

A New Species of the Genus *Helina* (Diptera, Muscidae) from China

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Abstract A new muscid fly, *Helina argentifrons*, is described from mountainous region in eastern Liaoning, China. The new species is close to *H. yanbeiensis* HSUE et WANG, but distinguished from it by the smaller and thinner body, the eyes having no minute hairs, the interfrontalia and parafrontalia with silvery pollen, absence of prealar bristle, and some other characters.

Eurasian species of the muscid genus *Helina* ROBENEAU-DESVOIDY, 1830, have been studied by RINGDAHL (1956), HENNIG (1957–'58), EMDEN (1965), SHINONAGA and KANO (1971), FAN (1992), and others. In his "Key to the Common Flies of China", FAN (1992) dealt with 69 species, of which 40 have their type localities in China. The authors examined a collection of flies made by Mr. W. SUN in the mountainous area of Liaoning Province, and found one new species of the genus *Helina*, which will be described in the following lines.

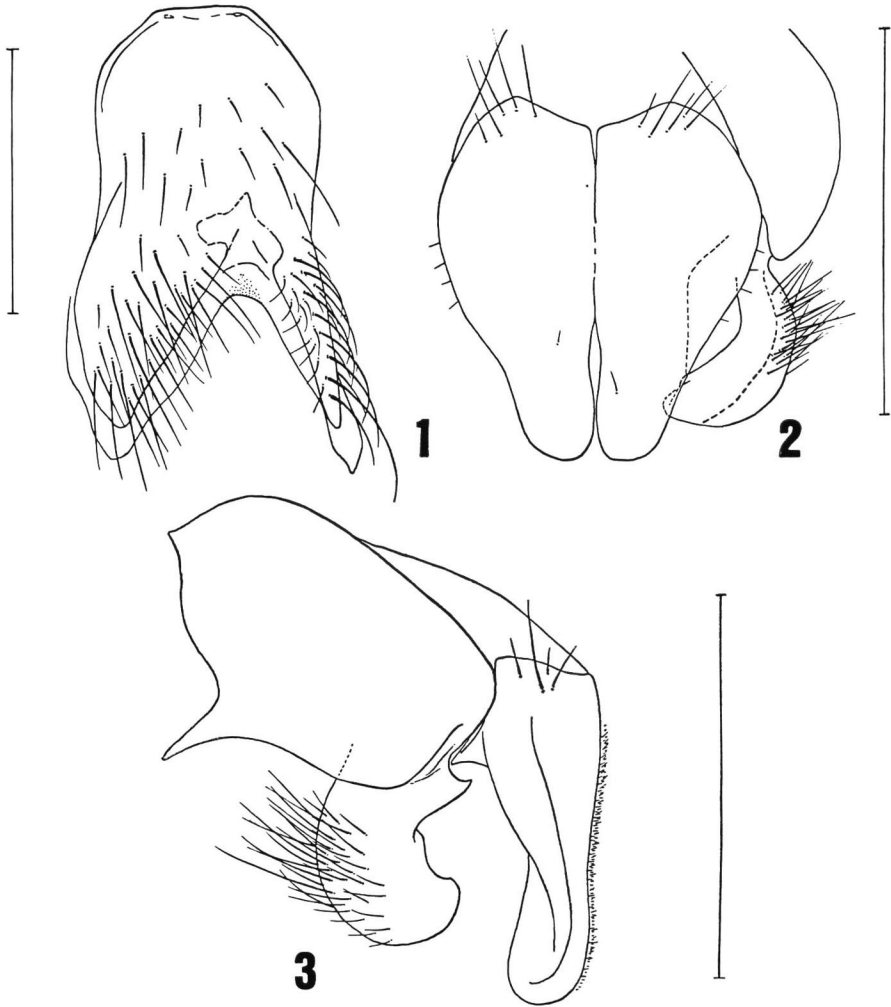
The type specimens are deposited in the Department of Biology, Shenyang Normal College, Shenyang, China, except for one paratype, which is kept in the National Science Museum, Tokyo.

Helina argentifrons sp. nov.

[Chinese name: Yine-yangying]

(Figs. 1–3)

♂. Body length 6.5–7.5 mm. Head: Eyes bare; frons, parafacialia and genae densely covered with silvery pollen, frons open, about one-eighth the head width at narrowest part and one-seventh at vertex; in fact no distinct line of demarcation between interfrontalia and parafrontalia, the former about twice the width of the latter; 3 inferior orbitals situated on the lower part of parafrontalia, without superior orbitals; parafacialia about 1.4 times the width of third antennal segment; antennae



Figs. 1–3. *Helina argentifrons* sp. nov., ♂. 1, Dorsal view of 5th sternite; 2, posterior view of terminalia; 3, lateral view of terminalia. Scale: 0.5 mm.

hairs on arista as long as or a little shorter than the width of third antennal segment; epistoma not protruding; vibrissal angle behind frons at lunule; hairs on genae and metacephalon black, gena about one-fifth the eye height and mostly with 2 to 3 up-curved setae on the anterior part; proboscis short, palpi black and slender.

Thorax: Scutum black with gray pollen and 4 obscure dark longitudinal stripes; acrostichals in 3 to 4 rows on the prescutum; dorsocentrals 2+3 (one specimen with 4 on one side); prealar absent; scutellum concolorous as scutum, lower halves of lateral and ventral surfaces bare; notopleura, prosternum, propleura, pteropleura, and hy-

black, the length of 3rd segment about twice the 2nd; arista short plumose, the longest popleura with beret bare; sternopleurals 1:2; squamae yellowish, lower squama tongue-like.

Wings: Hyaline; basicosta yellow; costal spine longer than r-m cross vein; subcosta sinuous on the middle part; vein r_1 and radial node bare; vein m_{1+2} moderately straight, near the cross-veins unclouded; halteres yellow.

Legs: Tibiae yellow, other segments black; fore tibia with a posterolateral bristle on the middle part; mid femur with about 4 strong posteroventral bristles on the basal half, with 1 anterolateral bristle subapically; mid tibia with 2 posterolateral bristles; hind femur with a row of bristles on the anteroventral, anterodorsal and posteroventral surfaces, respectively; hind tibia with 1 fine bristle on the anteroventral surface, 1 bristle on the middle part of the anterodorsal surface, usually with 1 seta on the sub-basal part of the anterodorsal surface.

Abdomen: Long conic, black with densely gray pollen, a pair of dark long spots on the 3rd, 4th and 5th tergites, respectively, between the paired spots usually with a black linear stripe; first sternite bare.

Terminalia brown, as in Figs. 1-3.

♀. Unknown.

Holotype: ♂. Benxi, Liaoning, 25 May, 1984, coll. W. SUN.

Paratypes: 3 ♂. Same data as for holotype.

Remarks. This species is closely related to *Helina yanbeiensis* HSUE et WANG, 1982, but it differs from the latter in the following characters: body smaller and thinner; eyes without sparse minute hairs; frons a little less than twice the width of third antennal segment; interfrontalia and parafrontalia with silvery pollen; arista short plumose; prealar bristle absent; mid tibia with 2 bristles on the posterolateral surface.

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