

Liponeura rificola spec. nov., another new net-winged midge (Diptera: Blephariceridae) from North Africa

[*Liponeura rificola* spec. nov., eine weitere neue Netzflügel­mücke
(Diptera: Blephariceridae) aus Nordafrika]

by

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Abstract

Liponeura rificola spec. nov. from the Rif Mountains in Morocco is described from adults and distinguished from other North African species of the genus.

Key words

Blephariceridae, *Liponeura*, Palaearctic Region, Morocco, Rif Mountains, taxonomy, new species

Zusammenfassung

Liponeura rificola spec. nov. wird nach Imagines aus dem Rif-Gebirge in Marokko beschrieben und von den anderen nordafrikanischen Arten der Gattung unterschieden.

Stichwörter

Blephariceridae, *Liponeura*, paläarktische Region, Marokko, Rif-Gebirge, Taxonomie, neue Art

Introduction

The highest parts of the North African mountains offer beautiful mountain streams inhabited by torrential fauna, for example Plecoptera, Ephemeroptera, and net-winged midges. These sites are today island habitats separated by areas where water courses are too warm or even intermittent and do not support the same groups (LOUNACI & VINÇON 2005). Recent collections by Gilles VINÇON (Grenoble) near the tops of the Rif Mountains in Morocco yielded the first net-winged midges from that mountain range, a new species which is here described.

Liponeura rificola spec. nov.

(Figs 1–3)

Material examined. **Holotype**, ♂. MOROCCO: Rif Mountains, Issaguen, Ketama, above Azila village, Tidirhine Mount (also called Tighighine Mount), 1800 m, brook, 7.6.2013, leg. G. VINÇON. **Paratypes**: MOROCCO: 2 ♂♂, same data as holotype.

Other material: A damaged ♀ taken together with these males is considered as additional material without type status.

Location of examined material: All specimens are presently in the private collection of Peter ZWICK (Schlitz, Germany).

Etymology. The specific name means ‘inhabitant of the Rif’, combining the name of the mountain range with the Latin word *incola*, inhabitant. The name is a noun in apposition.

Description. Imago. Male. Habitus and colouration not distinctive, differs from other *Liponeura* species by the male genitalia. Wing length 7–8 mm. Wings clear, with faint yellowish tinge. Antennae 15-segmented, moderately slender, central flagellar segments bulbous, widest just before midlength where short setae occur. Distal segments more slender, tubular, the last blunt-tipped. A single pilose spur on the hind tibia. Last tarsal segment with a moderate spine cushion on the epicondylus, claws slender, with 4–6 fine teeth, blending with