

A natural mutation of *sepia* was identified among the descendants of *Drosophila* collected in Kiel, Germany in 2009. The flies were inbred for six generations with a chain of repeatedly isolated single sib-pair matings. The phenotype was recognized as consistent with classical *sepia* (CG6781; Bridges and Morgan, 1923) and the location was confirmed by a complementation test with *se*¹. Part of the PDA synthase gene region was amplified and sequenced with a set of primers (5'-CTATCACCACCTTGCATCTCTGGACC, 5'-GGAACCGGTTATGGACTGCATTAT, 56°C annealing, Kim *et al.*, 2006) and the nature of the mutation was found to be a 40 base pair frameshift deletion in the second exon from position 3L:8521107..8521146 [+] (bases 461-500 of the CDS), which creates a premature stop codon at codon position 157 (the *sepia* gene product is normally 243 amino acids long). The deleted sequence is 5'-AGAATGCCCCGTCTGCTCGCCACCAAAGAATTCCGTACCAC. A set of diagnostic primers was designed with one primer within the deleted region that can test for the presence of the allele in heterozygotes by PCR (5'-GTGGGTAGAGCCAGGAAACC, 5'-TCTGCTCGCCACCAAAGAAT, 60°C annealing). This allele is likely an amorph and is only the second molecularly characterized mutation of *sepia*. The allele, *se*^{Kiel}, has been deposited at the Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center (Bloomington, IN 47405) as stock 55131 and is listed in FlyBase (St. Pierre *et al.*, 2014) as <http://flybase.org/reports/FBal0294757.html>. Stocks obtained from the Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center (NIH P40OD018537) were used in this study.

References: Bridges, C., and T.H. Morgan 1923, *The Third-Chromosome Group of Mutant Characters of Drosophila melanogaster*. Carnegie Inst. Washington, Publ. 327, p. 86; Kim, J., H. Suh, S. Kim, K. Kim, C. Ahn, and J. Kim 2006, *Biochem. J.* 398: 451-460; St. Pierre, S.E., L. Ponting, R. Stefancsik, P. McQuilton, and the FlyBase Consortium 2014, *Nucleic Acids Res.* 42: D780-D788.



New mutants of *Drosophila mediopunctata*.

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For almost three decades we have been working with *Drosophila mediopunctata*, a species of the *tripunctata* group (Yotoko *et al.*, 2003), studying various aspects of its biology. In this note we describe new X-ray induced mutations in this species. We exposed three hundred males from two homokaryotypic strains ([150 males ITA-24P, phenotype: wild; chromosome karyotypes: II: *DA-PA0/DA-PA0*; III: *St/St*; IV: *St/St*; V: *St/St*; X: *St/Y*]; [150 males ITC-229ET, phenotype: wild; chromosome karyotypes: II: *DI-PB0/DI-PB0*; III: *St/St*; IV: *St/St*; V: *St/St*; X: *St/Y*]) to three X-ray doses (2200 rad; 4400 rad; and 6600 rad; equivalent to the absorbed dosage suggested by Marques *et al.*, 1991). After one day of recovery, irradiated males were individually crossed with virgin females from the same strain or from a strain (CR-27A or CR-32C) with four visible mutations marking each major autosome (as described by Hatadani *et al.*, 2004). In the first generation, we selected dominant visible mutations and those inherited in sexual chromosomes. Then, the F1 progeny were allowed to mate (brother-sister mating) to select recessive mutants in the F2 using the marked chromosomes.

We obtained three new *Delta* (Δ) alleles (Δ_6 and Δ_7 located in *DA-PA0* chromosome from different X-ray mutated males ITA-24P; Δ_8 located in *DI-PB0* from an X-ray mutated male from ITC-229ET). *Delta* is a dominant mutation that produces deltas at junctions of wing veins, or wing veins with margins (Figure 1). We also found flies with yellow body color, named “*louro*” (*ll*₃) mutation from irradiated strain ITC-229ET flies (Figure 2). This mutation is recessive and linked to the X chromosome. It is probably homologous to *D. melanogaster yellow* gene. Our perspective is to develop new mutations and balanced strains with visible and cytological markers in all chromosomes in this species.

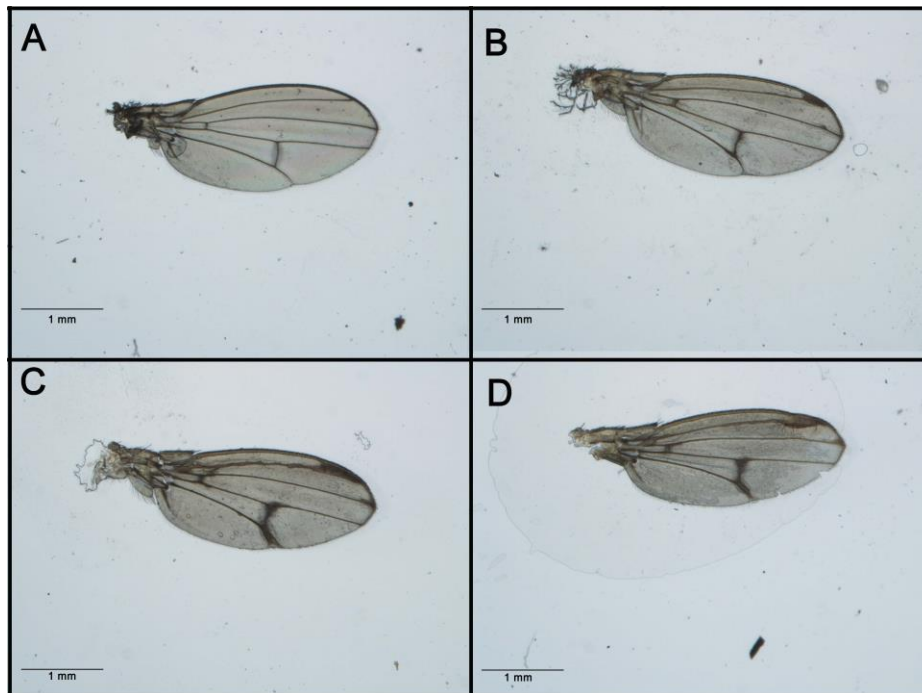


Figure 1. *Drosophila mediopunctata* Delta mutant wings. A) wild type; B) Δ_5 ; C) Δ_7 ; D) Δ_8 .

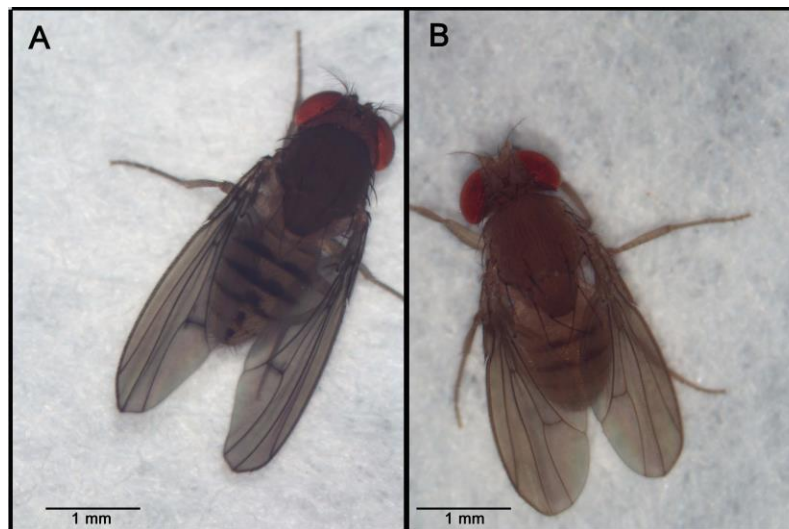


Figure 2. Adult males of *Drosophila mediopunctata*: A) *Drosophila mediopunctata* wild type; B) “louro” (ll) mutant (yellow body color).

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