A NEW SPECIES OF CHOROTERPES FROM MEXICO
(Ephemeroptera: Leptophlebiidae)

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ABSTRACT

Description and figures are presented for Choroterpes oaxacaensis Brusca & Allen, n. sp., from southern Mexico.

A recent study of mayfly nymphs of the family Leptophlebiidae collected in Mexico by the junior author has revealed an undescribed species of the genus Choroterpes Eaton, 1881.

Choroterpes oaxacaensis Brusca and Allen, n. sp.

Nymph. Length: body 5.0–6.0 mm; caudal filaments 5.0–6.0 mm. General color pale to tan with dark brown markings. Head pale with two large brown maculae on vertex and transverse brown bands between compound eyes (Fig. 3); maxillary palpi 3-segmented. Thoracic nota tan with diffuse brown markings; legs pale with brown markings; femora with a large median and a small subapical brown macula (Fig. 1a–b); femora with long spines and scattered setae on dorsal margin, and a median band of spines on anterior surface (Fig. 1a–b); tibiae with diffuse brown shading; tarsi pale; tarsal claws with 13–14 denticles (Fig. 1c). Abdominal terga with a complex color pattern as in figure 2; abdominal segments with postero-lateral projections, projection longest on segment 9, absent on 10; abdominal gills opaque with lateral trachea and diffuse black lamellar pigmentation (Fig. 4); abdominal sterna pale medially and suffused with brown, and dark brown laterally. Caudal filaments pale.


Remarks. The holotype was collected in a small stream with a rocky bottom and moderate stream flow, at an elevation of 6,700 feet, and with a temperature of 54° F. Choroterpes oaxacaensis is

1 The research upon which this report is based was supported by a grant from National Science Foundation. Received for publication September 20, 1972.
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Figs. 1-4. *Choroterpes oaxacaensis* n. sp., nympha! structures: fig. 1a. right fore leg; fig. 1b. right hind leg; 1c. tarsal claw; fig. 2. abdomen, dorsal view; fig. 3. head, front view; fig. 4. first, third and fifth gills.
the third species of the genus described from Mexico and Central America. *Choroterpes inornata* Eaton, 1892, was described from northern Sonora and reported from Arizona, and *C. nervosa* Eaton, 1892, was described from Zapote, Guatemala. Descriptions of the nymphal stages of these species have not been published. It is unlikely that *C. oaxacaensis* is the nymph of *C. inornata* as mayflies known to occur in northern Sonora and Arizona have not been reported from tropical Mexico. *Choroterpes oaxacaensis* may be found eventually, however, to be the nymphal stage of *C. nervosa* as many Central American species reach their most northern limits in southern Mexico.