

Mythicomyiidae

Jean-Paul Haenni (1998 Checklist: Gabriele Miksch [Bombyliidae, part])

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Diagnosis: Minute to small flies (0.6-5mm), body generally hump-backed, devoid of pilosity, eyes with an indentation on inner margin; proboscis projecting, palps absent or much reduced; wings with R_{4+5} unforked, held flat on the abdomen when at rest.

Biology. Adults are mainly found feeding on flowers. Steppic biotopes and low thermophilous grasslands are the preferred habitats of many species. The immature stages are still very poorly known. Larvae of some genera feed on ootheca of Orthoptera, or on larvae of terricolous Hymenoptera, those of *Glbellula* are ants inquiline in *Formica* nests.

Nomenclature and classification: The mythicomyiid flies have been placed in the past in various families (Empididae, Stratiomyidae, Rhagionidae) until they were considered as a subfamily of Bombyliidae (« microbombyliids »), as was the case in the 1998 Checklist (Miksch 1998). Zaitzev (1992) elevated them to family level, a view that is now generally accepted (Evenhuis 2017).

Number of species: CH: 1 (1998 Checklist: 2 [Bombyliidae, part]), CZ: 1, ES: 19, FR: 5, NL: 1, PL: 2, SK: 1, Europe: 30, World: ~380.

Level of faunistic knowledge in Switzerland: Good, but additional species might be present.

General references: Anderson 1984 [biology], Cocquempot & Martinez 2022 [general, faunistics], Evenhuis 2002 [world catalogue], 2017 [general], Greathead & Evenhuis 1997 [general, key to Palaearctic genera], Withers et al. 2017 [nomenclature, biology], Zaitzev 1992 [systematics].

References to the Swiss fauna: Miksch (1998).

Checklist

Glbellula Bezzi, 1902

- *arctica* (Zetterstedt, 1838) ! [1]

= *unicolor* Strobl, 1910 N1

Notes

N1 *Glbellula unicolor*, reported as Swiss in the 1998 Checklist (Miksch 1998) was synonymised with *G. arctica* (Zetterstedt, 1838) by Evenhuis, in Withers et al. (2017).

Species records

[1] TI, Mte. S. Giorgio, ob Meride, 18.5.2006, leg. Bernhard Merz

References

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