

Review of: "Study of four families of the suborder Brachycera (Insecta: Diptera)"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Gabriele,

First, I'd like to thank you for the invitation to review Marchiori's article. I'll go here with my main observations, but the author can find more in the attached file.

The article is intended to be a brief bibliographical review of the families Asteiidae, Lauxaniidae, Mydidae, and Neriidae. The manuscript addresses the objective of the manuscript (to write a mini-review), but I can't see in the text how this mini-review improves what is known or accessible for these families of flies. For example, does it put together information that has not been condensed before? I think the introduction can be expanded to highlight the importance of this work compared with previous knowledge.

Data were collected from a reduced number (3) of databases, something addressed by the author in the manuscript. However, I'd like to see the reasons why he either decided to use those or what other causes forced him to use only these three databases. Also, more detail is needed on how searches were performed in those databases (e.g., keywords used) to facilitate the replicability of his search.

The conclusion confused me a little bit since it is not clear to me whether it is part of Melchiori's manuscript or the conclusion of one of the manuscripts he revised. It includes "other references" outside of the References section.

In sum, Mr. Melchiori's manuscript is interesting, and I encourage the author to continue his work and address most of the comments he can find in the attached file. It would also be valuable to have an English-speaking professional read the MS and improve the English grammar.

All the best,