



The *Dolichopus planitarsis* species group in the Palearctic Region with the description of a new species from the Russian Altai (Diptera: Dolichopodidae)

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Abstract

The *Dolichopus planitarsis* species group in the Palearctic Region is defined and reviewed. It comprises eight species including one new species, *Dolichopus tundrensis* **sp. nov.**, from the Altai Mountains. The species group is differentiated from other *Dolichopus* by the male mid tarsomere 5 which is black and flattened dorsoventrally with anterior and posterior rows of strong setae. A revised key to the species group is provided, as well as remarks on its geographical distribution.

Key words: Dolichopodidae, Dolichopodinae, *Dolichopus*, Palearctic, Altai, new species, key, zoogeography, systematics

Introduction

The genus *Dolichopus* Latreille, 1796, is the largest genus of Dolichopodidae with more than 600 species worldwide (Yang *et al.* 2006). *Dolichopus planitarsis* Fallén, 1823, and *D. bonsdorffi* Frey, 1915, were included in the subgenus *Melanodolichopus* by Frey (1915) with the type species *Dolichopus stenhammari* Zetterstedt, 1843 (= *Dolichopus annulipes* Zetterstedt, 1838), designated by Steyskal (1973). The subgenus was defined by the more or less black femora and entirely black postocular cilia. Stackelberg (1930a) and Parent (1938) treated *Melanodolichopus* as a species group of *Dolichopus s.str.*, and thus considered the name a synonym. Later descriptions of new species related to *D. planitarsis* were published (Ringdahl 1920; Stackelberg 1930b; Negrobov 1973a, 1973b, 1977), demonstrating distinct differences of *D. planitarsis* and its relatives from the *D. annulipes* lineage.

Presently all previously coined subgenera of *Dolichopus* are considered synonyms of the nominotypical subgenus (Brooks 2005). The last key to males of Palearctic species of the *D. planitarsis* group was incorporated into the key of the genus published by Negrobov *et al.* (2005). Here we describe one peculiar new species from the Altai Mountains and define the limits of the *D. planitarsis* species group, which comprises eight species.

Material and methods

The material was collected during the recent expeditions of the Institute of Systematics and Ecology of Animals to the high mountains of Russian Altai. Several species new to science were found in the family