



New species of *Lopescladius* (*Cordiella*) Coffman *et* Roback (Chironomidae: Orthocladiinae) from Brazil

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Abstract

Three new species of *Lopescladius* (*Cordiella*) Coffman *et* Roback, 1984, *L. (C.) morosus*, *L. (C.) vibrissatus* and *L. (C.) uncatus*, from Brazil are described and figured as male imago. An emended generic diagnosis as well as a key to the males are given.

Key words: Chironomidae, Orthocladiinae, *Lopescladius*, *Cordiella*, new species, key, Neotropical region

Introduction

The genus *Lopescladius* was described by Oliveira (1967) based on *L. minutissimus* Oliveira, 1967 from the Amazon in Brazil. The genus is easily recognized on its small size; small, protruding, pubescent to hairy eyes and cordiform fourth tarsomere. Two subgenera are recognized, *Lopescladius s. str.* with 4 species distributed in North, Central and South America and *Cordiella* Coffman *et* Roback, 1984 based on *L. (C.) hyporheicus* Coffman *et* Roback, 1984 from western Pennsylvania in U.S.A. The males of the two subgenera can easily be separated as the gonocoxite in *Lopescladius s. str.* is strongly elongated posteriorly and the inferior volsella is small and spiniform or absent. In *Cordiella* the gonocoxite is not elongated and the inferior volsella is broadly digitiform. The immature stages of *Lopescladius* are probably all psammophilic, living in sandy bedded streams and rivers. The genus appears to be species rich in the Neotropical region (see e.g. Stur 2000; Wiedenbrug 2000).

Below we describe and figure the males of three new species of the subgenus *Cordiella*, all from Brazil. An emended generic diagnosis for the males is given and a key is provided.

Material and methods

The general terminology follows Sæther (1980). The specimens were mounted on slides in Canada balsam following the procedure outlined by Sæther (1969). The measurements are given as ranges, followed by the mean when more than three specimens were measured, followed by the number of specimens measured (n) in parenthesis. The color is described based on cleared, slide-mounted specimens.

The types are deposited in the Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP), São Paulo, Brazil; Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia (INPA), Manaus, Brazil and in the Department of Natural History (ZMBN), Bergen Museum, University of Bergen, Norway.