

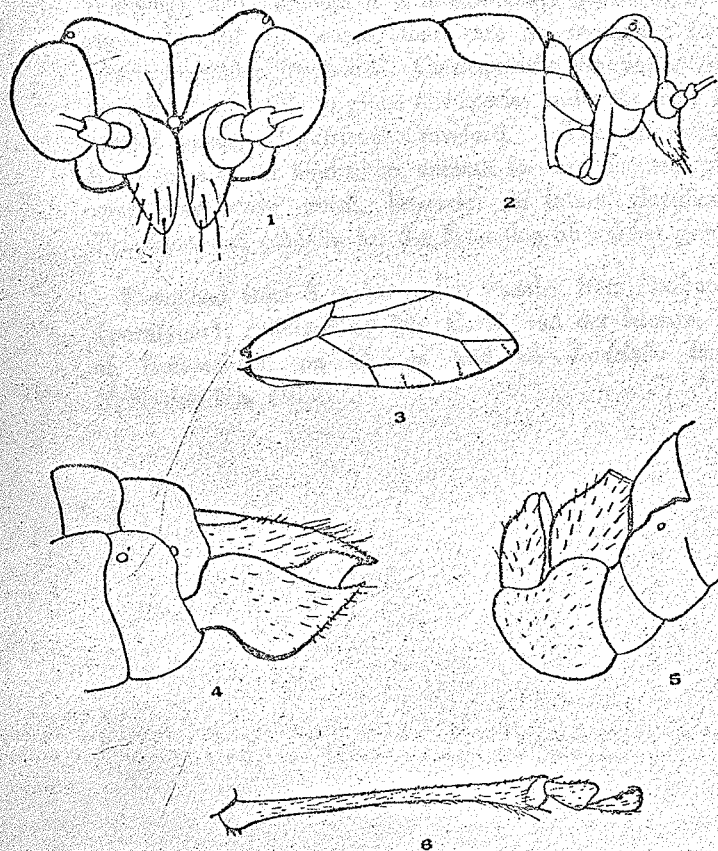
*A New Species of Psyllid.*

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The following is the description of a new species of Psyllid, genus *Trioza*, which has been known for many years past as a minor pest of Citrus in the Transvaal, Natal, and the eastern district of the Cape Province, but which hitherto has not been described. It was first mentioned as the Citrus Psylla, *Trioza* sp. by C. P. Lounsbury in 1896.

*Trioza merwei* sp. nov. Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

Length of body (male) 1.8 to 2.4 mm.; length of forewing 2.6 mm. to 2.7 mm.; width of head 0.42 mm. Length of body (female) 2.2 to 2.5 mm.; length of forewing 2.8 to 3 mm.; width of head 0.5 mm. General colour of body dark brown to black above, and pale yellow below, except a band of dark brown on the thorax between the front and middle legs. Head black, eyes brown; basal segment of labium pale yellow, second segment black; antennæ very pale yellow or whitish on basal sixth, i.e. first two and part of third segments, the rest dark brown to black; coxa and trochantin of legs pale yellow, outer sides of femora, tibiæ and tarsi dark brown to black, the inner pale yellow; femora of hind legs almost and sometimes entirely pale yellow; episternum, epimeron, and sternum of mesothorax dark brown; prothorax pale yellow, accessory sclerites dark brown; spiracles surrounded by a dark brown ring which is broader around the spiracles of the prothorax and first abdominal segment. A broken dark brown line extends parallel with and above the abdominal spiracles, and a broader but more distinct brown line extends parallel with and below the abdominal spiracles. There is a broad dark brown to black transverse band above, on the first five abdominal segments, each separated from the other by a pale yellow line.



*Trioza merwei* sp. n. 1, Head, front aspect. 2, Head and prothorax, side aspect. 3, Forewing. 4, Female genitalia, lateral aspect. 5, Male genitalia, lateral aspect. 6, Hind tibia and tarsus. (All much enlarged).

Head rather small, including the eyes; distinctly narrower than the thorax; vertex two-thirds as long as broad, somewhat bulging on each side of the median line, with two grooves on each side of the median line, converging towards the middle ocellus; each lateral ocellus on a distinct hemispherical ridge, above the compound eyes; genal cones about as long as the

vertex, not strongly divergent, sub-acute, sparsely but distinctly pubescent, very slightly deflexed from the plane of vertex; antennæ twice as long as width of head, slender. Thorax strongly arched, not punctate; a row of several hairs on the pronotum. Legs slender to rather stout; hind tibiæ with two or three short brown or yellow spurs at the base and with three longer black spines at the apex on the inner side, and one outside. Wings slightly variable in length, usually about 2.5 times as long as broad, sub-acute at apex, transparent, with 3 linear black spots, one between  $M_1 + 2$  and  $M_3 + 4$  but distinctly nearer  $M_1 + 2$ , another between  $M_3 + 4$  and  $Cu_1$  and  $Cu_2$ , R. straight and short.

*Genitalia*.—*Male*.—Anal valve about as long as foreceps, pubescent, jug-shaped, posterior margin flat (from side), dark brown with whitish posterior margin; forceps rather stout, pyriform (from side) and terminating in a narrow slightly rounded to subacute black apex. *Female*.—*Genital* segment a little less than half as long as the rest of the abdomen; dorsal valve longer than the ventral, both acute, but the dorsal slightly rounded at apex (from side); dorsal valve dark brown to black, ventral valve pale yellow except the apex which is black.

It is interesting to note that this species has two or three basal spines on the hind tibiæ. As far as is known to the writer this characteristic is not mentioned in the descriptions of any other species included under the genus *Trioza*. Crawford, in his description of the genus *Megatrioza*, (Phillipine Journ. Sci. XV. No. 2, 1919, pp. 192, 193) states; "The most striking characteristic of this generic group are the armed hind tibiæ, unusual in *Triozinae*; the secondary metacoxal spurs directed forward, not found in other genera; and the peculiarly long and slender forewings. So many of the species are known to be gall-makers or leaf-curlers that it probably is a safe surmise that most or perhaps all of the species have similar habits." Crawford includes some species in the genus *Megatrioza*, which have two or several basal spurs, i.e. *M. eugenoides*, *M. gigantea*, and *M. robusta*. Although *Trioza merwei* has two or three small

basal spurs on the hind tibiæ, comparatively long and slender forewings, and although it is a gall-maker possessing metacoxal spurs directed backwards, there are no secondary metacoxal spurs projecting forwards. Consequently the writer does not consider it advisable to place this species under the more recently erected genus, *Megatrioza* Crawford. The characteristic of basal spurs on the hind tibiæ, without forward directed metacoxal spurs may prove useful, however, in future classification of *Triozinae*, and possibly for the formation of another genus.

Described from 8 males and 6 females from Durban, Natal (paratypes), collected by Mr. C. P. van der Merwe, Division of Entomology, on Orange and on *Toddalia lanceolata*, November 6th, 1922.