



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3701.5.4>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:7E3917AF-E053-470F-95B8-1E483BD0ED53>

***Thalassomya gutae* sp. n., a new marine chironomid (Diptera: Chironomidae: Telmatogetoninae) from the Brazilian coast**

CAROLINE SILVA NEUBERN DE OLIVEIRA, FABIO LAURINDO DA SILVA
& SUSANA TRIVINHO-STRIXINO

Laboratório de Ecologia de Insetos Aquáticos, Departamento de Hidrobiologia, Universidade Federal de São Carlos, C. P. 676, 13565–905, São Carlos, SP, Brazil. E-mail: fabelha@hotmail.com

Abstract

One new species of *Thalassomya* Schiner, 1856 (Diptera: Chironomidae: Telmatogetoninae), *T. gutae* sp. n. is described and figured as male, pupa and larva. The specimen was collected in the marine zone between tide-marks, in southeastern Brazilian coast and is the first species of this genus recorded to Brazil.

Key words: immature stages, Neotropical region, taxonomy

Introduction

Non-biting midges of the genus *Thalassomya* are small dipterans with cosmopolitan distribution, found on rocks in the intertidal marine zone of warmer seas, often associated with particular algal species (Cranston 1989).

The adult males are distinguished by the presence of numerous acrostichals and simple tarsomere 5 (Cranston 1989). In the pupae the presence of tubercles on tergite I and the reduction in numbers of setae on the ventral posterior part of the terminal disc, particularly in ventral segment IX (Cranston 1986) are characteristic. The larvae can be distinguished by having an area anterior to frontal apotome without clearly delimited sclerites, S3 not placed on a tubercle and premandible simple (Cranston 1983).

The genus belonging to subfamily Telmatogetoninae was erected by Schiner in 1856 for the marine species *frauenfeldi* from Trieste, Italy. Prior to the present study *Thalassomya* comprised 11 species, most of which do not exhibit any endemism pattern, occurring in more than one biogeographical region (Ashe & O'Connor 2009).

In Brazil, although some morphotypes of *Thalassomya* were described (Trivinho-Strixino 2011; Oliveira 1998), the genus is still poorly known taxonomically. Only five species are recorded from the Neotropical region and none of them are registered to Brazil. The examination of a Telmatogetoninae species, not readily identifiable, suggests that this species does not match to any of the currently recognised species of *Thalassomya*. Thus, in the present study one new species of *Thalassomya* is described and figured as male, pupa, and larva.

Material and methods

Larvae and adults were collected manually on rocks in the intertidal zone, in southeastern Brazilian. Living larvae were reared individually in the laboratory to obtain the associated pupal exuviae and adults. Neither substratum nor food was given, except for some detritus carried over with the water. Larval skins, pupal exuviae and adults were preserved in 96% ethanol. Specimens examined were slide-mounted in Euparal.

Morphological terminology and abbreviations follow Sæther (1980). Data on larvae represent the 4th instar. Measurement methods followed Epler (1988). Mensural data are given as ranges, followed by the number of observed specimens in parenthesis if different from the number (n) stated at the beginning of the description. Seta counts are given as the ranges only. The holotype and paratypes are deposited in the Reference Collection of