

*Gourlay*

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**AN UNDESCRIBED SPECIES OF DIXA FROM  
NEW ZEALAND**

(*Diptera, Dixidæ*)

By CHARLES P. ALEXANDER

The family Dixidæ includes the single genus *Dixa* Meigen. Many students of the Culicidæ place these flies in this family as the subfamily Dixinæ. The writer is not entirely convinced that *Dixa* is not deserving of full family rank and it is so considered in the present paper. Up to date, 36 species of these flies have been described; distributed in the following regions: Palæarctic, 20 species, including 3 described within the past year by Edwards and Séguy; Nearctic, 7 species; Neotropical,

3 species, one of which is also recorded from the Nearctic, perhaps erroneously; Oriental, 6 species, described by Brunetti and Edwards. No species had been recorded from the Ethiopian or Australasian regions. It was with great interest, therefore, that the writer received specimens of a very interesting *Dixa* from New Zealand. This new species is dedicated to the collector, Dr. J. W. Campbell, to whom I am indebted for many kindnesses in the past. The alcoholic types are in the writer's collection; paratypes will be sent to the Canterbury Museum.

***Dixa campbelli*, new species.**

General coloration yellow, handsomely marked with dark brown; legs yellow, tips of the femora and tibiæ darkened; tips of posterior tibiæ enlarged; wings faintly grayish; a conspicuous dark brown blotch at *r-m* and another on vein *M*; *r-m* connecting with *Rs* before its fork.

*Male*.—Length 2.8–3 mm.; wing 3.3–3.5 mm.

Described from alcoholic material.

Rostrum brown above, paler laterally and beneath; palpi pale brown. Antennæ with the enlarged scapal segments dark brown, the flagellum a little paler, especially the basal segment. Head dark brown, paler beneath and on genæ.

Pronotum obscure yellow, dark brown medially. Mesonotum yellow, handsomely marked with dark brown; a broad, conspicuous stripe on either side; a narrower median stripe, broad in front and here indistinctly split by a pale vitta, narrowed behind (in some cases this abrupt narrowed portion subobsolete), extending to the scutal region where it covers the caudal margin of the sclerite; scutellum light yellow, indistinctly margined with darker; postnotum dark brown. Pleura yellow, conspicuously striped and blotched with dark brown; mesosternum broadly dark brown, pale ventro-medially, more broadly so on prosternum; a conspicuous, longitudinal pleural stripe extending from behind the fore coxæ to the mesepimeron which is largely suffused; the ventral yellow stripe formed between this stripe and the mesosternum is narrower than the

brown stripe; two brown blotches on the dorsal portions of the mesepisternum; propleura dark. Halteres pale, the knobs light yellow. Legs with the coxæ yellow, the fore coxæ infuscated; trochanters pale; femora yellow, the tips conspicuously dark brown; tibiæ light brown, the tips conspicuously blackened; posterior tibiæ swollen at tips and more extensively blackened; tarsi brown. Wings with a faint grayish tinge, the extreme base more yellowish; a large, dark brown blotch at *r-m*, suffusing the adjoining veins of the cord, interrupted at *m-cu*; a smaller brown blotch beyond midlength of *M*; veins narrowly and somewhat indistinctly seamed with dark brown, more heavily along  $R_4^+{}_5$ ; anal angle faintly clouded; veins dark brown. Venation:  $Sc_1$  ending a short distance before the origin of *Rs*,  $Sc_2$  far from its tip,  $Sc_1$  alone nearly equal to the first section of *Rs*; basal section of *Rs* long, straight; *r-m* connecting with *Rs* far before its fork, the second section of *Rs* being longer than *r-m*;  $R_2^+{}_3$  gently arcuated; forks of *M* widely divergent; *m-cu* about equal to *r-m*.

Abdomen brown, darker apically; basal sternites and lateral portions of the basal tergites obscure yellow.

*Habitat*.—New Zealand (South Island).

*Holotype*, male, Charteris Bay, Banks Peninsula, Canterbury, September 4, 1921 (J. W. Campbell).

*Paratopotypes*, 6 males.

The specimens were in small swarms over a stream.