

A New Neotropical *Lepidosis* Curran (Diptera: Syrphidae)¹

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A second species of *Lepidosis* Curran is described from Argentina. The type is preserved in my collection.

Lepidosis smithae, new species

Face yellowish orange except for median black stripe; facial pile white; cheeks yellow except posterior third black. Dorsum of thorax with long cinnamon pile on anterior half and long black pile on posterior half, with four longitudinal stripes of short white pile. Scutellum without tufts of black pile. Abdomen with two pairs of reddish spots.

MALE.—*Head*: Face yellowish orange except for median shining black stripe; face vertical, with tubercle small and below the middle; facial stripes with dense short flattened white pile, remainder with long dense white pile. Cheeks yellow except for black posterior third and thin black stripe on the border of the face, with white pile. Front black, with black pile in the middle and with white pile on the edges; frontal lunule yellow. Vertex black with black pile. Occiput white pollinose, with long white pile below becoming shorter above; cilia absent.

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Eyes with brown pile and shorter white scale-like hairs intermixed. Antenna orange; third segment elongate, three and a half times as long as first and second segments together, and slightly concave below; arista yellow with black rays.

Thorax: shining black. Dorsum with long cinnamon pile on anterior half and long black pile on posterior half, with four longitudinal stripes of short thick white pile. Pleurae with long cinnamon pile. Scutellum dark brownish red, with basal half bearing long and short black pile intermixed and apical half with long cinnamon pile intermixed with short white pile. *Legs*: black except for brownish orange tarsi, orange on apex of femora and on basal three-fourths of tibiae. Pile long and black except for long white pile on basal fourth of fore and middle femora, on basal three-fourths of hind femora, and on hind coxae. *Wings*: hyaline, lacking microtrichia, with stigma brownish. *Halters*: orange. *Squamae* and *plumula*: white.

Abdomen: shining black; second segment with a lateral pair of brownish red spots almost as long as segment and separated by twice their width; third segment with similar pair of spots, but separated by only their width. Pile of dorsum short and black, except for long white pile on the base of the first segment, on the spots of the second and third segments, and on the fourth segment. Venter black, with white pile. Genitalia black, with white pile. *Length*: 9 mm.

Holotype.—male, Mascasin, La Rioja, ARGENTINA, November 1961 (F. Walz).

Discussion.—This species is quite distinct from *L. compactus* Curran, the only other described species in this genus. *L. smithae* differs from Curran's generic description in that the scutellum lacks the dense tufts of pile and the legs are not robust. In spite of these differences, I feel that *smithae* definitely belongs to *Lepidosia*, because of the peculiar pilosity of the eyes, the primary character on which Curran based his genus. It should be noted that this species also lacks bristles on the thorax as does the genotype, an unusual condition in Volucellinae.

I take great pleasure in naming this species after Dr. Marion E. Smith, who has been of invaluable aid to me in my studies.