

A New Aquatic Associated Genus of Trichopezinae from the Southern Hemisphere (Diptera: Empidoidea: Brachystomatidae)

BRADLEY J. SINCLAIR¹  AND TOYOHEI SAIGUSA² 

¹Canadian National Collection of Insects & Canadian Food Inspection Agency,
OPL-Entomology, K. W. Neatby Building, C.E.F., 960 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0C6 Canada

²7-1-402 Baikoen 2-chome, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka-shi 810-0035, Japan

ABSTRACT. A new aquatic associated genus of Trichopezinae, *Gondwanodromia* gen. nov., with one new species from southern South America (*G. mikae* sp. nov.), six new species from eastern Australia (*G. bulbosa* sp. nov., *G. colomatta* sp. nov., *G. lutea* sp. nov., *G. tasmanica* sp. nov., *G. thredbo* sp. nov., *G. tonnoiri* sp. nov.) and four new species from New Zealand (*G. elongata* sp. nov., *G. femorata* sp. nov., *G. tongariro* sp. nov., *G. wardi* sp. nov.) are described. The following new combination is proposed for the New Zealand species *Gondwanodromia mutabilis* (Collin) comb. nov. and the male of this species is described for the first time. All species are illustrated, distributions mapped and the phylogenetic affinities of the new genus are discussed. A key to genera of Trichopezinae of the Southern Hemisphere and key to species of *Gondwanodromia* are presented.

Introduction

In the Southern Hemisphere, there are a number of endemic empidoid genera (exclusive of Dolichopodidae) that are closely associated with aquatic habitats, with adults often found on wet rocks in streams and rivers. These genera include *Ceratomerus* Philippi and *Glyphidopeza* Sinclair (Ceratomerinae), *Cladodromia* Bezzi (Hemerodromiinae), *Afroclinocera* Sinclair and *Proagomyia* Collin (Clinocerinae), *Hydropeza* Sinclair (Ragadinae) and a few new genera of the subfamily Trichopezinae. The latter subfamily is assigned to the family Brachystomatidae (Sinclair & Cumming, 2006), although a different classification has also been proposed (Wahlberg & Johanson, 2018). The aquatic immature stages are poorly known and a few New Zealand forms have been referred to in the broadly defined family “Empididae” (Winterbourn *et al.*, 2000).

The Trichopezinae are a heterogeneous group distinguished by the apically truncate female abdomen, with sclerites of segment 8 closely associated anteriorly, usually with strong setae on syntergite 9+10 and often there is an internal median apodeme projecting anteriorly from female tergite 8 (Sinclair & Cumming, 2006). In this study, a new genus of Trichopezinae is described based on adult specimens collected among emergent rocks in streams and creeks. In total, 12 species of this new genus are recorded from Argentina, Chile, New Zealand and Australia.

Material and methods

This study is based on material deposited in the following institutions: Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia (AMS); Australian National Insect Collection, Canberra, Australia (ANIC); Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, New Zealand

Keywords: new genus; new species; new combination; aquatic associated empidoids; Australia; Argentina; Chile; New Zealand

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ORCID: Bradley J. Sinclair, 0000-0001-6413-1606; Toyohsei Saigusa, 0000-0003-4639-8889

Corresponding author: Bradley J. Sinclair bradley.sinclair@inspection.gc.ca

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