

Elytres noirs, ornés d'une bande basale testacée, ondulée postérieurement, n'arrivant ni au bord externe ni à la suture; marqués de onze stries, une submarginale atteignant environ la moitié en avant, et dix dorsales profondes, partant de la base sauf la neuvième légèrement abrégée, et atteignant presque le sommet à l'exception des paires un peu plus courtes.

Dessous ferrugineux; strioles métacoxales un peu longues, nombreuses et assez profondes.

♂. Trois premiers articles des protarses et des mésotarses médiocrement dilatés. Pénis, vu dorsalement, un peu épais, rectiligne, avec le bord droit subsinué, longuement atténué avec le sommet aigu, vu latéralement faiblement arqué et assez brusquement aminci vers le milieu; paramères du type copélatien.

L'espèce varie un peu au sujet des strioles pronotales plus ou moins nombreuses suivant les individus, tout en laissant toujours le disque assez largement indemne.

Congo Belge: Holotype : Stanleyville, IV.1954. Paratype : 19 km. sud Tapili, à la lampe, V.1950 (J. PANTOS).

L'insecte est très voisin du *Copelatus basifasciatus* RÉGIMBART qui en diffère uniquement par les strioles pronotales un peu plus rares, les stries des élytres plus superficielles, et le pénis de même forme mais atténué seulement au sommet, avec le bord droit non sinué.

## *Chlorocypha Seydéli*, a new species of Dragonfly from the Belgian Congo

by Lt. Col. F. C. FRASER, I.M.S., Retd

The genus *Chlorocypha* includes only three species in which the abdomen is coloured blue and red, the respective colours being strictly confined to definite segments and the change over from one colour to the other being quite abrupt. Thus in *glauca* (SELYS), the first 4 segments are of the palest turquoise blue, whilst the remaining 6 segments are blood-red; in *curta* (SELYS) an opposite condition prevails, segments 1 to 6 being blood-red, whilst 7 to 10 are turquoise blue; in *cancellata* (SELYS), the distribution of colours is similar to *curta* but the red segments, viz 1 to 6 are framed and traversed longitudinally with black, cutting up the red colouring into two pairs of red spots. To these three species I am now able to add a third in which a third arrangement of the two colours is found and in which they are evenly divided, segments 1 to 5 being turquoise blue, and 6 to 10 blood-red. It is difficult to assign a cause for the evolution of these astonishing complexes other than by sexual selection; a red tip to the abdomen is often protective in function, but in *curta* the red is confined to the base of the abdomen and it is the apical segments which are blue, so that this function may be ruled out. That the origin is due to sexual selection is again suggested in that it is only in the males in which this red and blue colouring occurs, all the females being comparatively inconspicuous yellow and black insects. The description of the new species follows.

*Chlorocypha seydeli* sp. nov.

Male. Abdomen 25 mm. Hindwing 24 mm.

Head: labium ochreous changing to black at apices of lobes; labrum and anterior aspect of epistome glossy black, the upper surface of latter

dark ochreous; frons with two large quadrate spots followed by a pair of much smaller ones of a dark ochreous in colour; vertex and occiput black marked by a large crown-shaped spot with its base on the occipital border and by small rounded postocular spots, all dark yellow in colour (All these markings very obscure possibly due to postmortem decomposition or increasing melanism with age?). Prothorax black, with a large spot on each side of the median lobe, a narrow occipital collar and the whole of the posterior lobe pale blue. Thorax pale turquoise blue, the conventional « fish-hook » dorsal marking with its two limbs almost entirely confluent, the two broad blue areas separated by a broad black stripe through which runs the blue or yellowish mid-dorsal carinal ridge. Laterally the blue areas are equally broad and only the posterolateral suture, the upper area of the mesopimeron and a tongue-shaped stripe on the anterior border of the latter black. Legs black but the median and posterior pairs of tibiae creamy white on the flexor surface; tibiac not dilated. Wings hyaline with a faint yellowish tinge at the extreme bases; pterostigma black, elongate, covering 4 cells; discoidal cells traversed by 1 to 3 cross-veins, very variable in this respect in both fore- and hindwings; 10-11 antennodals in all wings. Abdomen long and slender, tapering gradually to the end; as long as or slightly longer than the wings; segments 1 to 5 pale turquoise blue, segments 6 to 10 blood-red; segment 1 with a broad, basal black semilunar spot on dorsum; segments 2 and 3 (more rarely also 4) with narrow black apical rings from which spring two middorsal comma-like black spots; segments 6 to 10 finely black on apical margins; beneath black marked with paired yellow stripes on the anterior segments. Anal appendages black, superiors twice the length of segment 10, narrow but with apices somewhat expanded; inferiors half the length of superiors, curved medially towards each other.

Female. Abdomen 19 mm. Hindwing 25 mm.

Dull golden yellow marked with black (but probably bright citron yellow in the living state). Head: labium yellow, labrum, genae and anterior clypeus citron yellow, the former bordered broadly with glossy black, more narrowly so at its base from which proceeds a short tongue of black; postclypeus and upper surface of head with yellow markings entirely similar to those of the male but much more conspicuous; from the brighter colouring. Prothorax marked as for the male but the markings yellow instead of blue and broader; in addition, two short lines run from the base of middle lobe forwards, diverging as they do so. Thorax as for the male but the black markings more restricted so that the fish-hook, dorsal markings are normal in shape, with the two limbs

well separated. Legs black, bases of femora yellowish. Wings hyaline, the hind ones palely tinted throughout with amber yellow and the apices lined with fuscous narrowly. Pterostigma black with an ochreous centre. Abdomen citron yellow; segments 1 and 2 marked as in the male; segments 3 to 8 with thick black U-shaped dorsal markings as in

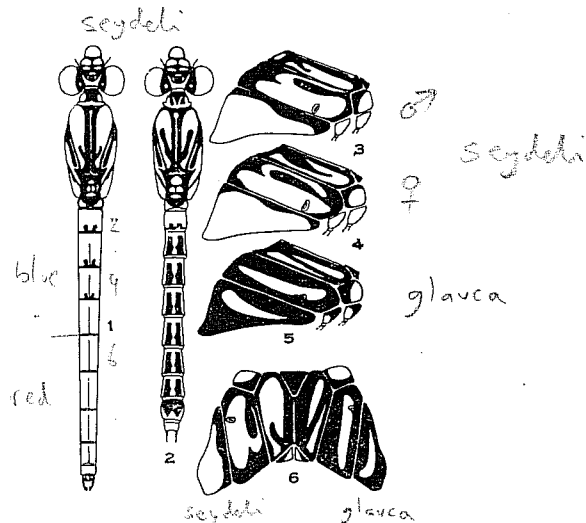


Fig. 1. Male of *Chlorocypha seydeli* sp. nov. (Pale areas of thorax and first five segments of abdomen turquoise blue; of terminal five segments of abdomen blood-red.), 2. Female of same species, 3, and 4. Thorax of male and female respectively, seen from the right side. 5. The same of *Chlorocypha glauca* (SELYS), 6. Dorsal and lateral markings of thorax of *C. seydeli* (left side) and *C. glauca* (right side) contrasted (Diagrammatic).

so many other females of the genus, but the loop of the U broadly interrupted so that each segment has a pair of thick parallel black stripes not extending to the base of segments and converging at a point subapically to partially enclose a small yellow apical middorsal triangle; segment 9 with a broad black dorsal spot extending from base nearly to apex of segment and deeply bifid at its apex; segment 10 unmarked. Anal appendages black, acuminate, rather longer than segment 10.

Habitat : BELGIAN CONGO : Lualaba : Kabongo, V.1954: 12 males and a female collected by CH. SEYDEL after whom this beautiful species has been named. The differentiation from *glauca*, *curta* and *cancellata*, the only species with which it may be confused, has been given above. It is the only species in which half the abdominal segments are blue and half red. *C. glauca* which most nearly resembles it has the fish-hook marking on the dorsum of thorax split into two narrow en echelon stripes (figs 5 and 6).

Type, allotype and cotypes deposited in the Musée du Congo Belge.

## Notes sur deux Gongylonèmes congolais parasites de l'Orycterope et de la Pintade

par A. FAIN et D. THIENPONT

En examinant l'œsophage d'un Orycterope capturé dans les environs d'Astrida (Ruanda-Urundi), nous avons découvert à la surface de la muqueuse les galeries sinueuses caractéristiques des Gongylonèmes. Une patiente dissection de ces galeries nous a permis d'extraire 2 vers entiers, un mâle et une femelle, lesquels se sont révélés appartenir à *Gongylonema congolense* FAIN, une espèce connue seulement chez les Oiseaux.

La découverte d'un parasite d'Oiseaux chez un Ongulé est assez surprenante à première vue. Il faut se rappeler toutefois que la spécificité des Gongylonèmes n'est pas toujours très stricte et que certaines espèces sont capables de s'adapter à des hôtes très différents. C'est le cas par exemple pour *G. pulchrum* MOLAN, parasite habituel des herbivores mais pouvant se rencontrer également chez l'homme. Une constatation analogue a été faite par nous pour *G. congolense* qui peut parasiter aussi bien les Anatidés que les Galliformes.

L'infestation de l'Orycterope est sans doute accidentelle. Ce curieux Ongulé se nourrit principalement de fourmis et de termites mais il peut probablement aussi absorber, à l'occasion, d'autres insectes lesquels peuvent être des hôtes intermédiaires pour ce Gongylonème de la poule. Le parasitisme de l'Orycterope s'explique donc aisément, d'autant plus que *G. congolense* est très répandu au Ruanda-Urundi chez la Poule et les Gallinacés sauvages comme la Pintade et le Francolin.

Dans la présente note nous décrivons les spécimens trouvés chez l'Orycterope et nous donnerons également les principales caractéristiques d'un autre Gongylonème récolté dans l'œsophage d'une Pintade et que nous pouvons rattacher semble-t-il à *Gongylonema sumani* BHALEROA,