

First record of *Tanypus neopunctipennis* Sublette, 1964 (Tanypodinae: Chironomidae) from Cuban archipelago

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Abstract: *Tanypus neopunctipennis* Sublette, 1964 is recorded by first time from Cuban archipelago. The larvae founded in two cays, at north and south of main island, were reared.

Key words: Diptera, Chironomidae, *Tanypus neopunctipennis*, first record, Cuba.

Primer registro de *Tanypus neopunctipennis* Sublette, 1964 (Tanypodinae: Chironomidae) para el archipiélago cubano

Resumen: *Tanypus neopunctipennis* Sublette, 1964 es registrada por primera vez para el archipiélago cubano. Las larvas encontradas en dos cayos, al norte y al sur de la isla principal, fueron criadas.

Palabras claves: Diptera, Chironomidae, *Tanypus neopunctipennis*, primer registro, Cuba.

Introduction

The genus *Tanypus* Meigen, 1803 was mentioned for Cuba by Alayo & García (1983) and Alayo & Garcés (1989) referring to the presence of *Coelotanypus humeralis* (Loew, 1966) originally named *Tanypus humeralis* (Loew, 1866) and described from Cuban specimens (Roback 1964). *Tanypus neopunctipennis* Sublette, 1964 is widely distributed in the U.S. (Sublette 1964; Hudson *et al.* 1990) in a variety of habitats (Hudson *et al.* 1990). In the Neotropical region it is also present, at least, in Bahamas and Mexico (Spies & Reiss 1996). This note is the first record of *T. neopunctipennis* in the territory of the Republic of Cuba.

Materials and methods:

Larvae and pupal exuviae were collected in two lagoons, one in Sabinal Cay (3 larvae and 12 pupal exuviae), Sabana-Camagüey Archipelago in June 2010, the other one in Cagüamas Cay (3 larvae), Jardines de la Reina Archipelago in September 2010 (Fig. 1). Some of the larvae were transported in containers with water from the lagoons of origin and reared later. Booth freshwater lagoons were shallow and vegetated.

Identificative characters:

Epler (2001) mentions the usual coincidence of *Tanypus carinatus* Sublette, 1964 and *T. neopunctipennis*. In larval stage, *T. neopunctipennis* has a ligula with three means teeth much bigger than the outer teeth (Fig. 2a) and minor claws of posterior parapods with broad base (Fig. 2b) while the tooth of ligula of *T. carinatus* forms a much less pronounced arch and the smallest claws of posterior parapods not shown an expanded base.

The other *Tanypus* species which could cause confusion is *Tanypus clavatus* Beck, 1962. The *T. neopunctipennis* larva has not teeth on the inner margin of the smallest claws of posterior parapods (Fig. 2b) while *T. clavatus* shown many small teeth. The *T. neopunctipennis* pupae, like the rest of the *Tanypus*, have a bulbous thoracic horn with an apical nipple-shaped process (Fig. 2c). The lateral margins of abdominal segments II-III to VIII with numerous, but countable L-setae and a characteristic pigmentation, distinguish the pupae of *T. neopunctipennis*. The presence of the above mentioned combination of characters in all the captured and reared specimens ensures the *T. neopunctipennis* identification.

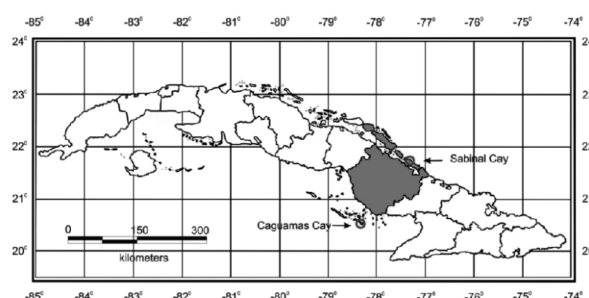


Fig 1. Localities where *T. neopunctipennis* was founded.

All specimens are deposited in the collection of the Centro de Investigaciones de Medio Ambiente de Camagüey, a dependence of the Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente.

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Fig. 2. Structures of immature *T. neopunctipennis*. 2A. Ligula. 2B. One of the smallest claws of posterior parapods. 2C. Apex of thoracic horn.

