

the measurable length. Larger specimens always seem much larger because the greater breadths of thorax and abdomen increase the appearance of bulk. In hand-caught specimens, not reared, the wing length is often affected by damaged wing tips.

The reader may feel that in the keys and descriptions of these flies there is excessive use of such phrases as "more or less," "usually," "commonly," and "sometimes," and the reader is right, more or less! But these reflect the variability that is to be found and the difficulty of making positive statements that will hold true for all available specimens of a species.

Key to the Species of Nearctic *Cuterebra*

1. Abdominal tergite 5 (apparent 4) yellow or whitish yellow haired, at least predominantly (*fontinella* group) 2
 - Tergite 5 black haired 7
- (*fontinella* group: tergite 5 yellow haired)
2. Tergite 5 in dorsal aspect entirely shining, without microtomentum (Fig. 19) (E U.S., E Canada; hosts: *Tamias*, *Sciurus*) 1. *C. emasculator* Fitch ♂ ♀
 - Tergite 5 chiefly whitish or slightly whitish yellow microtomentose, with some bare and shining spots, or a shining band along distal margin (Fig. 20) 3
 3. Cheek black or brownish haired, and more or less extensively shining black; mesopleuron yellow haired without black spot (in the few known specimens) 4
 - Cheek entirely or predominantly white haired, and heavily whitish microtomentose except for the usual small polished spots; mesopleuron chiefly yellow haired but typically with small tuft of black hair 5
 4. Mesoscutum entirely or almost entirely long yellow haired, at most with small black prescutellar hair patch and scattered black hairs or small patches (Minn., Ill.) 2. *C. sterilator* Lugger ♂ ♀
 - Mesoscutum predominantly short black haired, with conspicuous notopleural and supra-alar tufts of whitish hair (Colo., Nebr., Ill.) 3. *C. fasciata* Swenk ♂ ♀
 - 5.² Mesoscutum predominantly black haired except for white hair laterally, on notopleural and supra-alar areas 6
 - Mesoscutum entirely yellowish haired, or almost so, at most with small prescutellar patch of black hair or scattered black hairs or small patches of black hair, none of which seriously affects the general habitus of yellowish haired mesoscutum (N U.S., Canada; hosts: *Peromyscus*, *Microtus*) 4a. *C. fontinella grisea* Coq. ♂ ♀

²See under *C. fontinella fontinella* for discussion of variation and the difficulty of naming some specimens.