



A contribution to the systematics of Australasian Tanytarsini (Diptera: Chironomidae): first descriptions from New Caledonia

WOJCIECH GILKA^{1,4} & ROLAND DOBOSZ^{2,3}

¹University of Gdańsk, Department of Invertebrate Zoology and Parasitology, Wita Stwosza 59, 80–308 Gdańsk, Poland

²Upper Silesian Museum, Natural History Department, Sobieskiego 2, PL 41-902 Bytom, Poland

³University of Silesia, Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection, Department of Zoology, Bankowa 9, 40-007 Katowice, Poland

⁴Corresponding author. E-mail: wojciech.gilka@biol.ug.edu.pl

Abstract

First specific records of chironomids of the tribe Tanytarsini from New Caledonia based on detailed descriptions of new species are presented. *Cladotanytarsus* (*Cladotanytarsus*) *stylifer* **sp. nov.** and its closest relatives, *i.a.* *Cladotanytarsus* (*C.*) *isigacedeus* (Sasa *et* Suzuki, 2000), **comb. nov.**, known from males bearing extraordinarily elongate hypopygial anal points are diagnosed. *Paratanytarsus mirificus* **sp. nov.** is described as adult male with unique structure of its hypopygium and shortened antennae. Diagnostic description of *Tanytarsus fuscithorax* Skuse, 1889 is also complemented.

Key words: Diptera, Chironomidae, Tanytarsini, systematics, new taxa, New Caledonia

Introduction

In contrast to the well known chironomid fauna of the Australian mainland, published data on dipterans of this family from New Caledonia are scarce and mainly based on determinations to the genus level or taxa of higher rank. So far no specific records of Tanytarsini, except that concerning the cosmopolitan marine species, *Pontomyia natans* Edwards, 1926 (Huang *et al.* 2014), have been published from New Caledonia. The data coming from this island are mostly unspecified and/or not confirmed records of selected genera, *i.e.* *Rheotanytarsus* and *Tanytarsus*, or information on widespread presence of Chironomidae and/or Tanytarsini (Williams 1944, Starmühlner 1986, Mary & Marmonier 2000, Mary 2002). Thereby we present first detailed descriptions of new tanytarsine species of the genera *Cladotanytarsus* and *Paratanytarsus*, recently collected in New Caledonia.

Material and methods

The material is a small part of insect collections taken by the second author during Polish expeditions of the Department of Natural History, Upper Silesian Museum in Bytom, the Museum of Natural History, University of Wrocław and the Department of Biosystematics, University of Opole to New Caledonia in 2004–2008. All the chironomid specimens, including Tanytarsini were sampled after dusk at artificial light using a lamp powered by portable generator. The collected individuals were preserved in 70–75% ethanol, dissected and slide-mounted according to the method adjusted for tiny chironomids (Wirth & Marston 1968, Gilka & Paasivirta 2009). Measurements are in μm ; lengths of leg segments and palpomeres were rounded off to the nearest 5 and 1 μm respectively; the antennal, leg and venarum ratios (AR, LR, VR) were calculated to the second decimal place. The morphological terminology and abbreviations follow Sæther (1980). The photographs were taken using the Nomarski DIC and LAS Montage multifocus with a Leica DM6000. The type specimens are booked to be deposited in the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France.