

SYRPHIDAE COLLECTED MOSTLY IN SOUTHERN AREAS OF THE OKANAGAN VALLEY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

D. A. ALLAN¹

ABSTRACT

A list of 39 species of adult Syrphidae in 18 genera is presented with their hosts and month of capture. The specimens were collected in 1967 and 1968, mostly in the vicinity of Oliver, Osoyoos, and Mt. Kobau in the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia.

Increased interest in the biological control of orchard insects and mites in recent years has focused attention on the potential value of the Syrphidae as predators. Most of the species frequent flowers and feed on nectar and pollen so that many have a dual role as pollinators. Most of our knowledge of the Syrphidae of British Columbia is due to the efforts of R.C. Osburn. His first list (1904) contained about 80 species and his second (1907) more than 125. Subsequently, Anderson (1915) listed 7 species from the Atlin district, Venables (1929) 3 species from the Okanagan Valley, Foster (1943) 4 species from Vancouver, and Foxlee (1957) 65 species from Robson.

A survey of the Syrphidae in the

Okanagan Valley was begun in 1967 and continued in 1968 to determine the species that, in future work, might prove promising as predators and pollinators. Most of the collections were made in southern areas of the Valley near the International Boundary in the vicinity of Oliver, Osoyoos, and Mt. Kobau. Oliver and Osoyoos are situated in the Valley at about 1,000 feet (305m) above sea level; Mt. Kobau lies just to the northwest of Osoyoos at an altitude of about 6150 feet (1,876m).

Dr. J. R. Vockeroth, Entomology Research Institute, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ontario, identified the specimens. Thirty-nine species in 18 genera have been collected so far. These are listed alphabetically below.

¹ British Columbia Department of Agriculture, Oliver, British Columbia.

References

- Anderson, E. M. 1915. Insects recorded in the Atlin District (Northern British Columbia) during the summer of 1914. *Proc. Entomol. Soc. Brit. Columbia* 6: 122-132.
- Foster, R. E. 1943. Insects active throughout the winter at Vancouver, B.C. Part II: Lists of the Orthoptera, Dermaptera, Homoptera, Hemiptera, Diptera, and Hymenoptera. *Proc. Entomol. Soc. Brit. Columbia* 40: 32-34.
- Foxlee, H. R. 1957. Diptera taken at Robson, B.C. *Proc. Entomol. Soc. Brit. Columbia* 53:34-39.
- Osburn, R. C. 1904. The Diptera of British Columbia. Second part — The Syrphidae. *Can. Entomol.* 36:23-220.
- Osburn, R. C. 1907. The Syrphidae of British Columbia. *Bull. Entomol. Soc. Brit. Columbia* 8:1-3.
- Venables, E. P. 1929. Observations on the woolly aphid of the apple *Eriosoma lanigerum* Hausm). *Proc. Entomol. Soc. Brit. Columbia* 26:28-33.

Species	Number of Specimens Collected	Place collected	Host	Date
<i>Asemomyrphus polygrammus</i> (Lw.)	1	Osoyoos	Wild flower	July
<i>Carpocallis stegna</i> (Say)	11	Osoyoos, Oliver	Dandelion, garden flower, cherry flowers	April-Nov.; mostly in May
<i>Dasyrphus creper</i> (Snow)	2	Mt. Kabau	Dandelion	July
<i>Epistrophe grossulariae</i> (Mg.)	1	Osoyoos	Dandelion	May
<i>Eristalis arbustorum</i> (L.)	1	Osoyoos	Mustard	June
<i>E. hirtus</i> Lw.	9	Osoyoos, Oliver	Dandelion, wild flower, garden flower	July-Nov.
<i>E. latifrons</i> Lw.	1	Osoyoos	Garden flower	Sept.
<i>E. nemorum</i> (L.)	2	Oliver, Mt. Kobau	Dandelion, wild flowers	July & Sept.
<i>E. obscurus</i> Lw.	1	Oliver	Garden flower	Sept.
<i>E. tenax</i> (L.)	33	Osoyoos, Oliver, Mt. Kobau	Dandelion, golden rod, mustard, garden flower, chrysanthemum	May-Nov.; mostly in July & Aug.
<i>Eumerus tuberculatus</i> Rond.	2	Oliver	Dandelion, garden flower	May & July
<i>Eupeodes volucris</i> O.S.	51	Osoyoos, Oliver	Dandelion, mustard, white dutch clover, orchard weeds, garden flowers, water cress, bindweed, morning glory, alfalfa.	May-July, mostly in June
<i>Helophilus fasciatus</i> Walk.	2	Osoyoos, Oliver	Dandelion, chrysanthemum	May & Nov.
<i>H. latifrons</i> Lw.	7	Osoyoos, Oliver	Dandelion, mustard, garden flower	May - Aug.
<i>H. lunulatus</i> Mg.	3	Oliver	Dandelion	May
<i>H. relictus</i> (Cn. & Fl.)	1	Oliver	Water cress	June
<i>Melangyna</i> sp.	1	Oliver	Wild flower	Sept.
<i>Metasyrphus aberrantis</i> (Cn.)	5	Mt. Kobau	Dandelion	July
<i>M. lapponicus</i> (Zett.)	10	Osoyoos, Oliver, Mt. Kobau	Dandelion, cherry flowers	April-July; mostly in July
<i>M. sp.</i>	2	Osoyoos	Orchard weeds, wild flowers	June & July
<i>M. venablesi</i> (Cn.)	58	Osoyoos, Oliver, Mt. Kobau	Dandelion, mustard, garden flower, white dutch clover, bindweed, wild flowers, morning glory, sow thistle, orchard weeds, water cress	April-Aug.; mostly in May and June

Neocnemodon sp.				Wild flower	July
Platycheirus albimanus (Fab.)	1	Pentiction		Dandelion	April & May
P. immarginatus (Zett.)	3	Osoyoos, Oliver		Dandelion	May
P. peltatoides Cn.	1	Oliver		Dandelion, garden flowers, pear flowers	May
P. quadratus (Say)	9	Oliver		Mustard	May
Scaeva pyrastris (L.)	1	Oliver		Dandelion, garden flowers, mustard, bindweed, wild flowers, morning glory, orchard weeds.	Feb., June, Sept. & Nov., mostly in June & July
	23	Osoyoos, Oliver Mt. Kobau		Wild flower	Sept.
Sericomyia chalcopyga Lw.	1	Osoyoos, Oliver		Dandelion, mustard, orchard weeds	April-July; mostly in May & June
Sphaerophoria robusta Cn	27	Osoyoos, Oliver		white dutch clover, garden flowers, water cress	June & Nov.
		Osoyoos, Oliver		Dandelion, garden flower	May & June
S. sulphuripes (Thom.)	2	Oliver		Dandelion, mustard	April & May
S. sp 1	2	Oliver		Dandelion, orchard weeds	May
S. sp 2	5	Oliver		Dandelion	April & June
S. sp. 3	1	Oliver		Dandelion, mustard	April - Nov., mostly in June
S. spp.	5	Oliver		Garden flowers, wild flowers, mustard, orchard weeds, baby's breath, daisies, water cress	April-July & Nov.; mostly in May & Nov.
Syrirta pipiens (L.)	54	Oliver, Pentiction		Dandelion, wild flowers, mustard, cherry flowers, pear flowers, grapes	July
Syrphus opinator O.S.	19	Osoyoos, Oliver		Wild flower	April - Sept.
		Osoyoos		Dandelion, mustard, wild flowers, orchard weeds, cherry flowers, apple flowers	Sept.
Syrphus sp.	1	Oliver, Mt. Kobau		Dandelion	
S. torvus O.S.	11				
Sylvicola marginatus (Say)	1	Kelowna			