Onconeura, a new Neotropical orthoclad genus (Chironomidae, Orthocladiinae)

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Abstract

Diagnoses of all stages of the new genus *Onconeura* are given. The genus includes *O. undecimata* new species, from Chile, described as male, female, and pupa, and *O. semifimbriata* (Sæther) new combination from the Caribbean and Mexico. The genus belongs to the *Corynoneura* group of genera and appears to form the sister group of *Corynoneura* Winnertz, *Tempisquitoneura* Epler, *Thienemanniella* Kieffer, and perhaps *Notocladius* Harrison combined. The following combination of characters will separate the genus from the other members of the group: bare eyes; tergites without raised, median area of setae; all trochanters with dorsal keel; hind tibial apex not broadened; male transverse sternapodeme well developed with strong oral projections; female gonocoxite IX well developed but adpressed, with a few setae; coxosternapodeme with a few spine-like anterior projections; and apodeme lobe and labia large. The pupa differs by having 4–7 rows of pearls on the wing sheath, one weak non-taeniate macroseta, and tergal conjunctives with posterior rows of up to 10 strong recurved spines (hooklets). The larva differs from that of *Corynoneura* and *Thienemanniella* by having the antenna shorter than half the length of the head, but about one third the length, as opposed to one fourth in *Tempisquitoneura*.

Key words: Chironomidae, Orthocladiinae, *Onconeura*, new genus, new species, Neotropical, systematics

Introduction

Sæther (1981) described *Thienemanniella semifimbriata* from St. Vincent in the Caribbean, stating that the species "should be placed in a separate genus which either forms the sister genus of *Corynoneura*, or of *Corynoneura* and *Thienemanniella* combined." However, because of the great similarity with *Thienemanniella* as imagines and larva and the numerous Neotropical types of the *Corynoneura* group remaining to be described, erection of a new genus was postponed. An additional reason was that the material from St. Vincent