



Description of the larva of *Paraphlebia zoe* Selys in Hagen, 1861 (Odonata: Megapodagrionidae)

RODOLFO NOVELO-GUTIÉRREZ

Instituto de Ecología, A.C. Departamento de Entomología. Apartado Postal 63, 91070 Xalapa, Veracruz, MEXICO.

E-mail: rodolfo.novelo@inecol.edu.mx

Abstract

The larva of *Paraphlebia zoe* is described, this being the first for the genus *Paraphlebia*. It is compared to all other known neotropical megapodagrionid larvae from which it can be distinguished by following combination of characters: antenna shorter than length of head; second antennomere the longest; prementum slightly wider than long; male gonapophyses absent; gills strongly inflated with a thick caudal filament. The larva inhabits seepages.

Key words: *Paraphlebia zoe*, larva, description, Zygoptera, Mexico

Resumen

Se describe la larva de *Paraphlebia zoe*, siendo esta la primera descripción para una larva del género *Paraphlebia*. Se compara con todas las restantes larvas conocidas de megapodagrionidos neotropicales, de las cuales se distingue por la siguiente combinación de caracteres: antena más corta que la longitud de la cabeza; segundo antenómero el más largo; prementón ligeramente más ancho que largo; gonapófisis del macho ausentes; branquias fuertemente infladas con un filamento terminal grueso. La larva habita en escurrideros.

Palabras Clave: *Paraphlebia zoe*, larva, descripción, Zygoptera, México

Introduction

The genus *Paraphlebia* is found exclusively in Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras (González-Soriano 1997), with only four species described (Paulson 1982; González-Soriano & Córdoba-Aguilar 2003). *Paraphlebia zoe* Selys in Hagen is endemic to Mexico, where it has been recorded from the states of Hidalgo, Puebla, San Luis Potosí, and Veracruz (González-Soriano & Novelo-Gutiérrez 2007); it occupies specialized habitats such as seepages located in mountain cloud forests. Due to its restricted range concomitant with deforestation, this species has been included in the "2003 IUCN Red List of threatened species" (Paulson 2004).

Here I describe the larva of *Paraphlebia*, although it was previously keyed by Novelo-Gutiérrez (1987).

Paraphlebia zoe Selys in Hagen

Figs. 1–9

Material. — One exuviae (♀, reared), one F0 larva (♀), seven F2? larvae (5♂, 2♀), two young instars (♂, ♀). MEXICO: Veracruz; Municipality of Tlapacoyan, El Muro (900 m), 19° 57' 41" N; 97° 12' 40" W, 13-IV-