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# A note on *Belvosia formosa* Aldrich (Diptera Tachinidae), a parasite of *Automeris janus* Crans (Lepidoptera, Saturniidae)

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*BELVOSIA FORMOSA* Aldrich is a widely distributed tachinid fly from Mexico, Panama and Costa Rica in Central America, from Brazil in South America and from St. Clair, West Indies, (Aldrich, 1928). Since the type specimens were collected by F.W. Urich who worked in Trinidad, it is felt that St. Clair, W.I., refers to St. Clair, Trinidad, West Indies.

*Belvosia formosa* is a known parasite of two moths *Rothchildia orizaba* Fab. and *Automeris io* Fab. (Aldrich, 1928, and Arnaud, 1978). This paper records the collection of specimens of *Belvosia formosa* from Monos Island, Trinidad, West Indies, an island from which it has not been reported before. Moreover, this study has revealed *Automeris janus* Crans as an additional host of the parasite.

Six larvae of *Automeris janus* were collected off partially defoliated *Cocos nucifera* L. (Coconut tree) on the 31st January, 1980, at Morris Bay, Monos Island. The larvae collected were transported to the laboratory at Insect Vector Control Division where they were reared to adults. At the laboratory the larvae pupated after 17 days. After 18 days of pupation 3 adult *Automeris janus* moths emerged.

From the other pupal stages no adult moth emerged. However, the adult parasite *Belvosia formosa* emerged after 16 days through an apical slit of the pupal case of *Automeris janus*. Seven adults of *B. formosa* emerged as follows: — 2 female,

23.11.1980 and 1 female, 24.11.1980 (D.D. Chadee, Collector); 3 male, 25.11.1980. and one male, 26.11.1980 (R.C. Persad, Collector).

Two specimens of *B. formosa* and the associated pupal case of *Automeris janus* were deposited in the U.S. National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. Five specimens of *B. formosa* and the associated pupal cases are lodged in the Insect Reference collection at the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre (CAREC) P.O. Box 164, Port of Spain, Trinidad, W.I.

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