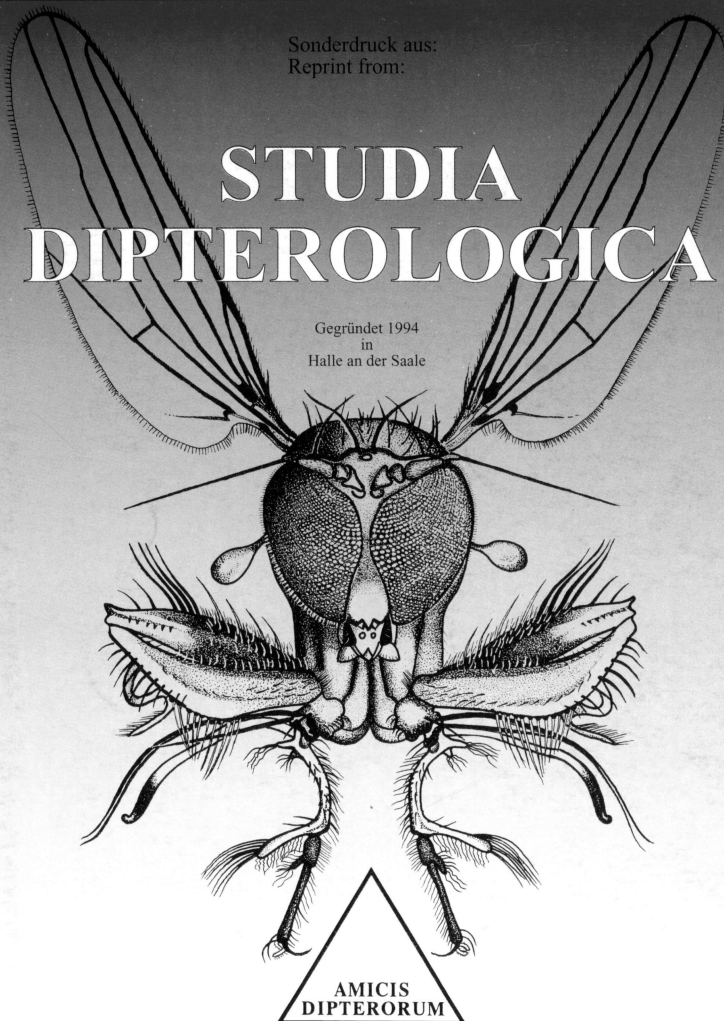


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A fossil *Hypocera* species (Diptera: Phoridae) and its phylogenetic implications

[Eine fossile *Hypocera*-Art (Diptera: Phoridae) und ihre
phylogenetischen Beziehungen]

by

Brian V. BROWN

Los Angeles (U.S.A.)

Abstract A new species of phorid fly, *Hypocera oschini* spec. nov., is described from Baltic amber from Kaliningrad, Russia. The two female specimens represent the first known fossils of this genus. *Hypocera oschini* spec. nov. differs from other species of *Hypocera* by setation characters of the legs and wings. It is most closely related to extant species found in the New World.

Key words Phoridae, *Hypocera*, new species, Baltic amber, fossil

Zusammenfassung Mit *Hypocera oschini* spec. nov. wird eine neue Phoridenart aus dem Baltischen Bernstein der Kaliningrader Region (Russland) beschrieben. Die zwei weiblichen Tiere representieren die ersten Fossilien dieser Gattung. *Hypocera oschini* spec. nov. unterscheidet sich von anderen Vertretern der Gattung durch die Merkmale in der Beborstung der Flügel und Beine. Die Art weist die nächsten Verwandtschaftsbeziehungen mit rezenten Vertretern der Gattung in der Neuen Welt auf.

Stichwörter Phoridae, *Hypocera*, neue Art, Baltischer Bernstein, Fossilien

Introduction

The genus *Hypocera* LIOY (Diptera: Phoridae: Hypocerinae) is a small group of phorid flies that contains some of the largest phorids known, with body lengths of up to 6 mm. The extant species were revised recently by BROWN & BUCK (1998), who recognized five species and proposed a phylogeny for the group.

Fossil species of *Hypocera* were unknown up to this point (BROWN 1999), but I have recently found two specimens of this genus in European Baltic amber (late Eocene - early Oligocene age). These are described as a new species, below, and their phylogenetic ramifications are examined.

Systematic account

Hypocera oschini spec. nov.

(Fig. 1)

Material examined: Holotype: ♀. **Russia:** Kaliningrad. Baltic amber (catalog number LACM IP 12785). Paratype: 1 ♀, same as holotype (catalog number LACM IP 12786).

Species recognition: This species differs from the other described *Hypocera* by the following characters: fore tibia lacking extremely long anterodorsal seta; wing vein R_s with setulae along entire length; hind tibia with row of large, posterodorsal setae; tarsomere 1 of hind leg with long, ventral seta at midlength. In the key of BROWN & BUCK (1998), it keys to couplet 3 but differs from both species in this couplet by the presence of posterior acrostichal setae and by having only one long, ventral spur on the mid tibia and two on the hind tibia (rather than two and three, respectively).