

A new phytotelmatic species of *Monopelopia* Fittkau, 1962 (Insecta: Diptera: Chironomidae: Tanypodinae) from South Brazil

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Abstract

The new species *Monopelopia caraguata* sp. n. is figured and described. The material was collected in a bromeliad study in South Brazil – (Unidade de Conservação Ambiental Desterro – UCAD, Florianópolis, Santa Catarina State). A key to the Neotropical-Nearctic species is also provided.

Key words: Tanypodinae, *Monopelopia*, Neotropical, Taxonomy, Phytotelmata

Introduction

The genus *Monopelopia* was erected by Fittkau (1962) for *Tanypus tenuicalcar* Kieffer, 1918 from the Holarctic region. Subsequently Beck & Beck (1966) described two new species from the Nearctic, *M. boliekae* Beck and Beck and *M. tillandsia* Beck and Beck. In the Neotropical region three species were assigned: *M. boliekae* from Colombia (Spies & Reiss, 1996), *M. mikeschwartzi* Epler, 1998 from Jamaica, and *M. minuta* Serpa-Filho & Oliveira (1997) from Brazil. Roback (1986) provided the most recent revision of the genus.

The immatures of *M. boliekae*, *M. mikeschwartzi*, *M. tillandsia*, and *M. tenuicalcar* are known and show many differences which enable identification at the species level based on the immature stages. According to Murray & Fittkau (1989), the larvae live in small pools of boggy acid water but *M. tillandsia* and *M. mikeschwartzi* are found in bromeliads.

The genus may have also been confused with other genera in older literature due to taxonomic changes, as previously discussed by Epler & Janetzky (1998) and Cranston & Judd (1987).