

## ***Synorthocladius* Thienemann from China, with a review of the genus (Diptera: Chironomidae: Orthocladiinae)**

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### **Abstract**

The orthoclad genus *Synorthocladius* is reviewed. *Synorthocladius bifidus* is described and figured based on males from China. *Synorthocladius semivirens* (Kieffer) is redescribed and illustrated based on Chinese specimens. *Synorthocladius conicus* (Freeman) is transferred to the genus *Bryophaenocladius*. A key to males of *Synorthocladius* of the world is presented, and the generic diagnosis is emended.

**Key words:** Chironomidae, *Synorthocladius*, key, new species, new combination, China

### **Introduction**

Thienemann (1935) established the orthoclad genus *Synorthocladius* and treated the species *Dactylocladius semivirens* Kieffer (1909) as the type species. To date, seven named species have been recorded from the Holarctic and Afrotropical Regions (Edwards 1929; Freeman 1953; Freeman & Cranston 1980; Sasa 1981; Cranston *et al.* 1983, 1986, 1989; Ashe & Cranston 1990; Oliver *et al.* 1990; Sasa & Hirabayashi 1991; Sasa & Suzuki 1997; Sæther *et al.* 2000; Harrison 2004).

Two species described by Freeman (1953) from South Africa, namely *Orthocladius conicus* and *Pseudorthocladius lobiger*, were transferred to *Synorthocladius* by Freeman & Cranston (1980). Sæther *et al.* (2000) treated *Mongolcladius* Sasa & Suzuki 1997 as a junior synonym of *Synorthocladius*, and transferred *M. mongowexeus*, a species from Mongolia, to the genus *Synorthocladius* as a new combination.

Previously, Wang & Zhang (1987) recorded the larval stage of *Orthocladius semivirens* from Ningxia Autonomous Region, China. In a checklist of Chironomidae from China, Wang (2000) recorded the male of *S. tamaparvulus* Sasa from Guangdong Province and the larva from Liaoning Province.