults are myrmecophilous, whilst in some others they are klepto-parasitic, feeding on the prey of spiders or predaceous insects. Adults can be collected in meadows, at the edges of or in forests, in stables or houses. The larvae develop in diverse decaying plant and animal matter, like compost, excrement or carrion.

Nomenclature and classification: According to Brake (2019).

Number of species: CH: 18 (1998 Checklist: 17),
BE: 9, CZ: 22, DE: 15, IT: 9, NL: 16, UK: 19, Europe: 43, World: ~400.

Level of faunistic knowledge in Switzerland: Good.

General references: Brake (2019).

References to the Swiss fauna: Papp (1998).

Checklist

Desmometopa Loew, 1865

- *m-nigrum* (Zetterstedt, 1848) !
- *sordida* (Fallén, 1820) !
- *varipalpis* Malloch, 1927 !

Leptomometopa Becker, 1903

- *latipes* (Meigen, 1830) !

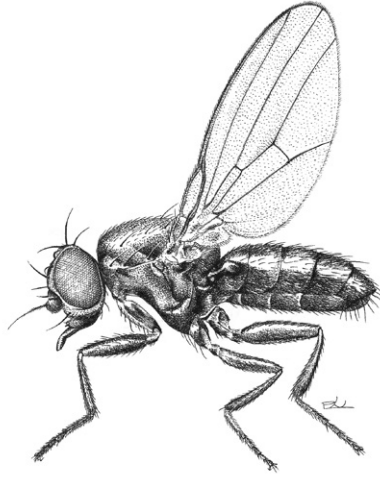
Madiza Fallén, 1810

- *britannica* Hennig, 1937 !
- *glabra* Fallén, 1820 !

Milichia Meigen, 1830

- *ludens* (Wahlberg, 1847) !
- *speciosa* Meigen, 1830 !

Neophyllomyza Melander, 1913



Desmometopa sordida,
male (CMPD3, p.315).

- *acyglossa* (Villeneuve, 1920) !
- *leanderi* Hendel, 1924 !

Phyllomyza Fallén, 1810

- *donisthorpei* Schmitz, 1923 !
- *equitans* (Hendel, 1919) !
- *flavitaris* (Meigen, 1830) !
- *formicae* Schmitz, 1923 !
- *melania* (Hendel, 1919) !
- *rubricornis* Schmitz, 1923 !
- *securicornis* Fallén, 1823 !
- *tetragona* Hendel, 1924 !

References

- Brake I. 2019. Milichiidae online. <http://milichiidae.info> (Accessed 28 Dec 2019).
- Papp L. 1998. 87. Milichiidae. In: Merz B., Bächli G., Haenni J.-P. & Gonthier Y. (eds). Diptera - Checklist. Fauna Helvetica 1: 295. CSCF / SEG, Neuchâtel, 369 pp.