



Description of a new species of *Fallceon* from Cuba, and redescription of the larva of *F. longifolius* (Ephemeroptera, Baetidae)

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Abstract

Fallceon grandis sp. n. is described based on larvae from Cuba. The new species shares some similarities with two other Cuban species of *Fallceon*, *F. planifrons* and *F. alcarrazae*, and can be separated from all species of the genus by the following characteristics: (1) frontal keel absent; (2) maxillary palp subequal to galea-laciniae; (3) tarsal claws with one subapical seta; (4) gills broad and richly tracheated; (5) tergal surface with abundant angulate scales bases and posterior margin with sharp triangular spines; (6) paraprocts with 13–14 irregular spines in posterior margin. *Fallceon longifolius* is redescribed based on material from Cuba, and the Mexican material previously assigned to this species is considered herein as a new species. An updated key to the larvae of *Fallceon* from Cuba is also presented.

Key words: *Fallceon*, Baetidae, Ephemeroptera, new species, Cuba

Introduction

The genus *Fallceon* (Ephemeroptera: Baetidae) was established by Waltz and McCafferty (1987) to incorporate those species previously included in *Baetis* s.l. characterized in the larvae by the absence of villopore, segment 2 of labial palp without distomedial process, at least the right mandible with a tuft of setae between the prosthema and molar, and by the presence in the adults of a distinct costal hook in the hind wing. Later, Lugo-Ortiz *et al.* (1994) considered that *Caribaetis*, originally described as a subgenus of *Baetis* (Kluge 1992a), was a synonym of *Fallceon*.

Currently *Fallceon* is known from Central America (Costa Rica, Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras), the Antilles (Cuba, Puerto Rico and Guadeloupe) and North America (Mexico and United States), and includes 17 species (Waltz and McCafferty 1987, Kluge 1992 a, b, Lugo-Ortiz *et al.* 1994, Lugo-Ortiz and McCafferty 1999, Hofmann *et al.* 1999, McCafferty 2006, 2007). Three additional species recently assigned to *Fallceon* (Lugo-Ortiz & McCafferty 1999) are also reported from South America, but as they are known exclusively at the imaginal stage and were tentatively included in this genus, the presence of *Fallceon* in South America should be regarded as dubious (Dominguez *et al.* 2006). In Cuba the following species of *Fallceon* have been described so far: *F. alcarrazae* (Kluge), *F. longifolius* (Kluge), *F. nikitai* McCafferty and Lugo-Ortiz, *F. planifrons* (Kluge), *F. sextus* (Kluge), *F. testudineus* (Kluge), and *F. poeyi* (Eaton) (Kluge 1992 a, b, McCafferty and Lugo-Ortiz 1994, Lugo-Ortiz *et al.* 1994).

Herein, based on larvae collected in Cuba's Eastern Region, a new species of *Fallceon* is described. *Fallceon longifolius* is redescribed based on material also from Cuba, and the Mexican material previously assigned to this species by Lugo-Ortiz *et al.* (1994) is considered herein as a new species. An updated key to