

Description of the final instar larvae of *Erythrodiplax atroterminata* Ris and *E. corallina* (Brauer) (Odonata: Libellulidae)

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Abstract

The final stage larva of *Erythrodiplax atroterminata* and *E. corallina* are described and illustrated based on reared specimens from Argentina. A comparative analysis of all known larvae of *Erythrodiplax* from Argentina is provided.

Key words: Odonata, Argentina, immature stages, *Erythrodiplax*

Introduction

The largely neotropical genus *Erythrodiplax* Brauer comprises more than 50 species, 21 of which are known from Argentina (von Ellenrieder & Muzón 2008). The final stage larva of 19 species has been described (Santos 1988; Carvalho *et al.*, 1991; von Ellenrieder & Muzón 2000; Needham *et al.* 2000; Costa *et al.* 2001; Muzón & Garré 2005), from which 11 are known from Argentina, *i.e.* *E. anomala* (Brauer), *E. basalis* (Kirby), *E. fusca* (Rambur), *E. juliana* Ris, *E. latimaculata* Ris, *E. lygaea* Ris, *E. melanorubra* Borror, *E. nigricans* (Rambur), *E. ochracea* (Burmeister), *E. paraguayensis* (Förster), and *E. umbrata* (Linnaeus). Costa *et al.* (2001) considered the larva mentioned by Carvalho *et al.* (1991) as *E. connata* (Burmeister) to be that of *E. fusca* and included a key for the *Erythrodiplax* species recorded from Brazil. Muzón & Garré (2005) provided a comparative table for the larvae of all known species.

Erythrodiplax atroterminata Ris and *E. corallina* are widespread in Argentina and Chile, reaching south to central Patagonia (Muzón & von Ellenrieder 1998; von Ellenrieder & Muzón 2008); they are typical inhabitants of lentic environments.

Methodology

Specimens examined. *Erythrodiplax atroterminata*: Argentina, Córdoba Prov., Mayu-Sumaj, Río San Antonio, 31° 27' 4" S, 64° 32' 54.7" W, 760 m.; 1/16-II-2007, coll. J. Muzón, 1 male exuviae (reared) [emerged 15-II-2007]; Río Negro, Chipauquil, Meseta de Somuncurá, 40° 57' 41.1" S, 66° 38' 20.8" W, 481 m.; 4-XII-2006, coll. J. Muzón, 3 male exuviae (reared) [emerged 07-15-II-2007], and 1 larva.

Erythrodiplax corallina: Argentina, Buenos Aires Prov., Castelli, Laguna La Rosita, 36° 05' 54" S, 57° 47' 23" W, 12 m; 24-X-2005, coll. M. Ardochain, 1 male exuviae (reared) [emerged 25-X-2005], 2 female exuviae (reared) [emerged 31-X-2005], and 9 larvae. The specimens are deposited in the Collection of the Departamento Científico Entomología, Museo de La Plata, Argentina. Mandibular formula follows Watson (1956).