



Article

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:17347005-F5A7-420D-BDFA-AA97A7164F5A

A review of *Paratrichocladius* Santos Abreu from the Sino-Indian Region (Diptera: Chironomidae: Orthoclaadiinae)

YUE FU¹, OLE A. SÆTHER³ & XINHUA WANG^{2,4}

¹Key laboratory of Biologic Resources and Utilization of Hubei Province, Biological Scientific and Technical College of HuBei University For Nationalities, EnShi City 445000, China

²College of Life sciences, Nankai University, Tianjin 300071, China

³The Natural History Collections, University Museum of Bergen, University of Bergen, Pb 7800 N-5020, Bergen, Norway

⁴Corresponding author. E-mail: xhwang@nankai.edu.cn

Abstract

Six new species of the orthoclad genus *Paratrichocladius* from the Sino-Indian Region (*P. aduncus* sp. n., *P. bicinctus* sp. n., *P. caestus* sp. n., *P. comptus* sp. n., *P. sagittarius* sp. n., *P. ternarius* sp. n.) are described and illustrated as males. Notes are given on *P. ater* Wang et Zheng, *P. guidalii* Rossaro, *P. hamatus* Wang et Zheng, *P. lanzavechiae* Rossaro, *P. pierfrancescoi* Rossaro, *P. pretorianus* (Freeman), *P. rufiventris* (Meigen), *P. skirwithensis* (Edwards), and *P. tridens* Fu et Wang based on Chinese material. The holotypes of *P. mongolseteus* Sasa et Suzuki, *P. tobanonadecimus* Kikuchi et Sasa, *P. tusimocedeus* Sasa et Suzuki, *P. unabrevis* Sasa, and *P. yakukeleus* Sasa et Suzuki are re-examined. *P. brevicornis* and *P. tamaater* are listed. *Paratrichocladius gotoefeus* Sasa et Suzuki is transferred to the genus *Paracricotopus* and is a junior synonym of *Paracricotopus tamabrevis* (Sasa et Suzuki). A key to the males of *Paratrichocladius* from the Sino-Indian Region is given.

Key words: Diptera, Chironomidae, *Paratrichocladius*, key, new species, new combination, synonymy, Sino-Indian Region

Introduction

Santos Abreu (1918) established the orthoclad genus *Paratrichocladius* with *Chironomus rufiventris* Meigen (1830) as type species.

Larvae of *Paratrichocladius* inhabit cool bodies of still water, springs, flowing water and brackish water.

While the immatures show important characters dividing *Paratrichocladius* and *Cricotopus* v.d. Wulp, most imagines of *Paratrichocladius* resemble some species of *Cricotopus*. The only objective character alternative separating the two genera is the relatively long and erect dorsocentrals arising from distinct pale alveoli of *Paratrichocladius* opposed to the short and decumbent dorsocentrals not arising from pale alveoli of *Cricotopus*. In addition, sometimes the number of sensilla chaetica on the legs also is an important character, but may be difficult to observe depending on the condition of the slide. The inferior volsella often show large variation within same species even when the specimens are collected at the same locality. Some previously described species are very similar, for example, *P. ater* Wang et Zheng, *P. gayi* Serra-Tosio and *P. tamaater* Sasa; *P. brevicornis* Hirvenoja, *P. lanzavechiae* Rossaro, *P. pretorianus* Freeman and *P. rufiventris* (Meigen); *P. guidalii* Rossaro, *P. nivalis* (Goetghebuer), *P. osellai* Rossaro, *P. skirwithensis* (Edwards) and *P. veronicae* Rossaro. However, the larvae of *P. nivalis*, *P. skirwithensis* and *P. veronicae* have been showed to be quite different (Hirvenoja 1973, Rossaro 1991, 1992), confirming that the genus *Paratrichocladius* have more species than previously supposed. This also indicates that immature characters play an important role in deciding about whether these species are synonyms. The immatures are unknown for the species from Sino-Indian Region and could not be included in our research. However, several species show small differences, we keep them separate until the immatures are associated.