

RESEARCH REPORT

Vasumathi Grass gall-midge (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae)

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ABSTRACT

This contribution report of the decryptions of new species, *Lasioptera Kamthensis*, reared from the ear heads of *Bothriochloa persture* (Wild.) A camus, in the village campus, Kamtha, Nanded. The new midge can be distinguished in the number of antennal segments absence of Vein 1+2, Subdorsal plates being entire and oblong lobes of the ovipositor.

Keyword: *Lasioptera Kamthensis* Sp. Nov, Nanded, India

INTRODUCTION

Lasioptera Kamthensis Sp. Nov. (figs.1 -10)

Male : Body 1.02 mm long, PALPUS : quadric articulate, sparsely setose, short; first segment short, indistinct in the preparation; second segment cylindrical, length 1.80x its maximum thickness (13:5); third segment cylindrical, 3.02x its maximum thickness (15:00); fourth segment cylindrical, longest of all, length 5.20x its maximum thickness (21:0). Antenna: less than half the length of the body, with 2+10, sessile, cylindrical segments with two whorls of long setae, low circumfila; scape cup-shaped (17:10); pedicel globose (13:14); third segment (20) confluent with and longer than fourth, enlargement with a very small basal prolongation (4:4), Length 1.60x its maximum thickness (15:7); fourth segment (15) with enlargement 1.80x as long as thick (15:6); fifth segment nearly similar to the fourth; sixth to ninth segments nearly similar to each other and shorter than fourth (14:12); tenth to twelfth segments (12) similar and shorter than ninth; penultimate segment (11) slightly shorter than twelfth; terminal segment (12) slightly longer than penultimate, conical, length 1.72x its maximum thickness (12:8) wing hyaline, 2.52x as long as broad (50:22); costa scaled, R₅ meeting wing and interrupting at its union; M₁₊₂ absent, Cu forked legs thickly hairy, metatarsus short (7), second tarsal segment longest of all (50), terminal tarsal segment longer than metatarsus (10); claw dentate on all legs, empodium 0.52 the length of the claw (5:11); genitalia: basal clasp segment cylindrical, 3.22x as long as broad (48:16), with finely setose rounded basal lobe; terminal clasp segment slender gradually tapering towards the tip, ending in a tooth, length 4.30x its maximum thickness (26:4); dorsal plate broadly and deeply incised, lobes triangular; subdorsal plate shorter and narrower than dorsal, entire; adeagus slender rounded apically, length 6.20x its maximum thickness (25:5), surrounded by paramere lobes, tips of the latter bifid.

Female : Body 2.12mm long including ovipositor palpus as in male. Antenna : less than $\frac{1}{4}$ the body length, with 2+14 cylindrical, sessile segments, low circumfila, two whorls of long setae; scape and pedicel as in male; third segment (22) confluent with and longer than fourth, enlargement with a very small basal prolongation (2:5), length 1.63x its maximum thickness (18:12); fourth segments (18) with enlargement 1.72x as long as thick (17:12); fifth segment (16), shorter than fourth; sixth to tenth segments similar to each other and slightly shorter than fifth (15); eleventh and twelfth segments similar

and shorter than tenth (13); thirteenth & fourteenth segments shorter than twelfth (12); penultimate segment (12) as long as fourteenth; terminal segment (12), conical, slightly longer than penultimate and 1.38x as long as thick; wing, legs and claw as in male. Ovipositor nearly as long as abdomen, protractile, typical lasiopteran type, dorsal lamella 3.14x as long as broad (50:14), sparsely setose, densely hairy at the tip, with a row of recurved hooks at the subapical region ventral lamella very small, densely hairy

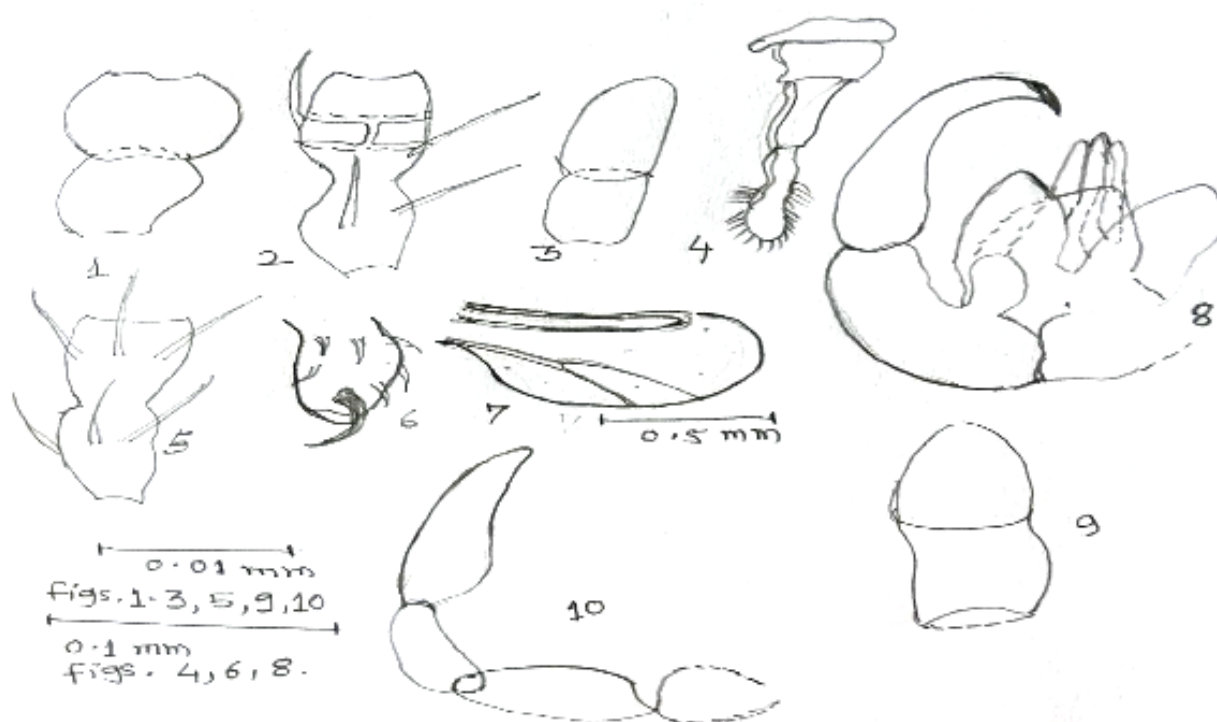


Fig. 1-10 *Lasioptera Kamthensis* Sp.nov.

1-3, 6-8, and 10, Male : 4, 5 and 9, Female.

1. Scape and Pedicel, 2. Third and fourth antennal segments, 3. Terminal two antennal segments, 4. Ovipositor, 5. Third and fourth antennal segments, 6. Claw, 7. Wing, 8. Genitalia, 9. Terminal two antennal segments, 10. Palpus.

HOLOTYPE: One male dissected and mounted on slide labeled as reared from ear heads of kamthensis pertura (L.) (wild.) A. campus Kamtha village campus, Nanded, Maharashtra, India, 19 IX 2018. Coll. S.S.Bhalerao. Type slides and other material are retained, for the present, in authors collections at Kamtha, Maharashtra, India.

PARATYPE: One male and one female dissected and mounted on slides, many males and females in alcohol, data same as in Holotype.

ALLOTYPE: One female dissected and mounted on slide labeled as in Holotype.

REMARK

This species very closely resembles *L. tomentosae* (Grove, 1967) but differ in the (i) different proportion of palpal segments, (ii) number of antennal segments, (iii) absence of vein M_{1+2} , (iv) Sudorsal plate being entire, and (v) ovipositor lobe being 3.14x as long as broad.

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