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A new species of *Wiedemannia* (Diptera: Empididae: Clinocerinae) from Balkan Peninsula

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Abstract

Wiedemannia artemisa sp. nov. (Diptera: Empididae: Clinocerinae) is described from the Balkan Peninsula. Although current subgeneric concepts are considered to have doubtful validity, the new species is tentatively assigned to the subgenus *Philolutra* Mik. The distribution of *Wiedemannia* in the Balkans is discussed.

Key words: Diptera, Empididae, Clinocerinae, *Wiedemannia*, new species, Balkan Peninsula

Introduction

Wiedemannia Zetterstedt is a genus of more than 100 described species of small predatory aquatic Diptera belonging to the Empididae subfamily Clinocerinae. Adults are typically found along the splash zone on rocks of lotic waters. Approximately 85% of known species occur in the Palaearctic but the genus is also present in Nearctic, Oriental and Afrotropical realms (Yang *et al.* 2007) and a single species has an Holarctic distribution (Sinclair 1997). Currently known diversity of *Wiedemannia* is highest in streams on the mountains of the Pyrenees, European Alps and Balkan Peninsula although many undescribed species are present there and elsewhere.

Wiedemannia was considered by Sinclair (1995) to be most closely related to *Phaeobalia* Mik and *Bergenstammia* Mik in having a synapomorphic biarticulated phallus and a subepandrial sclerite removed from the base of the clasping cercus. Chvála and Wagner (1989) recognised seven subgenera of *Wiedemannia*, but Yang *et al.* (2007) listed just six (*Chamaedipsia* Mik, *Eucelidia* Mik, *Philolutra* Mik, *Pseudowiedemannia* Engel, *Roederella* Engel, and *Wiedemannia* Zetterstedt) following the elevation of *Clinocerella* Engel to genus rank by Sinclair (1995). The subgeneric concepts that have been applied within *Wiedemannia* s. lat. appear to be of doubtful validity as many described species can not be confidently classified according to them. In a cladistic analysis of Clinocerinae, Sinclair (1995) concluded that *Roederella* and *Eucelidia* are probably monophyletic, possessing synapomorphic long, erect setae on the front coxa, whereas an apomorphic extension of the acrostichal setae around the prescutellar depression characterized *Chamaedipsia*, *Philolutra*, *Pseudowiedemannia* and *Wiedemannia* s. str. A median setose swelling of the distiphallus is found in *Philolutra*, *Pseudowiedemannia* and *Wiedemannia* (Sinclair 1995) although we are aware of at least one species, currently assigned to *Chamaedipsia* [*W. (C.) ariadne* Wagner] which also exhibits this character. In *Pseudowiedemannia* and *Wiedemannia* the stigma is circular, whereas in *Philolutra* it is elongate.

Here we describe a new species of *Wiedemannia* from the Balkan Peninsula. Although we might tentatively assign it to the subgenus *Philolutra* on the basis of stigma shape, morphology of the distiphallus and arrangement of acrostichal setae, we refrain from doing so here as we consider current subgeneric concepts confused and perhaps invalid. Rather, the uncertain systematic position of the new species supports our contention that a thorough