

A new species of *Brachypogon (Isohelea)* from arid zones of Argentina (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae)

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Abstract

Brachypogon (Isohelea) borkenti, n. sp. from steppe areas of the Argentinean provinces of Mendoza and Río Negro is described and illustrated from male and female specimens collected by sweep net and Malaise trap. The species is compared with its congener *B. hugoi* Spinelli & Grogan, and a key to females and males of the six Neotropical species of the subgenus is included

Key words: Diptera, Ceratopogonidae, *Brachypogon (Isohelea)*, new species, Argentina

Introduction

The small to minute, black, predaceous midges of the genus *Brachypogon* Kieffer are worldwide in distribution except for Antarctica (Borkent & Wirth, 1997). Borkent and Spinelli (2000), in their catalog of the Neotropical ceratopogonids, listed 23 extant species for the region. Spinelli & Grogan (1998) revised the 18 Neotropical species in the subgenus *Brachypogon*, and Spinelli & Grogan (1994) the remaining five of the subgenus *Isohelea*: *B. mapuche* Spinelli, *B. misionensis* Spinelli, and *B. wirthi* Spinelli from Argentina, *B. hugoi* Spinelli & Grogan from Colombia, and *B. pallidipennis* Spinelli & Grogan from Honduras. Szadziewski & Grogan (1998) described two fossil species of this subgenus from Dominican amber.

This paper describes a new species of *Brachypogon (Isohelea)* collected by the senior author in steppe areas of the Argentinean provinces of Mendoza and Río Negro.