

Liponeura vaillanti spec. nov., a new net-winged midge (Diptera: Blephariceridae) from Algeria

[*Liponeura vaillanti* spec. nov., eine neue Netzflügelmücke
(Diptera: Blephariceridae) aus Algerien]

by
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Abstract	<i>Liponeura vaillanti</i> spec. nov. from Algeria is described and compared with the closely related <i>L. gauthieri</i> VAILLANT. <i>Liponeura gauthieri</i> is recorded for the first time from Tunisia.
Key words	Blephariceridae, <i>Liponeura</i> , Palaearctic Region, North Africa, Algeria, Tunisia, taxonomy, new species, new record
Zusammenfassung	<i>Liponeura vaillanti</i> spec. nov. aus Algerien wird beschrieben und mit der nächstverwandten <i>L. gauthieri</i> VAILLANT verglichen. <i>Liponeura gauthieri</i> wird erstmals aus Tunesien gemeldet.
Stichwörter	Blephariceridae, <i>Liponeura</i> , paläarktische Region, Nordafrika, Algerien, Tunesien, Taxonomie, neue Art, Neunachweis

Introduction

The fauna of North West Africa forms part of the Palaearctic faunal region. The net-winged midges are represented by three species of *Liponeura* LOEW, 1844 excellently described and illustrated by F. VAILLANT (1956). A small sample collected by G. VINÇON represents yet another species. It is here described and named in honour of the venerable François VAILLANT, Grenoble (France).

Liponeura vaillanti spec. nov.

(Figs 1–3)

Material examined: **Holotype** ♂, ALGERIA: Oua Cif, A1, 17.4.2012, leg. G. VINÇON. **Paratype:** 1 ♀, same data as holotype. Both type specimens presently in my collection at Schlitz (Germany), to be ultimately deposited in a public museum.

Comments. The insects were taken in the vicinity of Ouacif, on the slopes of the Djurdjura mountains, 36°31'59.99"N 04°13'00.01"E [coordinates from Wikipedia], at Site A1 of LOUNACI & VINÇON (2005). The local name of the site is Thi âansrine d'Ath Agadh, "springs of the village Ath Agadh" which is the closest settlement. The stream forms part of the catchment of Assif N'Ath-Agadh, which eventually drains into Oued Sébaou. LOUNACI & VINÇON (2005) provide the following habitat information: 920 m a. s. l., 500 m downstream from the spring, sparse aquatic vegetation, dense littoral forest, 1m wide, gradient 10 %, bed of rocks and boulders, annual temperature range 8–14 °C.

Description. Imago. Wing length, male 7.2 mm, female 9.8 mm. Dorsal face brown, ventral side whitish-grey, abdominal tergites 2–7 with paler median streak. Wings clear. General structure typical of genus. Male with reduced, female with functional mouthparts. Antennae slender, flagellar segments of male cylindrical, basal ones about twice as long as wide, more distal