



Article

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Description of a new species of the genus *Onconeura* Andersen *et* Sæther (Diptera: Chironomidae) from Argentina with a cladistic analysis of the genus

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Abstract

The male, female and immature stages of the new species *Onconeura analiae* from Argentina are described and figured. A parsimony analysis including the seven known species of the genus plus the new species, using a combined data set of continuous and qualitative characters, was conducted in order to assess the phylogenetic position of the new species and to give for the first time a phylogenetic hypothesis of the genus.

Key words: Diptera, Chironomidae, Orthoclaadiinae, *Onconeura*, continuous characters, phylogeny, Sierra de la Ventana, Argentina

Introduction

In 1981, Sæther described the species *Thienemanniella semifimbriata* based on imagines and immatures from the Caribbean. In that paper, Sæther stated that the species should be placed in a separate genus but he postponed the erection of a new genus since adults and immatures of the numerous Neotropical types of the *Corynoneura* Winnertz group remained to be described. Based on the finding of new material collected in Chile, Andersen and Sæther (2005) erected the genus *Onconeura* Andersen *et* Sæther for the species *O. undecimata* Andersen *et* Sæther and established the new combination *O. semifimbriata*. After this study, Paggi (2007) transferred the species *Thienemanniella desertica* Paggi, 1985 to *Onconeura*. Wiedenbrug *et al.* (2009) described four new species and four pupal morphotypes for the Neotropics. The genus *Onconeura* is mainly Neotropical, but it is also known for the Nearctic region (Krestian *et al.* 2009).

The aim of the present paper is the description of a new species of the genus *Onconeura* in all life stages and a cladistic analysis in order to assess phylogenetic relationships among the species of the genus.

Material and methods

Microscope slides were prepared by clearing specimens with 10% KOH; neutralization with glacial acetic acid; dehydration in 80%, 96% and 100% ethanol and mounting in Canada Balsam. Morphological terminology and measurement standards follow Sæther (1980); the values are rounded off to the nearest 5 µm unless otherwise stated; measurements are given as ranges followed by the measurements of the holotype or allotype in square brackets. Labral setae on larval head are interpreted as in Epler and de la Rosa (1995). The type material is deposited in the collection of the Museo de La Plata, Argentina (MLP).

The phylogenetic relationships of the genus *Onconeura* were assessed with a cladistic analysis applying maximum parsimony and implied weights as optimality criteria. The taxa included in this analysis were *O.*