New species of genus *Daspletis* Loew 1858 from Gabon (Diptera : Asilidae : Stenopogoninae)

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One new species of genus *Daspletis* Loew 1858 from Gabon is described and the male genitalia are illustrated.

**Keywords:** Diptera, Asilidae, Stenopogoninae, *Daspletis*, new species, Afrotropical, Gabon.

Une nouvelle espèce du genre *Daspletis* Loew 1858 du Gabon est décrite et les genitalia mâle sont illustrés.

**Mots clés:** Diptère, Asilidae, Stenopogoninae, *Daspletis*, espèce nouvelle, Afrotropical, Gabon.

1 **INTRODUCTION**

The southern African genus *Daspletis* Loew 1858 is a small genus related to *Microstylum* Macquar 1838; it has been presented and illustrated by Hull (1962), Londt (1974, 1983), Oldroyd (1970, 1974) and Tomasovic & Constant (2013).

2 **TAXONOMY**

Eighth species of genus *Daspletis* are known: *D. hermanni* Ricardo 1925; *D. hirtus* Ricardo 1925; *D. placodes* Londt 1983; *D. setithoracicus* (Ricardo 1925); *D. stenoura* Londt 1983; *D. vulpes* Loew 1858; *D. lykos* Londt 1985 and *D. spatula* Tomasovic & Constant 2013. The species are rather large and readily recognized by the facial protuberance that occupies at least three-quarter of the face and by the face bristles and very long hairs that extend over the entire length of the face. Their wings have veins with a close relationship to *Microstylum* but the first posterior cell is always closed.

3 **MATERIEL EXAMINED**

*Daspletis poligui* spec. nov. (**Figure 1**)

Holotype: male Gabon, Oluoa, 578 m, S 00°50’35’’ E 14°45’’, 8.XI.2009. Leg R.N. Poligui. Found at the entomological Conservatory of Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech (Prof. Frédéric Francis).

![Figure 1: Photo of Daspletis poligui.](image-url)
4 DIAGNOSIS
Species of medium size, orange antenna, greyish thorax, brown wings, yellowish tibias and tarses, abdomen essentially orange. Setae and hairs are whitish.

Description: Based on unique male holotype
Male. Length: body 23 mm, wings 14 mm.

Head: Orange antenna, scape and pedicel with white setae, postpedicel wider on the upper third and clearly longer than the scape and pedicel combined. Yellow brown face, mystax with long yellowish bristles and shorter hairs, numerous long and yellowish orbital hairs. Black vertex, ocellarium scarcely visible with fine, long and white hairs. Occiput with silver tomentum, white postocular bristles, occipital and lower occipital white hair. Black proboscis, reddish on the ventral part. Pale brown palpi with yellowish setae.


Abdomen: Majority orange with short whitish hairs, the first tergite 1 black with yellowish setae and hairs. Terga and sternae with a fine lateral black strip. Postmetacoxal membrane with just three small, fine yellowish hairs.

Genitalia male (Figure 2). Brown with numerous and long yellowish setae.
Female unknown.

Etymology. Named in honour of the collector René Noël Poligui who has a PhD from ULg - Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech

Remarks. Daspletis poligui is very similar to D. hermanni but for the dorsocentral setae behind the transverse suture, the postmetacoxal membrane nearly glabrous and the combined characters of the genitalia male that readily separate this species from the other species in this genus.

Figure 2: Genitalia male of Daspletis poligui without the setae: A = Epandrium; B = gonocoxite and dististylius; C = phallus; D = hypandrium.
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Before this paper all the eight species were only known under the latitude 15° south of Africa but *D. poligui* has been collected just underneath the equator and now the question is: Is this genus to be found above the equator? (Figures 3 & 4)

**BIBLIOGRAPHIE**


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