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Larva of Forelia variegator (Koch, 1837) (Hydrachnellae)

By B. V. Vainstein

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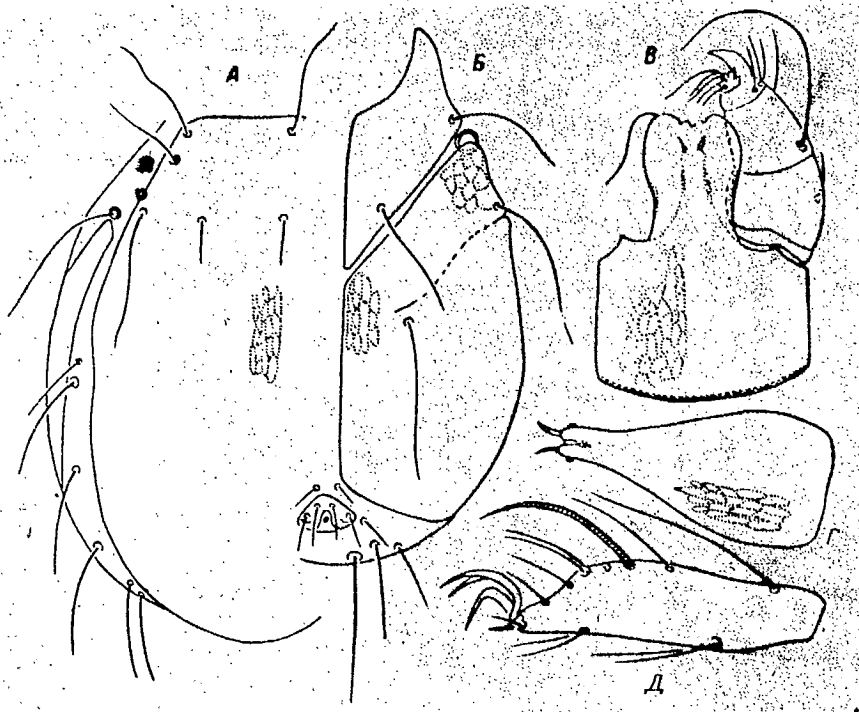
Numerous females of this species were collected in the environs of Borka, on May 22nd and 23rd, 1961. Eggs were laid on the day the females were caught and larvae emerged on June 6. Until now only one larva of this genus F.liliacea (Müll., 1776) was known. It was described by Piersig (1897 to 1900). However the briefness of his description and the lack of illustrations prevent us from establishing the differences between the larvae of this two species.

The dorsal shield (see the drawing, A) is oviform. Its front edge is almost straight, the rear one is constricted. Along the sides we have two pairs of gentle notches: one pair of these

is level with the eyes, the other one at the level of scapular setae. Ocular shields are located on the lateral-dorsal surface of the body and in preparations they may be superposed by the dorsal shield. The dorsal outgrowth of the coxal shield reaches the shoulder seta and is clearly visible from above. The catalogue of body setae is the usual one for the Pioninae (Vaynshte 1965): abdominal, caudal and sacral setae represented by one pair each; anal, post-anal, lumbar, pre-lumbar and scapular, by two pairs each. The inner scapular seta is clearly shorter than the exterior one.

Hypostoma is relatively small (see the drawing, B). The gnathacoxae are massive with a net-like sculpture. The pedipalps are very massive. Their trochanter is grown immobile to the hip and their tarsus to the tibia. On the tarsus of the pedipalpus five filiform setae and a small solenidium are located, the latter is covered by a claw in the tibia. Tibia has also three small ordinary setae. Hypostomal setae have an unusual conical shape, the galeal ones have ordinary shape. The apex of hypostoma has a few rounded fringelets. Chelophore is rounded at the rear and very constricted at the front (see drawing, ). The urostigma are round with a convex semitransparent lid. The number of all the setae on appendages (natatorial setae are shown in brackets) is the following:

Leg	Coxa	Trochanter	Hip	Knee	Tibia	Tarsus
I	2	1	7	6(1)	12(2)	14
II	1	1	7(1)	6(1)	11(2)	13
III	1	1	6(1)	5(1)	10(2)	11



Details of the structure of the larva Forelia Variegato

A - view from above; Б - view from below; B - hypostoma and pedipalpus seen from below; Г - chelophore seen from above; Д - left front tarsus.

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Specialized setae: solenidia, one of each on every knee on tibia III and on tarsi I and II, two in each of tibiae I and epatides, one on each of knees I and II, on tibia and tarsus I; acanthoids, one upon each of the tarsi: gladiate setae, one upon every knee and tibia, Three claws (see drawing, Д). The ambulacra are crescent-shaped, empodium is hook-shaped. All sclerites are fine-pored. Sclerites of legs have, furthermore, a very thin longitudinal striation. Body shields, gnathocoxae and stylphores have reticulate sculpture, which is coarser on the ventral side and along the exterior edges of sclerites, and finer on the dorsal side and along the medial edges of sclerites.

The anal shield (see the drawing, 5) is triangular, its summit, which is directed forward, is rounded, while its base has a widely rounded projection. The anal aperture is elongate oval.

B I B L I O G R A P H Y

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В а й н ш т е й н Б. А. 1965. Строение личинок водяных клещей (Hydrachnellae). Тр. Инст. биол. внутр. вод. 9 (12).
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