

clear, therefore, that these ratios cannot be used to distinguish *maritima* from *nigritula*. It remains to consider whether the two are, in fact, distinct. When, at my request, Herr Wagner examined a series of black and bicoloured specimens from Dungeness he replied (*in litt.*) that he was uncertain of their identity but that he preferred to regard them all as *maritima* rather than as a mixture of *maritima* and *nigritula*. In addition to the colour difference, *M. nigritula* is stated to be a more elongate insect than *maritima* and I found this to be apparently true of some continental males (fig. 3); however, others (fig. 4) were virtually identical in shape with the more elongate male *maritima* and, when the latter are black, quite indistinguishable from them. Many male *maritima*, however, have an extensive pale pattern and some are broadly rounded in shape (fig. 5); I have seen no male *nigritula* as broad as this. In the female, *nigritula* (fig. 8) normally appears more elongate than *maritima* (figs. 9, 10), though the difference is often less marked than is indicated by the drawings. These facts, together with the very wide distribution of *nigritula* compared with the extreme localisation of *maritima*, suggests that the two may continue to be regarded as distinct, pending further evidence. I have, however, no evidence that *M. nigritula* occurs in Britain.

In practice the use of the two ratios given above for identifying the species of *Monosynamma* is difficult because the third antennal segment is very liable to shrivel after death and in much old museum material cannot be measured with any accuracy. Consequently, I give below summaries of the differences in size, shape and colour which may be of some value in identification. I must, however, emphasise strongly the wide variation that occurs in these features within species, resulting in substantial overlap; determinations on this basis can be made with any confidence only if series are available. Some individuals will remain unidentifiable except by association with other, more typical examples unless the necessary measurements can be made with accuracy.

*M. sabulicola*. Males.—length 3.6-3.9 mm.; the largest species, appearing relatively broader than *bohemani* (compare figs. 1 and 2); dark in colour with rather extensive pale pattern, involving forehead and vertex, midline of pronotum, basal angles of scutellum, basal half of hemelytra, including clavus, and base of cuneus (fig. 1); antennae often dark with apices of third and fourth segments paler (fig. 11a). [NB. The apex of the first segment is white in all species.] Females.—Length 3.5-4.0 mm.; sometimes only slightly broader in outline than males but sometimes somewhat brachypterous, with sides strongly rounded (fig. 6); colour varying from pattern nearly as male to almost completely pale, pinkish or pale orange, often with dark marks confined to head, scutellum, apex of corium and centre of cuneus (fig. 6); antennae often with only base of second segment dark (fig. 12a). So far