



# Article

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## Two new species and new records of Muscidae (Diptera) from Wrangel Island, Russia

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### Abstract

Two new species in the genera *Spilogona* Schnabl and *Coenosia* Meigen are described from Wrangel Island (*Spilogona khrulevae* **sp. nov.** and *Coenosia wrangelensis* **sp. nov.**). Their differences from closely related species are shown by their inclusion in keys to these genera. *Coenosia sibirica* Hennig is newly recorded from the Russian Arctic. The male terminalia of all species are figured.

**Key words:** Muscidae, *Coenosia*, *Spilogona*, flies, new species, Siberia.

### Introduction

Adult Muscidae occur in most habitats, except for the most dry. They seem to be most typical inhabitants of the broad-leafed and coniferous forest zones, but at high altitude and in subarctic and arctic areas they form a very high proportion of the fauna, both in species and in individuals. The Muscidae are an obvious example of the dominance of one group in the Arctic, where flies of the genus *Spilogona* Schnabl form a high proportion of specific arctic taxa. The majority of the species of this genus occur at high altitudes and arctic latitudes (Huckett, 1965; Pont, 1995; Sorokina, 2010) where they form about half of the muscid fauna and are one of most numerous Diptera groups up to the northern border of the tundra zone.

At present there is very little information on muscid flies in Russia, and in particular the specific composition, taxonomy, distribution and zoogeographic affinities of the arctic muscids are almost unknown. The monograph on Palaearctic Muscidae by Hennig (1956–1964) includes everything that was known at the time about the muscid fauna of the Palaearctic and of the northern territories, but it is very sketchy outside Europe. Only two recent papers have been published on the northern Muscidae (Sorokina, 2009b; Sorokina, Pont, 2010). The first one deals with the *Spilogona* species of the North European Territory of Russia and the second brings together all the published information about Siberian Muscidae including the data from the northern territories.

In 2006 field research was carried out on Wrangel Island where an abundant muscid material was collected by Dr O.A. Khruleva (Moscow) in different habitats on the island. This material was kindly entrusted to me for study. About 30 species of Muscidae in 5 genera (*Drymeia* Meigen, *Phaonia* Robineau-Desvoidy, *Helina* Robineau-Desvoidy, *Spilogona* Schnabl, *Coenosia* Meigen) were found in Dr Khruleva's material including two undescribed and some still unidentified species. A manuscript about their ecological distribution and with new geographic information on the Muscidae of Wrangel Island is in preparation.

The present paper gives the descriptions of one new *Spilogona* species and one new *Coenosia* species, and also provides some taxonomic notes on *Coenosia sibirica* Hennig. It also gives a means for distinguishing these new species from their closest relatives.