

**A new microbombyliid,
Cyrtosia persica GHARALI & EVENHUIS spec. nov.
 (Bombylioidea: Mythicomyiidae: Platypyginae)
 from northern Iran**

[Eine neue Mikrobombyliide, *Cyrtosia persica* GHARALI & EVENHUIS spec. nov.
 (Bombylioidea: Mythicomyiidae: Platypyginae), aus dem Nord-Iran]

by

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| Abstract | A new species of the genus <i>Cyrtosia</i> , <i>C. persica</i> GHARALI & EVENHUIS spec. nov., is described and illustrated from northern Iran. The diagnostic features of the new species and a key to species of the genus <i>Cyrtosia</i> known from Iran are provided. |
| Key words | Bombylioidea, Mythicomyiidae, Platypyginae, <i>Cyrtosia</i> , Palaearctic Region, Middle East, Iran, taxonomy, new species, key |
| Zusammenfassung | Eine neue Art der Gattung <i>Cyrtosia</i> , <i>C. persica</i> GHARALI & EVENHUIS spec. nov., wird aus dem Nord-Iran beschrieben und abgebildet. Die diagnostischen Merkmale der neuen Art sowie ein Bestimmungsschlüssel der <i>Cyrtosia</i> -Arten des Iran werden zur Verfügung gestellt. |
| Stichwörter | Bombylioidea, Mythicomyiidae, Platypyginae, <i>Cyrtosia</i> , paläarktische Region, Mittlerer Osten, Iran, Taxonomie, neue Art, Bestimmungsschlüssel |

Introduction

The mythicomyiid genus *Cyrtosia* PERRIS, 1839, of the subfamily Platypyginae is a moderately large genus of microbombyliids (35 known species) that occurs in the Afrotropical and Palaearctic Regions with the majority of species found in the latter (EVENHUIS 2002, 2009). One species from Australia (*C. parvissima* ROBERTS, 1929) has been originally described in the genus *Cyrtosia* but belongs in a new genus (to be described in a separate study) in the subfamily Psiloderoidinae. *Cyrtosia* is absent from the fauna of the Oriental Region and the New World. *Cyrtosia* along with four other genera, *Ahessia* GREATHEAD & EVENHUIS, 2001, *Cephalodromia* BECKER, 1914, *Cyrtiopsis* SÉGUY, 1930 and *Platypygus* LOEW, 1844 in the Platypyginae are characterized by presence of vein R_{2+3} that reaches the wing margin closer to the end of vein R_{4+5} than vein R_1 . *Cyrtosia* is distinguished from its relatives by two characters: an open discal cell and the normal postgena (GREATHEAD & EVENHUIS 2001). The biology of the immature stages of this genus are not known.

The first comprehensive review of this genus in the Palaearctic by ENGEL (1933) is very old and without satisfactory descriptions and useful illustrations. ENGEL (1933) described two new species and three varieties and provided a comprehensive key to all except three species known at that time. Two varieties were later raised to full species (EVENHUIS 2002). In the review of Egyptian Bombyliidae, EFFLATOUN (1945) described four new species of *Cyrtosia* and included nine species in a key to Egyptian species of *Cyrtosia*. SÉGUY (1930a, 1930b, 1949) described six new species in three separate papers, in the last of these he presented a key to species of this