

# A new species of *Anthrax* Scopoli, 1763 from northwestern Greece (Diptera: Bombyliidae)

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**Samenvatting.** Een nieuwe soort uit het genus *Anthrax* Scopoli, 1763 uit Noordwest-Griekenland (Diptera: Bombyliidae)

De auteurs beschrijven een nieuwe soort uit het genus *Anthrax*, waarvan twee exemplaren verzameld werden door de eerste auteur in het Noordwesten van Griekenland. De soort wordt vooral vergeleken met de sterk gelijkende *Anthrax anthrax* (Schrank, 1781). Type-exemplaren van de nieuwe soort en exemplaren van de gelijkende soort worden afgebeeld.

**Résumé.** Description d'une espèce nouvelle du genre *Anthrax* Scopoli, 1763 du nord-ouest de la Grèce (Diptera: Bombyliidae)

Les auteurs décrivent une espèce nouvelle du genre *Anthrax* du nord-ouest de la Grèce dont le premier auteur a recolté deux exemplaires. Ils comparent le nouveau taxon avec l'espèce la plus proche *Anthrax anthrax* (Schrank, 1781). Les types de la nouvelle espèce et de l'espèce la plus proche sont figurés.

**Key words:** *Anthrax ipiriensis* sp.n. - Greece

Dils J.: Krekelberg 149, B-2940 Stabroek.

Van De Weyer G.: Unolaan 69, B-2620 Hemiksem.

## Introduction

During a summer expedition between early July and middle August 1994, two specimens (1♂ and 1♀) of an unknown taxon of the genus *Anthrax* were collected by the first author. A careful comparison with other *Anthrax* material from the Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen, Brussels and the Instituut voor Taxonomische Zoölogie (Zoölogisch Museum), Amsterdam, the collection of the Vlaamse Vereniging voor Entomologie (V.V.E.), Antwerpen, the private collections of the authors and the original descriptions of all other *Anthrax* species, revealed that the specimens belong to a new species. Special attention was paid to the comparison with *Anthrax anthrax* (Schrank, 1781) found in the collections and one male collected in the same area (Papingo, 1600 m, 20.VII.1994), which resembled most the new species. Although only few specimens are available, the differences are clear enough to describe the two specimens as follows:

### *Anthrax ipiriensis* sp.n.

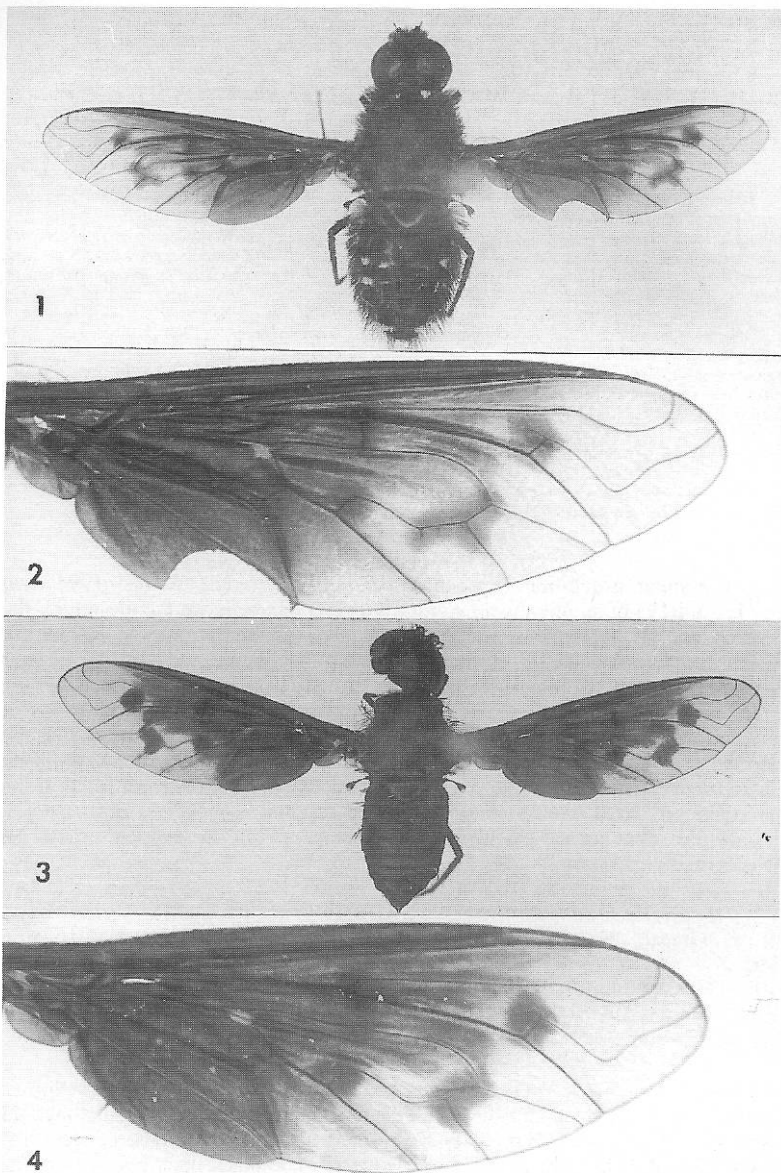
Holotype: ♂, Greece, Nomos Ioaninon, 15 km N.W. of Konitsa, Melissopetra, 21.VII.1994.

Paratype: 1♀, Greece, Nomos Ioaninon, 20 km N.W. of Konitsa, 07.VII.1994.

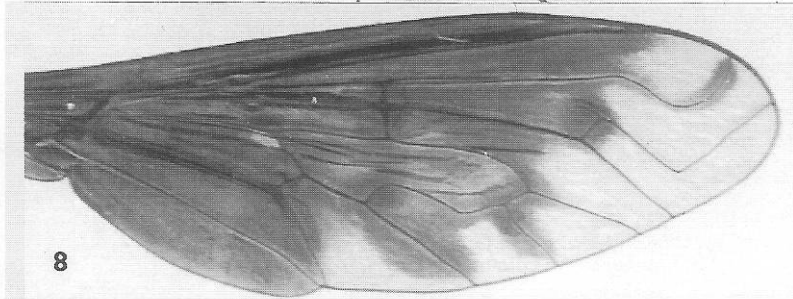
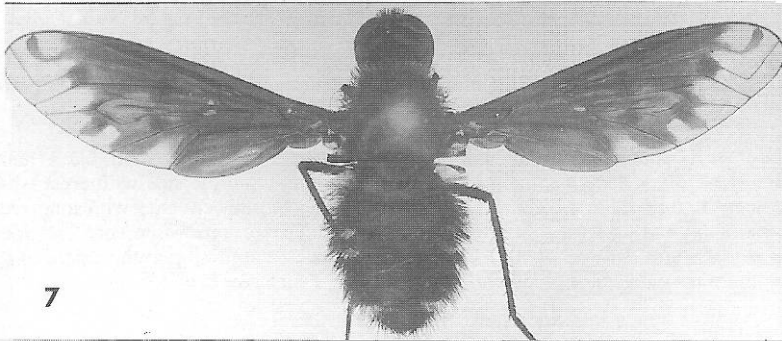
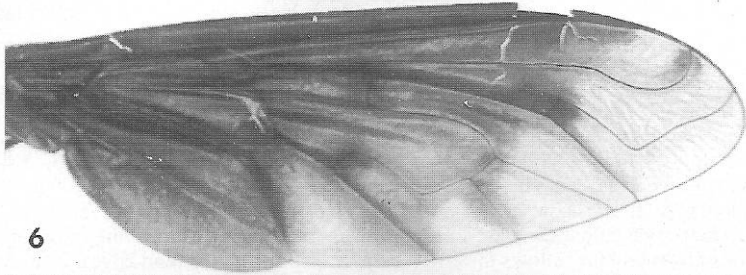
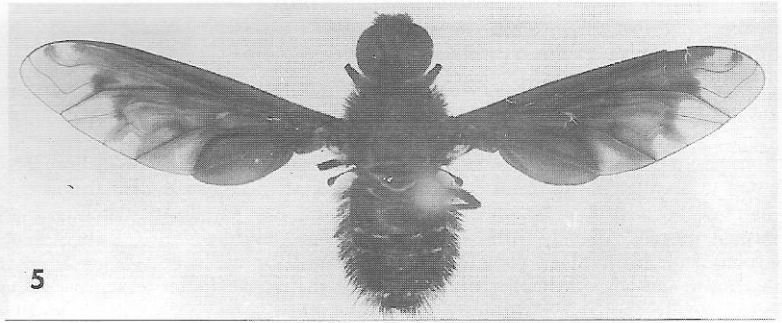
Types deposited in the collection of J. Dils.

Because no clear sexual dimorphism could be detected, both sexes are described together.

1. Head: Ground colour black, including gena and clypeus. Frons and face light brown dusted, with erected short black hairs. Beneath the antennae a bare zone, length about 1/3 of the third antennal segment. Short colourless scales on face and frons, between the black hairs. Scales of frons smaller and more scattered. The black hairs reach up to the ocellar tubercle. Occiput also covered with black hairs, which are smaller near the sides. Vertex with short, pale yellow, hairlike scales. Both first antennal segments together as long as the third. Narrow part of third segment as long as the width of the base of the third segment. Ratio length-width of the third segment 15:19. First and second antennal segment covered with black hairs which reach the middle of the bulbous part of the third



Figs 1-4: *Anthrax ipiriensis* sp. n.: 1. Holotype ♂, Greece, Nomos Ioaninon, Melissopetra 600 m, st. 9434, 21.VII.1994, leg. J. Dils; 2. Right wing of holotype fig. 1; 3. Paratype ♀, Greece, Nomos Ioaninon, Botsaras 350 m, st. 9404, 07.VII.1994, leg. J. Dils; 4. Right wing of paratype fig. 2.



Figs 5-8: *Anthrax anthrax* (Schränk, 1781): 5. Male, Greece, Nomos Ioaninon, Papingo, 1600 m, st. 9423, 20.VII.1994, leg. J. Dils; 6. Right wing of specimen in fig. 5; 7. Female, Belgium, Province of Antwerpen, Stabroek 0 m, 27.VI.1994, leg. J. Dils; 8. Right wing of specimen in fig. 7.

segment. (In *A. anthrax* these hairs reach up to the middle of the narrow part of the third segment). Mouth edge covered with short yellow scales.

2. Thorax: Base colour of mesonotum dull black. Pleurae black with brown tints. Hairs distributed in a collar on the front edge of the mesonotum. When lighted from behind these hairs do not appear to be white as in *A. anthrax*. Base colour of scutellum black, light brown dusted. Apically with a bundle of white hairlike scales, bristles black. Mesonotum with short black hairs. A stripe of light brown hairs extends from the notopleuron to the postallar calli, over the base of the wing. Humeri black with white hairs and sparsely scattered, short brown hairs. Notopleuron and prosternum with black and white hairs. The other pleurae with sparse black hairs. (In *A. anthrax* only black hairs). Halteres brown-black with yellow-white top.

3. Wings: As shown on the photographs, biggest differences are found in the wings. Brown to brown-black pattern extensive, resembling closely the pattern in *A. anthrax*, but missing spot at vein  $r_{2+3}$  close to apex. Spots on bifurcation of  $r_4$  and  $r_5$ , and spot on distal m-m veins almost completely isolated from the other wing pattern. As a result the distal part of the discal cell is clear (In *A. anthrax* these spots are completely merged with the brown colour). Anal and axial cells smoothly brown (no lighter central areas as in *A. anthrax*). The brown colour does not follow veins  $m_2$  and  $cu_1+m_3$  to the wing edge (in *A. anthrax* this brown colour follows these veins up to 1 mm from the hind edge). Anal cell closed. Costal hooks light-brown (in *A. anthrax* black).

4. Legs: Ground colour of femora black, with colourless scales. At the top slightly brown.  $F_2$  and  $F_3$  with black spines. All tibia brown with black spines. Tarsi brown. Pulvilli present.

5. Abdomen: Ground colour of abdomen black, with tometum of short black hairs. Beneath these black hairs a shining green dense dusting.  $T_1$  on the side with erect white hairs, near the hind edge a black bristle. Sides of other tergites covered with long erect black hairs.  $T_2$  and  $T_3$  with four white spots,  $T_4$  and  $T_5$  with one white spot. All spots consisting of white scales.  $T_6$  with a band of white scales, not joining at the centre of the tergite. Sternites with sparse, long black hairs, among which some lighter hairs.

#### 6. Measurements:

Total length : ♂ 12.5 mm, ♀ 9.8 mm

Wing length: ♂ 12.4 mm, ♀ 10.4 mm

Wing width: ♂ 4.9 mm, ♀ 4.9 mm

#### Diagnostic characters

*Anthrax ipiriensis* sp.n. closely resembles *A. anthrax* (Schrank, 1781), *A. maculosa* (Sack, 1909) and *A. mendax* (Austen, 1937). Differences are :

#### *A. anthrax* (figs 5-8)

- wing: 1) presence of spot at end of  $r_{2+3}$
- 2) continuous brown colouring on  $m_2$  and  $cu_1+m_3$
- white collar
- pure black plumula
- black costal hooks
- sternites without light hairs

-longer hairs on antennal segments 1 and 2.

*A. maculosa*

-hairs on tergal sides white  
-black colouration on wings less extended

*A. mendax*

-cover of white scales on abdomen more extensive  
-black colouration on wings less extended

### Etymology

The species is named after the Greek region - Ipiros - where the type-locality is situated.

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