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Uirassubrillia beckeri gen. n., sp. n. (Diptera: Chironomidae, Orthoclaadiinae) from northeastern Brazil

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Abstract

Uirassubrillia beckeri gen. n., sp. n. is described and illustrated based on male and female imagines from Bahia State in Brazil. The new genus is placed in the *Brillia*-group as the adults have a strongly setose body and setose wing membrane, RM is long and oblique, and the eye has a long, parallel-sided dorsomedian extension. The male hypopygium has a characteristic digitiform superior volsella and a bifurcate gonostylus. The female has three seminal capsules, two large and a third, smaller one.

Key words: *Brillia*-group, new genus, new species, Serra Bonita, Bahia, Mata Atlântica, Neotropical Region

Introduction

The *Brillia*-group *sensu* Sæther and Wang (1992), is composed of eight genera, *Austrobrillia* Freeman, 1961; *Brillia* Kieffer, 1913; *Eurycnemus* van der Wulp, 1874; *Euryhopsis* Oliver, 1981; *Irisobrillia* Oliver, 1985; *Neobrillia* Kawai, 1991 (= *Pseudobrillia* Niitsuma, 1991); *Tokyobrillia* Kobayashi *et Sasa*, 1991; and *Xylotopus* Oliver, 1982. Later the genus *Elpiscladius* Harrison *et* Cranston, 2007 has been described and the genus *Pludsonia* Sæther, 1982 has been included in the group (Cranston 2000; Harrison & Cranston 2007). The *Brillia*-group has the last decades been considered to represent an early, ‘primitive’, branch of the Orthoclaadiinae. The genus *Tokyobrillia* has been recorded from Baltic amber, while *Brillia* has been found in late Eocene Rovno amber from Ukraine (Wichard *et al.* 2009; Zelentsov *et al.* 2012). However, within Orthoclaadiinae robust estimates of the phylogeny based on morphological characters are constrained by extensive homoplasy and characters that may provide unambiguous evidence of relationships have thus been difficult to recognize. Based on molecular data Cranston *et al.* (2012) retrieved the subfamily Orthoclaadiinae with the exception of the genus *Prosillocerus* Kieffer, 1923 which groups with the subfamily Prodiamesinae. The previously postulated tribes, Metriocnemini, Orthoclaadiini and Coryneurini were recovered and a *Brillia*-group and a *Stictocladus*-group which combined form the sister group of the remaining Orthoclaadiinae were placed basally. However, Cranston *et al.* (2012) refrain from formally naming a *Brillia*-group and a *Stictocladus*-group until the morphology is re-examined and sampling increased.

Only two genera in the *Brillia*-group are so far recorded from the Neotropical region (Ashe & O'Connor 2012). The monotypic genus *Irisobrillia* Oliver with *I. longicosta* Oliver, 1985 has been found in Brazil, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Saint Vincent and Venezuela (Oliver 1985; Spies & Reiss 1996; Andersen & Mendes 2004). Cranston (2000) described *Austrobrillia chilensis* Cranston from Chile and *A. valereissia* Cranston from Ecuador based on pupae only. The genus *Austrobrillia* Freeman was described by Freeman (1961) based on *A. longipes* Freeman, 1961 from Tasmania.

Edwards (1931) described *Spaniotoma* (*Orthocladus*) *eurycnemoides* Edwards based on a female from Lago Nahuel Huapi in Argentina. The species is large, pale yellow, with conspicuous black ornamentation on thorax,