

# ENTOMOLOGY FOR MEDICAL OFFICERS

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**Family DROSOPHILIDÆ.** Very small brownish, stout flies, often swarming on over-ripe or decomposing fruit, in which the eggs are deposited. The auxiliary vein is absent. The arista is plumose. The larvæ and pupæ are sometimes found in the human intestine. The pupæ of *Drosophila*, which I have found in fæces, can be recognised by the long tubular spiracles—the anterior pair terminating in a crown of spines, the posterior pair forming a fork.

**Family OSCINIDÆ.** Very small brownish flies. The auxiliary vein and the anal cell are absent, and the discal and 2nd basal cells are confluent. The larvæ are often found in grain. A species of *Oscinid* often hovers about the eyes, and is said to cause conjunctivitis. A small yellow bright-eyed fly of the genus *Chlorops* often causes consternation by appearing in sudden swarms in houses.

**Family EPHYDRIDÆ.** Small flies with venation like the *Oscinidæ*, but with a particularly broad and convex face. The larvæ of some are aquatic and "rat-tailed." The aquatic larvæ of an American species of *Ephydra* are eaten by the native Indians.

**Family SEPSIDÆ** (Fig. 64) ( $\sigma\eta\psi\iota\varsigma$  = putrefaction). Small, usually

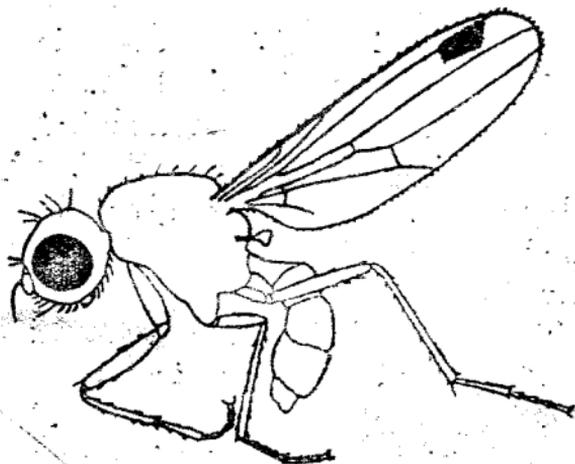


FIG. 64.—A Sepsid Fly.

black flies, with round head and constricted "waist." The auxiliary vein is often indistinct, and the wing commonly has a dark spot, or spots, near the tip. The *Sepsidæ* are quick in flight, and run with great activity; they may be found on decaying animal and vegetable matter, in which they lay their eggs. The maggots of *Piophilæ* live in cheese and bacon, and may be recognised by their power of leaping or skipping; they have been found in the pharynx and intestine of man, having probably been ingested in food.

**Family TRYPETIDÆ.** Small flies with elegantly dappled wings the venation of which is much like that of an Anthomyid (Fig. 84). The 3rd segment of the antennæ is not elongated. The larvæ live in vegetables and fruit and often damage such crops.

**Family CORDYLURIDÆ** (Scatophagidæ). These are among the largest of the Acalyptates. They are often found swarming on fresh excrement, and they are predaceous on other flies. The wing-venation