

Megarhinus christophi Portschi.

A comparatively large insect (15 - 17 mm.). The head black, occiput covered by scales of dark brown colour, with a bluish metallic glint. Hind margins of eyes covered by blue-white scales. Proboscis $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of the body; its basal part covered by dark brownish scales with a steely glint; the middle part is covered by whitish and the apical part by brownish scales. Palpi of female short, covered by black-brown metallic scales. Antennae black-brown, first joint covered by white scales. Mesonotum in its middle part covered by dark brownish scales, its lateral portions covered by pale blue scales, with a tuft of bright yellow hairs over the bases of the wings. The greater part of the sides of thorax covered by shiny, silvery white scales. Abdomen covered by black scales, which in the anterior part have a greenish, and in the posterior part a bluish metallic glint. In the anterior part of the 5th tergite there is a more or less distinct transverse fascia of white scales. There are white spots on the sides of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th tergites; the 6th tergite bears a dense tuft of black hairs on the sides of the apical half; the 7th and 8th tergites bear similar tufts of bright yellow hairs. (diff. from towardensis). The legs: the femora and tibiae covered with black scales with a steely glint. The basal part of the femora is, on the underside, covered by white scales. The tarsi covered by black scales with a blue metallic glint. The apical part of the first and the whole of 2nd joints of the tarsi of front legs, the basal part of the 1st and the whole 3rd and 4th joints of the tarsi of middle legs, and 2nd joint of tarsi of hind legs are white coloured (the joints 4 - 5 of middle tarsi and 3 - 5 of hind tarsi were broken off in the specimen from which the description was made). The wings are transparent, slightly darkened; the veins are covered by brownish scales.

The larva and the male are unknown.

Geographical distribution: Amur (Christoph!), ? Japan (M. towardensis Mats.).

Foot-note: M. towardensis, described by Matsumura from Japan is very probably a synonym of M. christophi, for the differences which were pointed out by Edwards, according to Portschi's data, were not to be found in the specimen which served as a type to Portschi. The original description of M. towardensis has remained unknown to the writer. The present description of M. christophi is made from the type of this species in the collection of the Zoological Museum of the Academy of Sciences of U.S.S.R.

(Translation from Stachelberg. Tabl. Analz. Faune U.R.S.S. Culicidae L. 57, 1926)