



Description of the nymphs of *Tenagobia (Incertagobia) incerta* Lundblad 1929 and *Tenagobia (Schadeogobia) schadei* Lundblad 1929 (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Micronectidae), with emphasis on morphometry and chaetotaxy

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Abstract

The three last nymphs of *Tenagobia (Incertagobia) incerta* and the egg and the third and fifth nymphs of *T. (Schadeogobia) schadei* are described and illustrated for the first time, with emphasis on the morphometry and chaetotaxy of selected structures. Comparisons with the nymphs of *T. (Fuscagobia) fuscata* and the eggs of *T. fuscata*, *T. (Tenagobia) pulchra*, and *T. (Fuscagobia) selecta* are included. The egg of *T. schadei* has a very long stalk like those of *T. selecta* and *T. fuscata*, and it differs from the ones of *T. pulchra* and *T. incerta*, which have a short stalk. The nymphs of *Tenagobia* share the presence of 1 dorsal abdominal scent gland on each of the segments III–V, and the absence of spines on the metafemur, except those on postero-apical surface which are present. The nymphal characters most useful in identifying nymphs III–V of *Tenagobia* are: the body length, the head width, the grade of development of the wing pads, the number of setae on the inner surface of the protibiotarsus, spines on the anteroventral and posteroventral surfaces of the mesofemur, lanceolate setae on the anterior surface of the metatibia, and spines on the metatibial comb. The nymphal characters most useful in identifying species of *Tenagobia* are the head width, the number of setae on the dorsal row of the protibiotarsus, and spines on the anterior surface of the mesotibia.

Key words: Nepomorpha, Corixoidea, immature stages, taxonomy, Neotropical Region

Introduction

The Neotropical genus *Tenagobia* Bergroth 1899 comprises 28 species and one subspecies of very small corixoids and is currently divided into seven subgenera (Nieser, 1977; Bachmann, 1979; Polhemus & Nieser, 1997; Nieser & Chen, 2008): *Baliagobia* Nieser (two species), *Fasciagobia* Nieser (two), *Incertagobia* Nieser (eight), *Romanogobia* Nieser (six), *Schadeogobia* Nieser (two), *Tenagobia* Bergroth (six), and *Fuscagobia* Nieser (two species and one subspecies). This genus, essentially restricted to South America, is distributed from Mexico to central Argentina, in Buenos Aires Province (Nieser, 1977; Morrone *et al.*, 2004); the records of Hungerford (1948b) from southern California need confirmation. According to Bachmann (1981, 1983), seven species in four subgenera are present in Argentina, of which two are studied in the present contribution: *T. (Incertagobia) incerta* Lundblad 1929 and *T. (Schadeogobia) schadei* Lundblad 1929. Both species are widely distributed in America: *T. incerta* from Grenada and Panama to Argentina (from Salta and Misiones to Entre Ríos Provinces) and *T. schadei* from Colombia and Suriname to Argentina (Chaco and Corrientes Provinces) (Morrone *et al.*, 2004).

The adults of the species of *Tenagobia* were revised by Deay (1935) [reprinted in Hungerford (1948b)] and Nieser (1977); the latter author presented keys to the subgenera and species and Nieser & Chen (2008) updated the keys to the subgenera of *Tenagobia* and the species of the subgenus *Tenagobia*. Although the systematics of the adults of *Tenagobia* are comparatively well known, very few descriptions of the eggs and