

ANASTREPHA NIGRIFASCIA STONE¹

(DIPTERA: TEPHRITIDAE)

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INTRODUCTION: ANASTREPHA NIGRIFASCIA STONE IS ONE OF SIX SPECIES OF FRUIT FLIES OF THE GENUS ANASTREPHA WHICH OCCUR IN FLORIDA OR WHICH HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN FLORIDA AT SOME TIME. THIS SPECIES APPEARS TO HAVE A VERY RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION, OCCURRING ONLY IN THE FLORIDA KEYS OF MONROE COUNTY. IT SELDOM HAS BEEN COLLECTED AND IS NOT CONSIDERED TO BE OF ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE. TRAP COLLECTION RECORDS INDICATE THAT IT PROBABLY OCCURS IN THE ADULT STAGE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, ALTHOUGH THE HEAVIEST POPULATIONS APPEAR TO BE DURING APRIL-MAY. POPULATIONS DURING RECENT YEARS APPEAR TO BE NEAR THE THRESHOLD LEVEL, AS NO SPECIMENS HAVE BEEN COLLECTED SINCE ONE WAS TRAPPED AT KEY WEST ON JUNE 1, 1960 AND ANOTHER AT THE U. S. NAVAL BASE AT KEY WEST ON MAY 10, 1962.

DISTRIBUTION: FLORIDA KEYS FROM KEY LARGO KEY TO KEY WEST. THE HOLOTYPE FEMALE WAS TRAPPED MAY 21, 1935 BY G. B. MERRILL, ON BIG PINE KEY.

HOSTS: ACHRAS ZAPOTA (SAPODILLA) AND MIMUSOPS EMARGINATA (WILD-DILLY OR WILD-SAPODILLA).

LIFE HISTORY: THE LIFE HISTORY OF ANASTREPHA NIGRIFASCIA HAS NOT BEEN ASCERTAINED, ALTHOUGH ADULTS HAVE BEEN REARED SEVERAL TIMES FROM THE FRUIT OF ACHRAS ZAPOTA AND MIMUSOPS EMARGINATA.

IDENTIFICATION: SMALL YELLOWISH FRUIT FLY, SOMEWHAT LARGER THAN A HOUSE FLY, WITH RATHER LONG, PATTERNED WINGS (FIG. 1). A. NIGRIFASCIA CAN BE DISTINGUISHED FROM OTHER SPECIES OF ANASTREPHA WHICH HAVE BEEN RECORDED FOR FLORIDA BY THE PRESENCE OF A NARROW, TRANSVERSE, DARK BROWN BAND ACROSS THE POSTERIOR OF THE MESOScutUM AT THE BASE OF THE SCUTELLUM AND BY THE OVIPOSITOR OF THE FEMALE THE TIP OF WHICH IS TAPERED AND UNSERRATED (FIG. 2). HEAD YELLOW WITH FRONTAL BRISTLES AND OCELLAR TRIANGLE BLACK; ANTENNAE YELLOW, ARISTA YELLOWISH BASALLY BECOMING BROWNISH DISTALLY. MESONOTUM MOSTLY BROWNISH YELLOW, SCUTELLUM YELLOW; MACROCHAETAE BLACK; PILE YELLOW BROWN. THE WING PATTERN IS PARTLY YELLOWISH, PARTLY BROWNISH INFUSCATED, AND IS SOMEWHAT VARIABLE. IN SOME SPECIMENS THE INVERTED V BAND IS CONNECTED AT ITS APEX WITH THE S BAND ON THE ANTERIOR PORTION OF THE WING (FIG. 1), WHILE IN OTHERS THE INVERTED V BAND IS INCOMPLETE WITH THE DISTAL ARM OF THE V CONNECTED ANTERIORLY TO THE S BAND AND THE PROXIMAL ARM OF THE V CONSTRICTED OR SEPARATED IN CELL R₅. LEGS YELLOW.

REFERENCES:

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¹CONTRIBUTION No. 119, ENTOMOLOGY SECTION

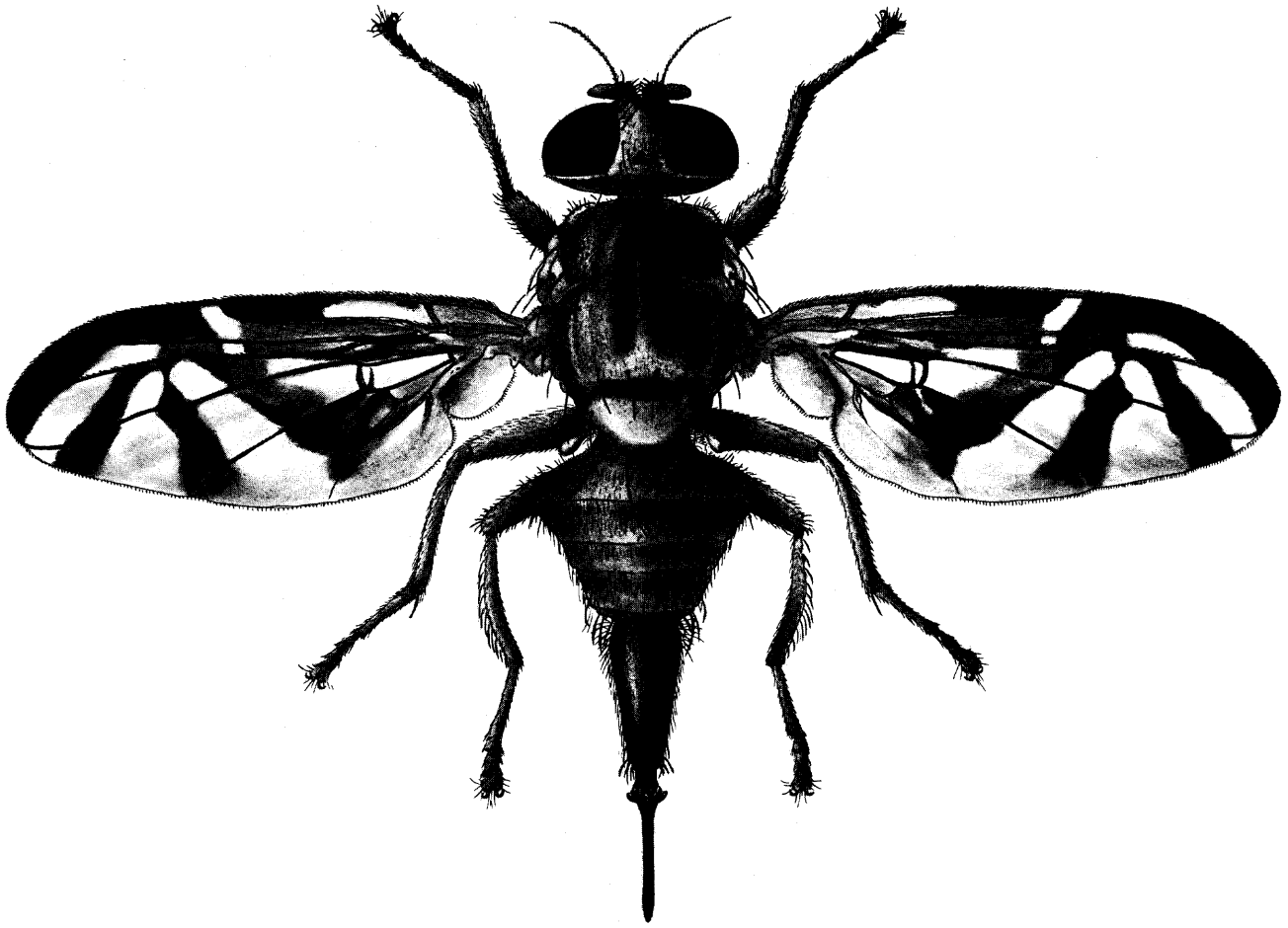


FIG. 1. ANASTREPHA NIGRIFASCIA STONE, ADULT FEMALE.

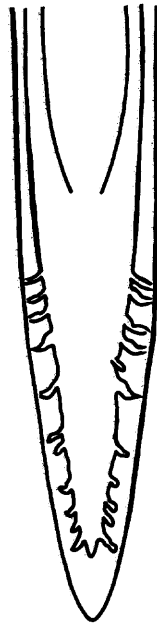


FIG. 2. OVIPOSITOR TIP OF ANASTREPHA NIGRIFASCIA STONE.