

DÆSIA.

Gluvia, C. L. Koch, Arch. f. Naturg. viii. 1, p. 355 (1842); Uebersicht Arachn. Syst. v. p. 97 (1850) (part.).

Dæsia, Karsch, Arch. f. Naturg. xlvi. 1, p. 234 (1880); Kraepelin, Jahrb. Hamb. Wiss. Anst. xvi. p. 227 (1899); Das Tierr., Palpigradi et Solifugæ, p. 88 (1901).

Biton, Karsch, Arch. f. Naturg. xlvi. 1, p. 234 (1880).

Tarsi of second and third pairs of legs two-jointed, of fourth pair four-jointed; tibia of second leg with five, of third leg with three spines. Upper jaw of mandible in female normally toothed, with one small intermediate, one larger proximal, and two large distal teeth; in the male the upper jaw is untoothed or weakly toothed. Flagellum membranous, fastened by a pivot to the inner surface of the upper jaw, oval, posteriorly pointed, its edges incurved.

Type *D. præcox*, C. L. Koch.

Distribution. Southern shores of the Mediterranean; Africa; Mexico.

1. ***Dæsia præcox***. (Tab. XII. fig. 11.)

Gluvia præcox, C. L. Koch, Arch. f. Naturg. viii. 1, p. 355 (1842)¹; Die Arachn. xv. p. 95, fig. 1483 (1848)².

Datames præcox, Simon, Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. (5) ix. p. 144 (1879)³.

Dæsia præcox, Karsch, Arch. f. Naturg. xlvi. 1, p. 234 (1880)⁴; Kraepelin, Das Tierr., Palpigradi et Solifugæ, p. 98 (1901)⁵.

♂. *Colour*: mandibles and carapace yellow, the latter tinted with brown; abdomen black above, dark beneath with yellow borders, thickly clothed with white hairs; palp reddish-brown; legs of first, second, and third pairs yellowish, of fourth pair with femur and patella darker. *Mandible* with upper jaw slender, long, pointed, lightly arched, toothless; basal portion of the jaw furnished internally with four cheek-teeth, an upper long, sharp, and forwardly directed, and three subequal smaller teeth below; lower jaw terminating in a long, slender, and curved fang, and armed in the basal two-thirds of its length with two large teeth—an anterior directed forwards, and bearing near the base of its upperside a smaller angular tooth, and a posterior erect but curved backwards at the tip, and bearing near the base of its anterior edge a small tooth. *Flagellum* long, elliptical in its basal portion, with subparallel sides, its upper edge incurved; its extremity gradually narrowed, with a sharp and slightly upturned point. *Palp* with its tibia armed on its inner edge at the distal end beneath with three weak spines. Second abdominal *sternum* without modified bristles in front of the stigmata.

Length of body 11 mm.

Hab. ? MEXICO¹⁻⁵.

The locality assigned to this species is probably erroneous, seeing that the remaining members of the genus *Dæsia* have been recorded only from Syria, Arabia, Cyprus, and Africa (from Algeria and Egypt to Cape Colony). But since there is in many particulars a faunistic similarity between the Mediterranean area of the Old World and the Sonoran district of North America, the possibility of the genus occurring in both continents must be borne in mind. At all events, the question as to the locality of *D. præcox* must be left undecided until the species, of which only the one typical example is at present known, has been rediscovered.