

A new species of crane fly, *Pedicia (Pedicia) goldsworthyi* (Diptera: Pediciidae), from eastern North America

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Abstract

A new species of crane fly, *Pedicia (Pedicia) goldsworthyi*, is described from eastern North America. The range of this species is extensive, from Maine to North Carolina, and broadly overlaps with the ranges of the four other regional species of *Pedicia (Pedicia)* Latreille. A key to males of the eastern North America species of *Pedicia (Pedicia)* that includes this new species is presented.

Keywords: *Pedicia*, Tipuloidea, Pediciidae, Tipulidae

Introduction

The 28 species of the subgenus *Pedicia (Pedicia)* are among the largest and most ornately colored of all crane flies (Diptera: Tipuloidea: Pediciidae). Both male and female adult flies commonly exceed 30 mm in total body length and are easily recognized by the dark seams along the distal wing chord and the costal and cubital-anal wing veins that result in a characteristic triangular appearance. Though there is little known about the life history and biology of this genus, adults are generally thought to be nonfeeding or nectarivorous and short lived, with the majority of life spent in the immature larval stage (Alexander 1920, Prichard 1983). The larvae are large and predaceous, typically being found in mosses associated with cool springs, seeps, and stream margins (Alexander 1920). Species richness is highest in the mid- to upper latitudes of the Nearctic and Eastern Palearctic Regions with a single species known from the Oriental Region. No records are known from the Neotropical, Afrotropical, and Australian/Oceanic Regions (Oosterbroek 2005).

The four regional species of *Pedicia (Pedicia)* from eastern North America are exceedingly similar in both gross morphology and coloration, and previously have been