



## Article

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### Description of the final stadium larva of *Erythrodiplax bromeliicola* Westfall 2000 (Odonata: Libellulidae) with notes on variation in adults from Cuba

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#### Abstract

The final stadium larva of *Erythrodiplax bromeliicola* Westfall is formally described and illustrated. The light brown scape and pedicel and creamy pale flagellum of the antenna, plus the abundant short, reddish, spiniform setae on the integument of the body surface and epiproct, comprise an exclusive combination of characters in the larva of *E. bromeliicola*. Information on larval habitat and a key for the larvae of the five *Erythrodiplax* species occurring in Cuba are provided. Details on morphological variation of an adult population from Cuba are also provided.

**Keywords:** Larval description, Anisoptera, *Erythrodiplax bromeliicola*, habitat, adult variability, Cuba

#### Resumen

Se describe e ilustra formalmente el último estadio larval de *Erythrodiplax bromeliicola* Westfall. La larva de *E. bromeliicola* presenta una exclusiva combinación de caracteres: escapo y pedicelo pardo claro, flagelo antenal pálido, y el tegumento corporal cubierto con abundantes sedas espiniformes cortas y rojizas. Se provee información del hábitat larval, así como una clave para las larvas cubanas de *Erythrodiplax*. También se proporcionan detalles de la variación morfológica de una población de adultos de Cuba.

**Palabras clave:** Descripción larval, Anisoptera, *Erythrodiplax bromeliicola*, hábitat, variabilidad en adultos, Cuba

#### Introduction

The American genus *Erythrodiplax* Brauer 1868 comprises 56 species (Garrison et al. 2006). To date, the final stadium larvae of only 20 species have been described (Lozano et al. 2011). In Cuba this genus is represented by five species (Trapero-Quintana & Torres-Cambas 2008): *Erythrodiplax berenice naeva* (Hagen 1861), *E. bromeliicola* Westfall 2000, *E. fervida* (Erichson 1848), *E. justiniana* (Selys 1857), and *E. umbrata* (Linnaeus 1758). *Erythrodiplax bromeliicola* occurs in both western and eastern regions of Cuba. The species was described by M. J. Westfall, Jr., based on specimens from Jamaica (Needham et al. 2000); it appears to be restricted to the Greater Antilles. Although larvae were not successfully reared to metamorphosis, we are confident of the assignment because they were collected in bromeliads together with 16 adults of *E. bromeliicola* in nearby surroundings. To date, no other species of *Erythrodiplax* in Cuba is known to inhabit bromeliads.

#### Material and methods

All measurements are given in millimeters. The mandibular formula follows Watson (1956). S1–S10 = abdominal segments 1–10. F0 = Final stadium. FW = Fore wings, HW = Hind wings. Drawings were made with aid of a