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Two new peculiar species of Neotropical *Brachypogon* Kieffer (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae)

GUSTAVO R. SPINELLI¹, ART BORKENT² & MARÍA M. RONDEROS³

¹División Entomología, Museo de La Plata, Paseo del Bosque s/n, 1900 La Plata, Argentina. E-mail: spinelli@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar

²Research Associate, Royal British Columbia Museum, American Museum of Natural History and Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, 691-8th Ave SE, Salmon Arm, British Columbia, V1E 2C2, Canada. E-mail: artborkent@telus.net

³División Entomología, Museo de La Plata, CCT-CEPAVE, Paseo del Bosque s/n, 1900 La Plata, Argentina. E-mail: ronderos@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar

Abstract

Brachypogon biradialis from southern Argentina and Chile and *Brachypogon tico* from Costa Rica, are described and illustrated from female specimens. They are provisionally placed in the genus *Brachypogon* although not exactly fitting in any of the already recognized subgenera of this genus.

Key words: *Brachypogon*, new species, Neotropical region, taxonomy

Resumen

Sobre la base de ejemplares hembra, se describen e ilustran a *Brachypogon biradialis* del sur de la Argentina y Chile y *Brachypogon tico* de Costa Rica. Ellas se ubican provisionalmente en el género *Brachypogon*, a pesar de no ajustarse exactamente a ninguno de los subgéneros que actualmente se reconocen.

Introduction

The genus *Brachypogon* Kieffer includes small to minute predaceous midges. Immatures are aquatic and semiaquatic and are found in mud or wet sand on the margins of ponds and streams or in fens and bogs (Spinelli & Marino, 2008). The genus is placed in the tribe Ceratopogonini of the subfamily Ceratopogoninae (Borkent & Spinelli, 2007), and three subgenera are currently recognized (Borkent, 2013). Two of them are widespread, *Brachypogon* Kieffer s. str. with 113 species (including five Miocene or Eocene fossils) and *Isohelea* Kieffer with 86 species (including five Miocene or Eocene fossils); the third subgenus, *Sarissohelea* Debenham is presently known as five species from Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Western Samoa. There are another three from the Canary Islands which are unplaced because they are poorly known.

During our study of the ceratopogonids from southern Argentina and Chile and Costa Rica, two species tentatively identified as members of *Brachypogon* were found, although not exactly fitting in any of the recognized subgenera. The purpose of this contribution is to describe and illustrate these two peculiar species.

Material and methods

Specimens are deposited in the following collections:

CNCI Canadian National collection of Insects, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.