

First record of the frog parasite genus *Batrachomyia* Kreffft from New Guinea (Diptera: Chloropidae)

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Abstract

A new species of *Batrachomyia*, *B. krausi*, n. sp., from Oya Tabu, Fergusson Island off the southeastern coast of Papua New Guinea is described and illustrated. It marks the first record of this genus of frog parasites outside of Australia. The larva of *B. krausi* was found parasitizing the frog *Rana supragrisea*, the first record of the fly genus from the frog family Ranidae. The biology of this species is summarized and a table of known hosts for the genus is given.

Key words: Chloropidae, *Batrachomyia*, frogs, Ranidae, systematics, Papua New Guinea

Introduction

Little has been done on the taxonomy or systematics of the frog parasitic genus *Batrachomyia* Kreffft since the review of the species by Sabrosky (1955). Erwin Lindner (1958) described the new species *Batrachomyia mertensi* from Queensland, Australia, but collections of larval fly parasites made from frogs since Lindner's paper have remained in collections without further systematic study.

Recent surveys by Dr. Fred Kraus on Fergusson Island as part of a U.S. National Science Foundation-funded study of the herpetology of Papua New Guinea have resulted in the finding of a number of final instar larvae of *Batrachomyia* from the frog *Rana supragrisea* Menzies (Ranidae). These findings are of a new species of *Batrachomyia* (*B. krausi*), which is described and illustrated below and marks the first record of this genus outside of the Australian continent and the first record of the genus from the frog family Ranidae. The new species is named here to allow inclusion of it in a separate paper on the parasites of frogs by Kraus.