

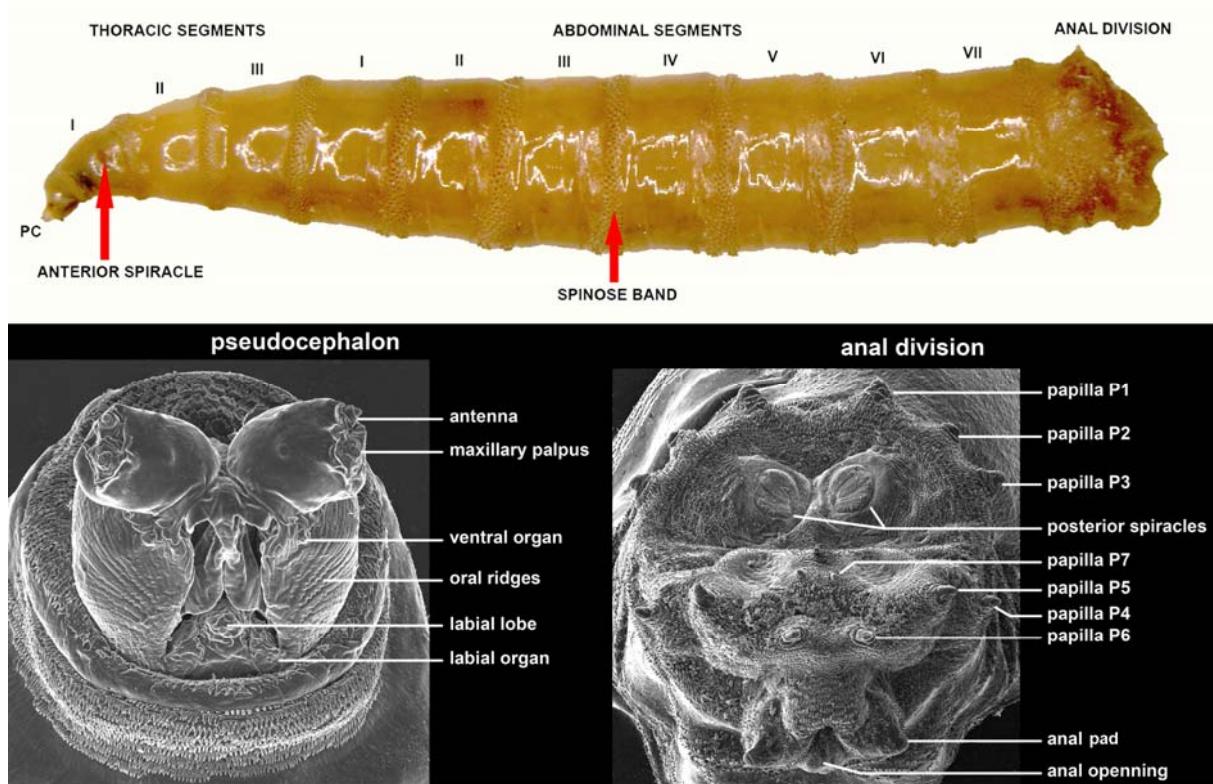
Key for identification of European and Mediterranean
blowflies (Diptera, Calliphoridae) of forensic importance
Third instars



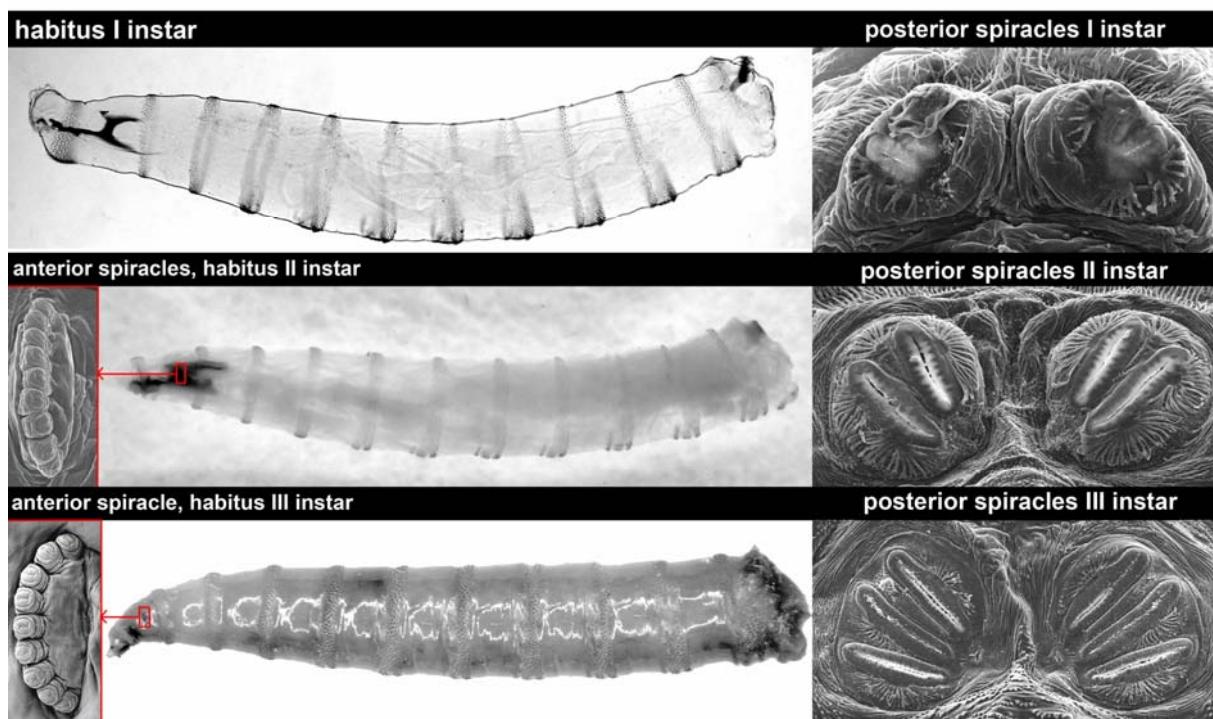
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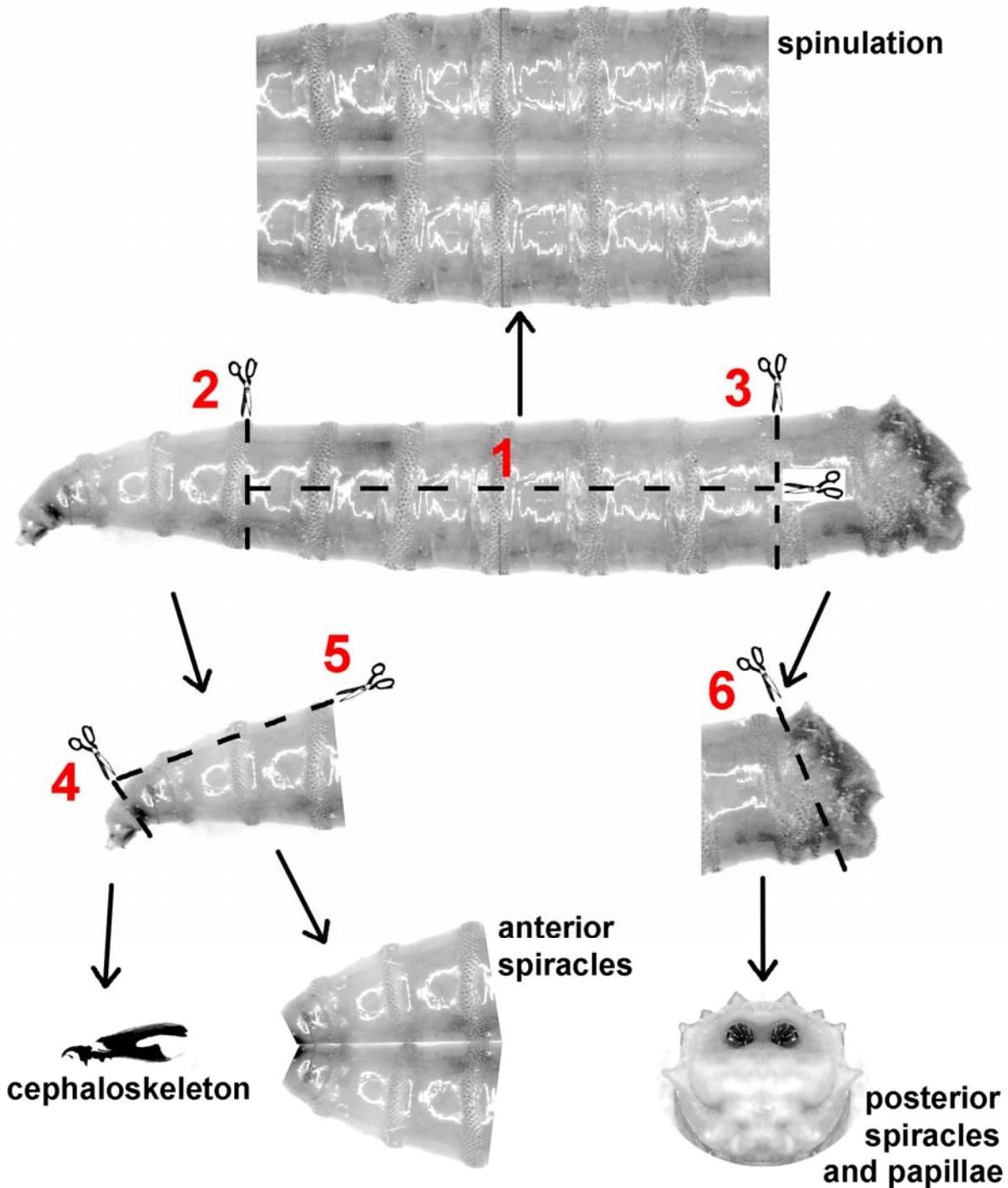
General morphology



How to recognize instars



Preparation



Key for identification of E&M blowflies, third instars

Key

1. – abdominal segments of the larva with numerous fleshy protuberances (Fig. 1A)
..... ***Chrysomya albiceps***
– abdominal segments of the larva without such protuberances **2**

2. – oral sclerite at least partly sclerotised (Figs 1BD, 2AFJ, 3A, 4A, 5FK) **3**
– oral sclerite totally unsclerotised (Figs 1C, 3FJ, 4EHK) **10**

3. – sclerotised part of the oral sclerite short, almost circular (Figs 1D, 3A, 4A, 5FK) **4**
– oral sclerite well sclerotised along the whole length (Figs 1B, 2AFJ) **6**

4. – spines small, with single tips, arranged in short rows (check on the thoracic segments) (Fig. 4C); posterior spiracles wide apart and with complete peritreme (Fig. 4D)
..... ***Lucilia ampullacea***
– spines large, robust, arranged separately (check on the thoracic segments) (Figs 3CD, 5IJ); posterior spiracles close to each other and with incomplete peritreme (Figs 3E, 5G) **5**

5. – all spines with single, blunt tips (check on the thoracic segments) (Figs 5IJ)
..... ***Chrysomya marginalis***
– at least some spines with serrated tips (check on the thoracic segments) (Figs 3CD)
..... ***Chrysomya megacephala***

6. – spines large, arranged separately (check on the thoracic segments) (Figs 2CD)
..... ***Calliphora vomitoria***
– spines small, arranged in short rows (check on the thoracic segments) **7**

7. – posterior spiracles relatively close together ($SDF \approx 1.0$) (Figs 1E, 2I) **8**
– posterior spiracles very wide apart ($SDF > 1.2$) (Fig. 1F) **9**

8. – anterior spinose bands incomplete only on abdominal segments VI and VII
..... ***Calliphora vicina***
– anterior spinose bands incomplete at least on abdominal segments V-VII
..... ***Calliphora subalpina***

9. – anterior spiracles with 4-5 lobes (very rarely with 6-7), apical part of mouthhooks gently curved (Figs 2AF)
..... ***Calliphora loewi***
– anterior spiracles with 7-9 lobes (Fig. 2K), apical part of mouthhooks abruptly curved (Fig. 2J) ***Cynomya mortuorum***

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10. – spines on thoracic segments predominantly with serrated tips (Figs 3HL), spines different sizes 11
– spines with serrated tips on thoracic segments rare or absent (Fig. 4C), all spines small of similar size 12

11. – papillae around the spiracular field large (Fig. 1H), all posterior spinose bands incomplete *Protophormia terraenovae*
– papillae arranged around the spiracular field small (Fig. 1G), at least some posterior spinose bands complete *Phormia regina*

12. – distance between each P1 similar to distance between P1 and P2 (Fig. 1J) *Lucilia sericata*
– distance between each P1 larger than distance between P1 and P2 (Figs 1I, 5E) 13

13. – cephaloskeleton without sclerotised area below the posterior tip of ventral cornua (Fig. 5A), posterior spiracles widely arranged ($SDF>1$) (Fig. 5B) *Lucilia silvarum*
– cephaloskeleton with sclerotised area below the posterior tip of ventral cornua (Figs 4EH), posterior spiracles closely arranged ($SDF<0.9$) (Figs 4FI) 14

14. – posterior spinose band on abdominal segment VI interrupted dorsally (Fig. 4N), postero-dorsal angle of the basal part of the mouthhook with process directed postero-dorsally (Fig. 4E) *Lucilia caesar*
– posterior spinose band on abdominal segment VI complete (Fig. 4O), postero-dorsal angle of the basal part of the mouthhook with process directed posteriorly (Fig. 4H) *Lucilia illustris*

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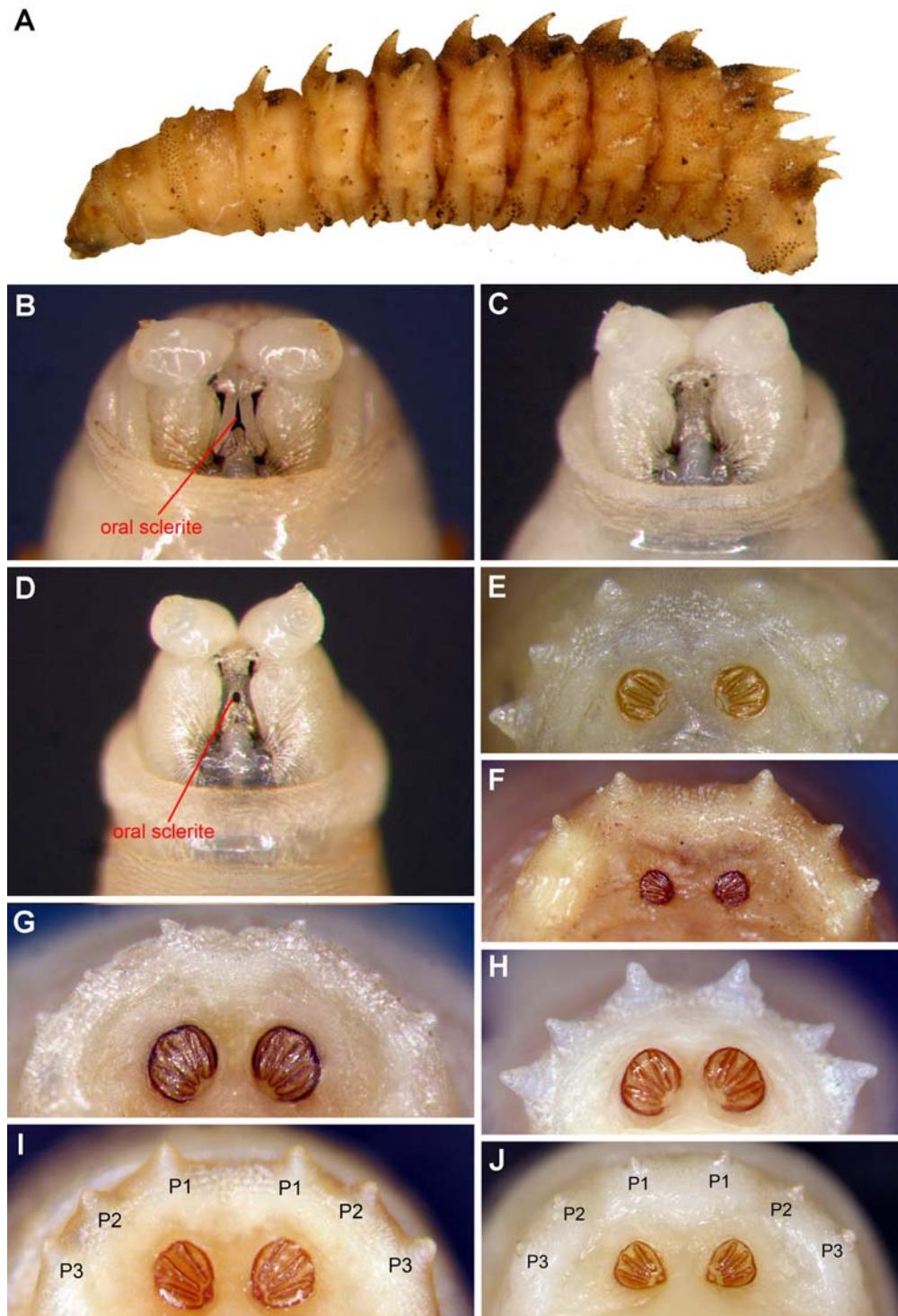


Fig. 1. Third instars of European blowflies: A – *Chrysomya albiceps*, habitus, lateral view; B – *Calliphora vomitoria*, pseudocephalon, ventral view; C – *Lucilia sericata*, pseudocephalon, ventral view; D – *L. ampullacea*, pseudocephalon, ventral view; E – *Calliphora vicina*, anal division, upper half of spiracular field; F – *Cynomya mortuorum*, anal division, upper half of spiracular field; G – *Phormia regina*, anal division, upper half of spiracular field; H – *Protophormia terraenovae*, anal division, upper half of spiracular field; I – *Lucilia illustris*, anal division, upper half of spiracular field; J – *Lucilia sericata*, anal division, upper half of spiracular field.

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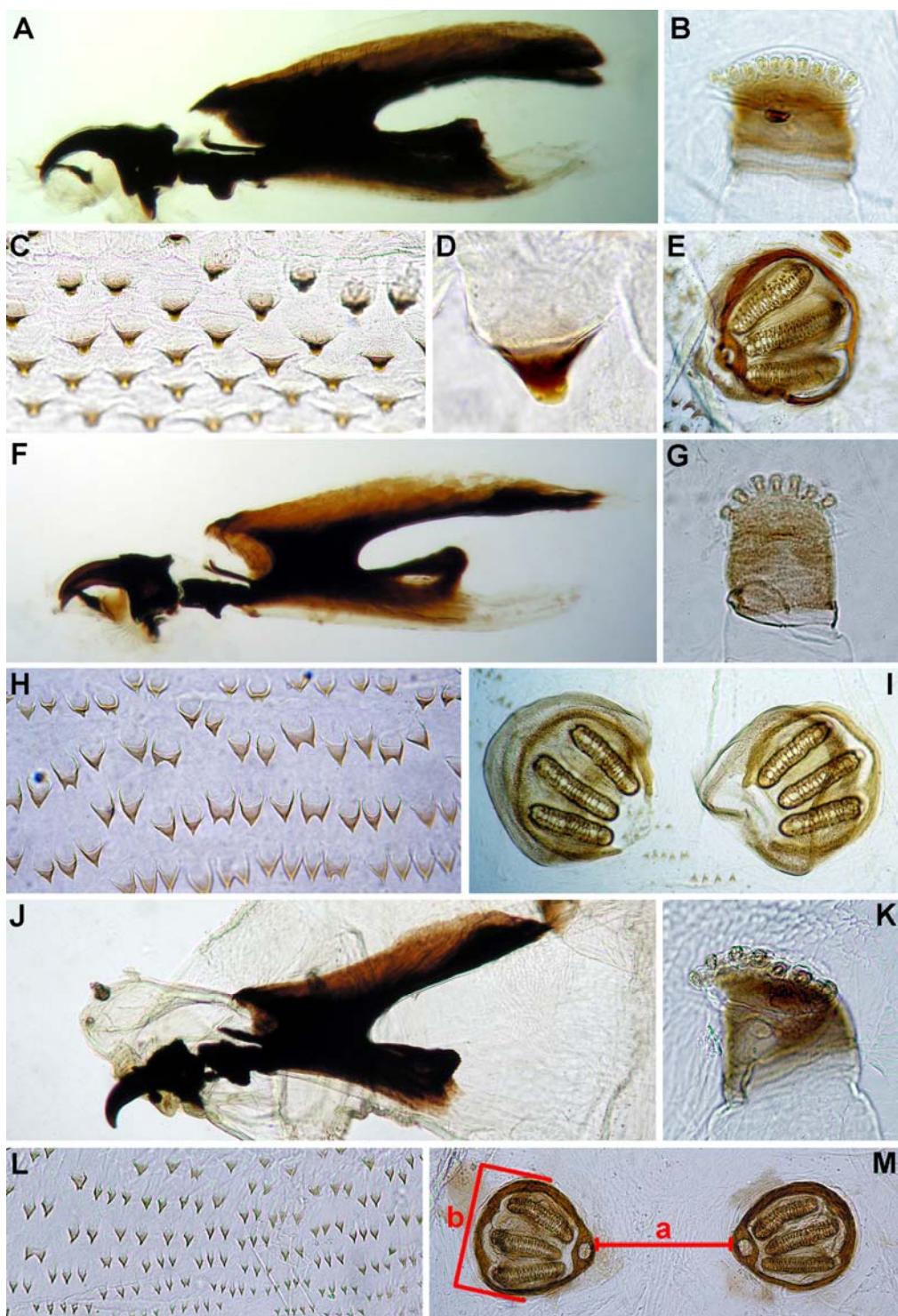


Fig. 2. Third instars of *Calliphora* and *Cynomya*: A – *Calliphora vomitoria*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; B – *C. vomitoria*, anterior spiracle; C – *C. vomitoria*, thoracic segment III, spines; D – *C. vomitoria*, thoracic segment III, spine; E – *C. vomitoria*, posterior spiracle, F – *Calliphora vicina*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; G – *C. vicina*, anterior spiracle; H – *C. vicina*, thoracic segment III, spines; I – *C. vicina*, posterior spiracles; J – *Cynomya mortuorum*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; K – *C. mortuorum*, anterior spiracle; L – *C. mortuorum*, thoracic segment III, spines; M – *C. mortuorum*, posterior spiracles, SDF = a/b.

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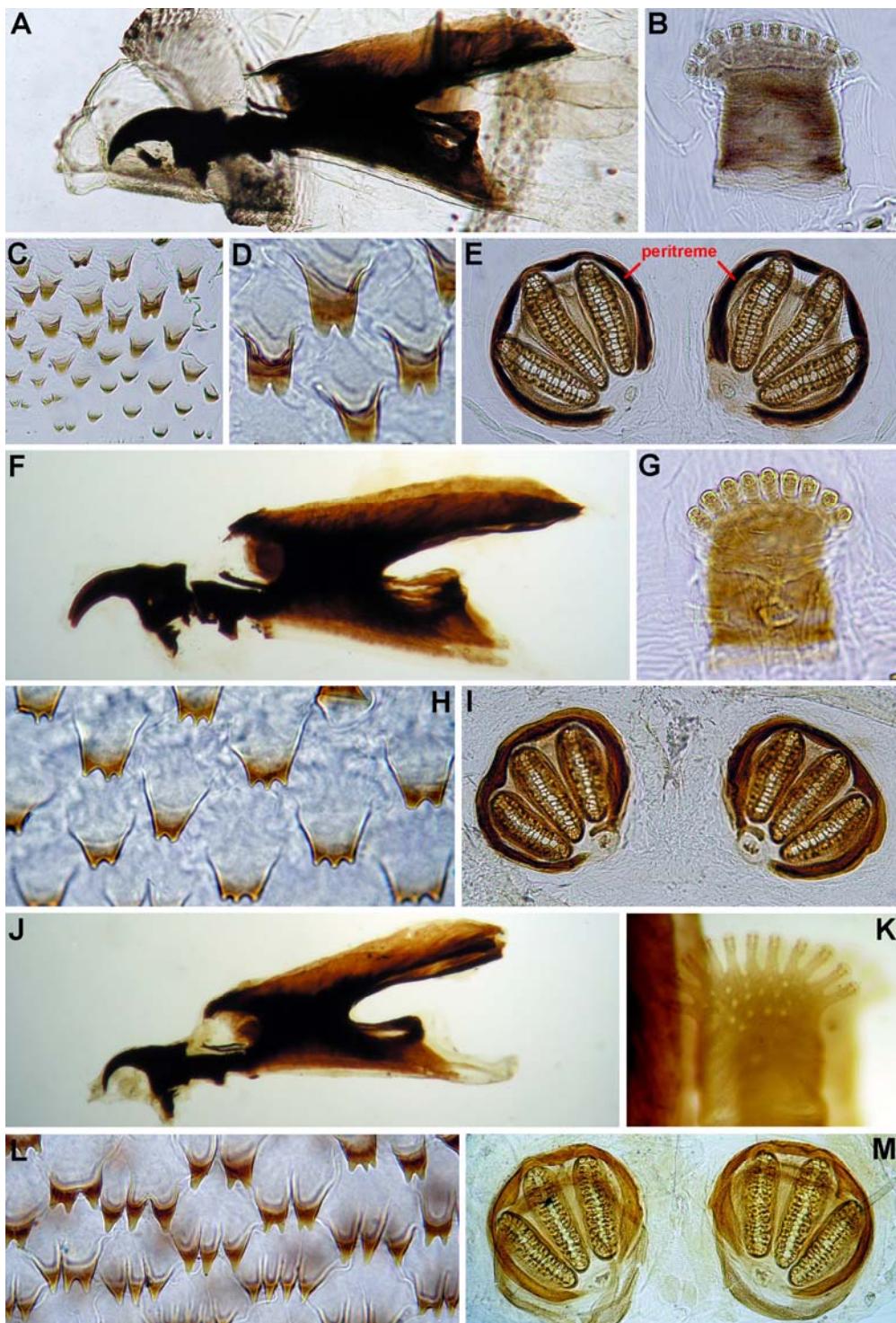


Fig. 3. Third instars of Chrysomyinae: A – *Chrysomya megacephala*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; B – *Ch. megacephala*, anterior spiracle; C – *Ch. megacephala*, thoracic segment III, spines; D – *Ch. megacephala*, thoracic segment III, spines; E – *Ch. megacephala*, posterior spiracles, F – *Phormia regina*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; G – *P. regina*, anterior spiracle; H – *P. regina*, thoracic segment III, spines; I – *P. regina*, posterior spiracles; J – *Protophormia terraenovae*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; K – *P. terraenovae*, anterior spiracle; L – *P. terraenovae*, thoracic segment III, spines; M – *P. terraenovae*, posterior spiracles.

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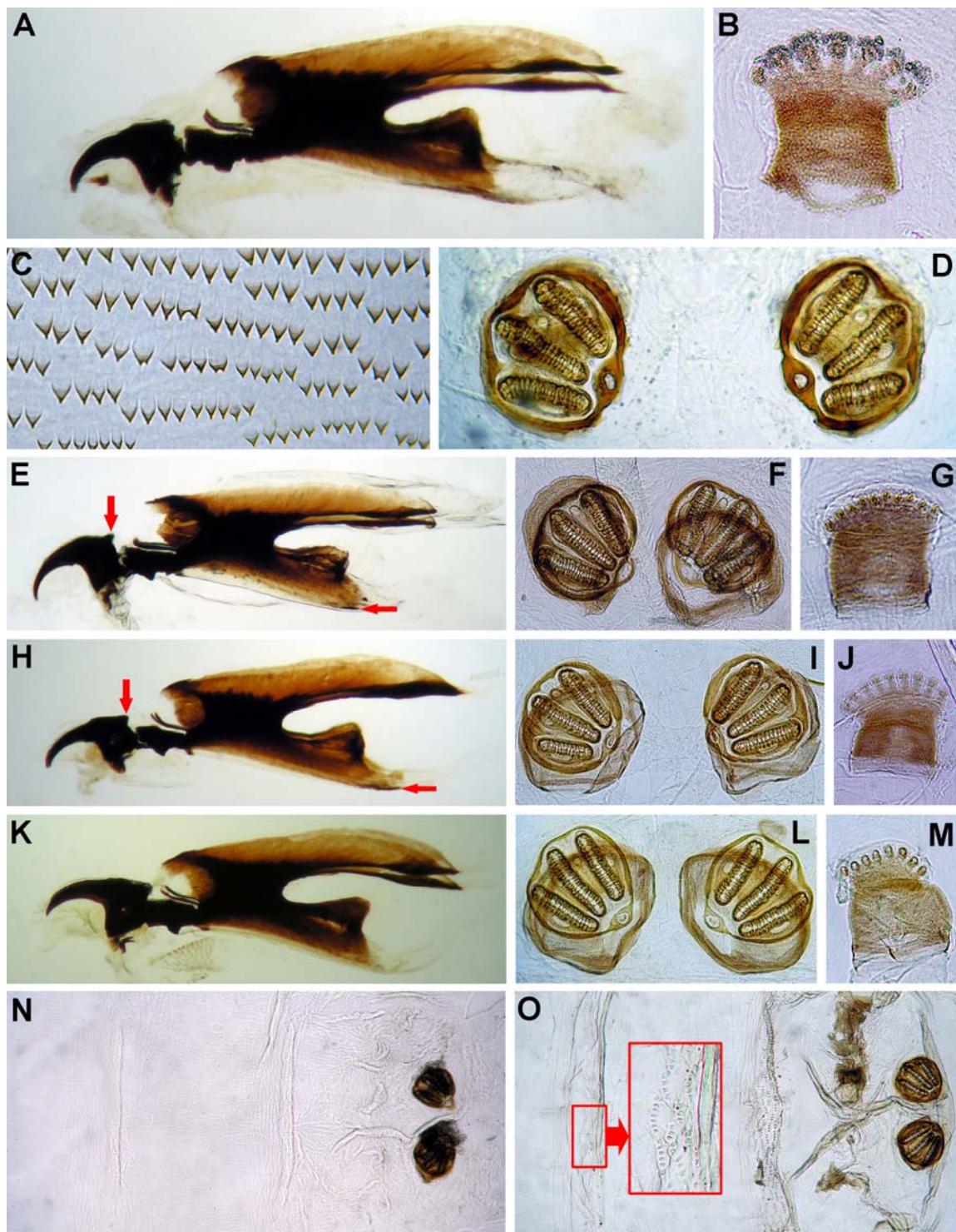


Fig. 4. Third instars of *Lucilia*: A – *Lucilia ampullacea*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; B – *L. ampullacea*, anterior spiracle; C – *L. ampullacea*, thoracic segment III, spines; D – *L. ampullacea*, posterior spiracles, E – *L. caesar*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; F – *L. caesar*, posterior spiracles; G – *L. caesar*, anterior spiracle; H – *L. illustris*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; I – *L. illustris*, posterior spiracles; J – *L. illustris*, anterior spiracle; K – *L. sericata*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; L – *L. sericata*, posterior spiracles; M – *L. sericata*, anterior spiracle; N – *L. caesar*, abdominal segment VII, dorsal view; O – *L. illustris*, abdominal segment VII, dorsal view.

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Fig. 5. Third instars of *Lucilia* and *Chrysomya*: A – *Lucilia silvarum*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; B – *L. silvarum*, posterior spiracles; C – *L. silvarum*, anterior spiracle; D – *L. silvarum*, thoracic segment III, spines, E – *L. silvarum*, anal division, posterior view; F – *Chrysomya marginalis*, cephaloskeleton, lateral view; G – *Ch. marginalis* posterior spiracles; H – *Ch. marginalis*, anterior spiracle; I – *Ch. marginalis*, thoracic segment III, spines; *Ch. marginalis*, thoracic segment III, spine; K – *Ch. marginalis*, pseudocephalon, ventral view.

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