



Morphological description of the pupa and fourth-instar larva and redescription of the adults of *Psorophora (Psorophora) pallescens* Edwards (Diptera: Culicidae)

MARINA STEIN^{1,4}, MAGDALENA LAURITO², GUSTAVO CARLOS ROSSI³ & WALTER RICARDO ALMIRÓN²

¹Instituto de Medicina Regional. Universidad Nacional del Nordeste. Av. Las Heras 727 3500, Resistencia, Argentina.

²Centro de Investigaciones Entomológicas de Córdoba. Facultad de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales. Universidad Nacional de Córdoba. Av. Vélez Sársfield 1611 X5016GCA, Córdoba, Argentina.

³Centro de Estudios Parasitológicos y de Vectores (CEPAVE) (UNLP-CONICET), Calle 2 No. 584-B1902CHX-La Plata, Argentina.

⁴Corresponding author. E-mail: marstein@medreg.unne.edu.ar

Abstract

The adult male and female of *Psorophora (Psorophora) pallescens* Edwards are redescribed. The pupa and fourth-instar larva are described for the first time. The male genitalia, pupa and fourth-instar larva are illustrated. Information on distribution, bionomics and taxonomy is also included. *Psorophora pallescens* adults differ from the other species of the subgenus in the coloration of the scutum and abdomen. The larva can be distinguished from *Psorophora ciliata* based on characters of the head, thorax and abdomen.

Key words: *Psorophora (Psorophora) pallescens*, unknown immature stages, description, adult redescrptions

Introduction

Psorophora (Psorophora) pallescens was described by Edwards (1922) from adults (1 M and 4 F cotypes) collected in Paraguay. These plus other specimens were sent by Dr. Kertész to Theobald for identification at the British Museum (Natural History) in 1911, and then passed to Edwards in 1921. At the same time, Dyar (1922) described this species based on two females from Paraguay and a male from Argentina but named it *Ps. stigmatophora*. Regarding specimens examined by these two authors, the specimens identified by Lynch Arribálzaga (1891) as *Ps. ciliata* (Fabricius) included misidentified specimens of *Ps. pallescens*. Shannon & Del Ponte (1927) also concluded that some specimens identified by Lynch Arribálzaga (1891) as *Ps. ciliata* were actually *Ps. pallescens*. Del Ponte & Castro (1952) redescribed the adults and included an illustration of the male genitalia based on material deposited in the collection of the Natural Sciences Museum “Bernardino Rivadavia” (Buenos Aires Province). Stone (1956) examined the genitalia of the male syntype deposited in the British Museum (now the Natural History Museum), drew the gonostylus and reported some differences from that figured by Lane & Cerqueira (Lane 1953). Guedes *et al.* (1965) illustrated the female genitalia. Belkin (1968) examined specimens deposited in the collection of British Museum and designated a lectotype male for *Ps. pallescens*.

None of the authors mentioned in the previous paragraph described the larva and pupa. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to provide a complete description of all life stages of *Ps. pallescens* to aid the unequivocal recognition of the species.