



The genus *Oecetis* McLachlan in Bolivia and northwestern Argentina (Trichoptera: Leptoceridae), with new species and identification key for males of *Oecetis* species from Mexico, Central and South America

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Abstract

Six new species of *Oecetis* are described from Bolivia: *O. carlibanezae*, *O. chipiriri*, *O. dominguezii*, *O. oberdorffi*, *O. pseudoamazonica* and *O. traini*. Eight previously described species are recorded from Bolivia and northwestern Argentina: *O. amazonica* (Banks 1924), *O. avara* (Banks 1895), *O. exisa* Ulmer 1907, *O. inconspicua* (Walker 1852), *O. knutsoni* Flint 1981, *O. paranensis* Flint 1982a, *O. punctipennis* (Ulmer 1905) and *O. rafaelli* Flint 1991b. This work contains an identification key for males of *Oecetis* species from Mexico, Central and South America.

Key words: new species, new records, caddisfly, South America, Systematic

Introduction

The family Leptoceridae has a world-wide distribution. It is classified in 2 subfamilies, Leptocerinae Ulmer, 1903, and Triplectidinae Ulmer, 1906 (Morse 1981). In the Neotropics, there are 7 triplectidine genera *Triplectides* Kolenati 1859, *Grumichella* Müller 1879, *Atanatolica* Mosely 1936, *Hudsonema* Mosely 1936, *Notalina* Mosely 1936, *Amazonatolica* Holzenthal & Pes 2004 and *Osflintia* Calor & Holzenthal 2008 and 7 leptocerines genera *Achoropsyche* Holzenthal 1984, *Amphoropsyche* Holzenthal 1985, *Brachysetodes* Schmid 1955, *Nectopsyche* Müller 1879, *Neoathripsodes* Holzenthal 1989, *Oecetis* McLachlan 1877, and *Triaenodes* McLachlan 1865.

In northwestern Argentina and Bolivia, there are 5 recorded genera: *Achoropsyche*, *Atanatolica*, *Grumichella*, *Nectopsyche* and *Oecetis*.

Oecetis is a cosmopolitan genus with more than 200 described species, 28 of which are found in the Neotropical region and 16 of which are known from South America. Many undescribed species probably still occur in South America, where the Amazon basin is a major center of diversity (Flint *et al.* 1999).

Adults of *Oecetis*, have long antennae (2 to 3 times the body length) directed forward as for most of the Leptoceridae. The species are differentiated by the morphology of the male genitalia, but only the lateral view has been illustrated for most descriptions, with sometimes a ventral view of the inferior appendages. However, diagnostic characters from genitalia can be seen in dorsal and ventral views also. Other important diagnostic characters are in the venation and color pattern of wings, which are scarcely illustrated.

Larval descriptions have been provided for numerous *Oecetis* species (Ross 1944, Flint 1968, Marlier 1964, Roback 1966, Roldán Pérez 1998, Floyd 1995, Wiggins 1996). The larvae are predatory and build cases with a wide variety of materials such as sand grains, pieces of wood, or leaves.

The Trichoptera fauna of northwestern Argentina and Bolivia has been poorly studied. Only 4 species of *Oecetis* have been recorded from the area: *O. excisa* Ulmer 1907, *O. knutsoni* Flint 1981, *O. avara* (Banks 1895), and *O.*