

## Redescription of *Rhinocladius* Edwards (Diptera: Chironomidae: Orthoclaadiinae)

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### Abstract

Diagnoses of male and female imagines of the genera *Rhinocladius* are given. *R. culicinus* known only as female imago is redescribed. *R. longirostris* is redescribed as male and female imagines. Parsimony analyses show that *Rhinocladius*, although keying to *Apometriocnemus* Sæther in Cranston et al. (1989), most likely belong in the *Pseudorthocladus* group of genera.

**Key words:** *Rhinocladius*, Orthoclaadiinae, Chironomidae, Argentina, Chile

### Introduction

One of the more intriguing genera of chironomids is *Rhinocladius* Edwards described from Patagonia which has extremely elongated lamellae superficially resembling the proboscis of a mosquito. The labellae presumably may be used for sipping nectar. Söponis (1980) discovered an additional species with elongated labellae, but that species belonged to the genus *Pseudorthocladus* Goetghebuer. When one of us (T. A.) found a specimen belonging to *Rhinocladius* from Chile we found it opportune to redescribe the single species known as male, decide if the genus was a senior synonym of *Pseudorthocladus*, and, if not, give a generic diagnosis. Although the immatures are unknown the characteristic female combined with male features may help in a cladistic analysis.

### Methods and terminology

The general terminology follows Sæther (1980). All material was on microscope slides and prepared in Canada balsam. The measurements are given as ranges followed by a mean ( $\bar{n}$ ) when 4 or more specimens are measured. The holotype is returned to The Natural History Museum, London (BMNH).