



Latitudinal Gradient of Biting Midges in the Genus *Culicoides* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) in Argentina and Bolivia

Authors: Veggiani Aybar, Cecilia A., Dantur Juri, María J., Claps, Guillermo L., Lizarralde de Grosso, Mercedes S., and Spinelli, Gustavo R.

Source: Florida Entomologist, 98(2) : 633-638

Published By: Florida Entomological Society

URL: <https://doi.org/10.1653/024.098.0237>

BioOne Complete (complete.BioOne.org) is a full-text database of 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences published by nonprofit societies, associations, museums, institutions, and presses.

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Complete website, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at www.bioone.org/terms-of-use.

Usage of BioOne Complete content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non - commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

Latitudinal gradient of biting midges in the genus *Culicoides* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) in Argentina and Bolivia

Cecilia A. Veggiani Aybar^{1,2,3,*}, María J. Dantur Juri^{1,2,3}, Guillermo L. Claps¹, Mercedes S. Lizarralde de Grosso^{1,2,3}, and Gustavo R. Spinelli^{2,4}

Abstract

We provide the first records of 8 species of biting midges in the genus *Culicoides* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) in a wide latitudinal gradient of the Yungas Ecoregion in Argentina and the Chaco Ecoregion in Bolivia, including a map of their distribution, and an updated checklist of species in the study area. Additional locality records were obtained from published articles and from specimens collected in these and other ecoregions in both countries. Included are the first Argentinean records of *Culicoides crescentis* Wirth & Blanton and *C. pampaensis* Spinelli & Wirth from Salta Province; *C. caridei* Brèthes, *C. crescentis*, *C. guttatus* Coquillett, *C. insignis* Lutz, *C. pampaensis*, and *C. venezuelensis* Ortiz & Mirsa from Jujuy Province, and *C. saltaensis* Spinelli & Wirth and *C. pampaensis* from Tucumán Province. In addition, the first records of *C. brasilianum* Forattini, *C. crescentis*, and *C. guttatus* are provided from Bolivia.

Key Words: biting midge; new record; distribution; Yungas; Chaco

Resumen

Se presenta los primeros registros de 8 especies del género *Culicoides* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) en un amplio gradiente latitudinal tanto de la ecoregión de las Yungas en Argentina como de la ecoregión del Chaco en Bolivia, incluyendo un mapa y una lista actualizada de las especies en el área de estudio. *Culicoides crescentis* Wirth & Blanton y *C. pampaensis* Spinelli & Wirth se registran por primera vez en la provincia de Salta; *C. caridei* Brèthes, *C. crescentis*, *C. guttatus* Coquillett, *C. insignis* Lutz, *C. pampaensis* y *C. venezuelensis* Ortiz & Mirsa son reportados para la provincia de Jujuy; y *C. saltaensis* Spinelli & Wirth y *C. pampaensis* para la provincia de Tucumán. Por último, *C. brasilianum* Forattini, *C. crescentis* y *C. guttatus* se registran por primera vez para Bolivia.

Palabras Clave: jejenos; nuevos registros; distribución; Yungas; Chaco

Biting midges of the genus *Culicoides* Latreille (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) are the most diverse group of the family Ceratopogonidae, which includes 1,366 extant worldwide species, 266 of which occur in the Neotropics (Borkent & Spinelli 2007; Borkent 2014a). Presently, 53 species of *Culicoides* are known from Argentina (Spinelli & Wirth 1993; Spinelli et al. 2005; Veggiani Aybar et al. 2010) including 2 new species recently described by Spinelli et al. (2013) from northwestern Argentina. Conversely, the *Culicoides* fauna of Bolivia is poorly known, with only 18 species reported from this country (Spinelli et al. 2009; Veggiani Aybar et al. 2011).

The diversity and abundance of Neotropical species in this genus and their well-known pestiferous hematophagous habits include some species that are vectors of diseases in humans and other vertebrates (Mellor et al. 2000; Borkent 2004). *Culicoides* species impact public health due to their nuisance biting by adult females, which can cause cutaneous pruritis with resulting formation of wheals, flares, and permanent scarring (Sherlock & Guitton 1965; Linley et al. 1983; Felipe-Bauer & Sternheim 2008). Furthermore, *Culicoides* species are vectors of important arboviruses affecting cattle, such as bluetongue virus,

equine encephalitis virus, epizootic hemorrhagic disease virus, African horse sickness virus, Akabane virus, bovine ephemeral fever virus, and Schmallenberg virus (Mellor et al. 2000; Borkent 2004; Carpenter et al. 2013). *Culicoides* species have also been implicated in the transmission of certain pathogens to humans, such as *Mansonella* nematodes, *Leishmania* flagellates and Oropouche virus, among others (Mellor et al. 2000; Ronderos et al. 2003; Borkent 2004; Seblova et al. 2012; Slama et al. 2014).

Herein, we provide the first records of 8 species of *Culicoides* from northwestern Argentina and southwestern Bolivia as well as an updated list of *Culicoides* in both of these countries.

Materials and Methods

SAMPLING SITES

We collected adult *Culicoides* during 2010–2013 at the following 10 localities in the subtropical mountainous rainforest ecoregion in

¹Instituto Superior de Entomología “Dr. Abraham Willink,” Facultad de Ciencias Naturales e Instituto Miguel Lillo, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Miguel Lillo 205, CP 4000, San Miguel de Tucumán, Tucumán, Argentina

²Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas, Crisóstomo Álvarez 722, CP 4000, San Miguel de Tucumán, Tucumán, Argentina

³Unidad Ejecutora Lillo, Miguel Lillo 205, CP 4000, San Miguel de Tucumán, Tucumán, Argentina

⁴División Entomología, Museo de La Plata, Paseo del Bosque s/n, CP 1900, La Plata, Argentina

*Corresponding author; E-mail: ceciliaveggianiaybar@yahoo.com.ar

northwestern Argentina and in the Chaco Ecoregion in southwestern Bolivia: Campo Quijano and Reserva Nacional Pizarros (Salta Province), Libertador General San Martín and Yuto (Jujuy Province), and Alpachiri, Santa Ana, and Villa Batirua (Tucumán Province) in Argentina; and Pozo del Bermejo (Aniceto Arce Province), Itavicua and Campo Verde (Gran Chaco Province) in Bolivia.

COLLECTION AND PROCESSING OF *CULICOIDES* SPECIMENS

Specimens were collected with CDC light traps with UV- or white-lights baited with CO₂ in anthropogenic and forested environments, from early dusk until morning of the next day, (17:00 to 07:00; 4 trappings/site/month). Collected specimens were frozen, sorted to morpho-species, preserved in 70% alcohol, and those difficult to accurately identify were dissected and slide-mounted in Canada balsam. Slide-mounted specimens were examined in detail with a binocular compound microscope, and identified by comparing them with illustrations, descriptions, and keys in Wirth & Blanton (1959) and Spinelli et al. (2005), as well as wing photos of females in the Neotropical wing atlas by Wirth et al. (1988).

Identification of species was based on female wing patterns, the shapes of male and female reproductive organs, the size and shape of female sensory pits on palpal segment 3, and the distribution of sensilla coeloconica female antennal flagellomeres. Assignment of species to subgenera and species groups followed the system proposed by Borkent (2014b). Voucher specimens were deposited in the entomological collection of the Instituto-Fundación Miguel Lillo (IFML), Tucumán Province, Argentina. Additional locality records for Tables 1 and 2 were obtained from published articles and specimens in IFML and the Museo de La Plata (MLPA), Argentina.

Results

In total, 4,128 *Culicoides* specimens were collected in the 2 ecoregions and 16 species were identified. Of these, 81 specimens (74 females, 7 males) belonging to 8 species are the first records from northwestern Argentina and Bolivia. Their taxonomic status, geographical distribution, type of trap with which they were collected, and surrounding environments are detailed below.

Subfamily Ceratopogoninae Newman

Tribe Culicoidini Kieffer

Genus *Culicoides* Latreille

Subgenus *Cotocripus* Brèthes

Culicoides (Cotocripus) caridei Brèthes

Current distribution: Argentina (Buenos Aires and Río Negro Provinces), Brazil, and Uruguay.

New records: ARGENTINA: Jujuy Province, Yuto (23°38'S, 64°28'W), Ledesma Department, XI-2012, CDC traps with white-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 2 females, 1 male, Veggiani Aybar det.; Libertador General San Martín (23°48'S, 64°48'W), Ledesma Department, X-2012, CDC traps with UV-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 6 females, 2 males, Veggiani Aybar det.

Subgenus *Drymodesmyia* Vargas

Culicoides (Drymodesmyia) saltaensis Spinelli & Wirth

Current distribution: Argentina (Salta and La Rioja Provinces).

New records: ARGENTINA: Tucumán Province, Alpachiri (27°20'S, 65°46'W), Chicligasta Department, XII-2012, III-2013, CDC traps with UV-light, anthropogenic environment and forested, Veggiani Aybar coll., 4 females, 1 male, Veggiani Aybar det.; Santa Ana (27°28'S, 65°39'W), Río Chico Department, IX-2012, CDC traps with UV-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar coll., 2 females, Veggiani Aybar det.; Villa Batirua (27°38'S, 65°44'W), Juan Bautista Alberdi Department, XII-2012, CDC traps with UV-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar coll., 2 females, Veggiani Aybar det.

Subgenus *Haematomyidium* Goeldi

Culicoides (Haematomyidium) pampaensis Spinelli & Wirth

Current distribution: Argentina (Catamarca, La Pampa, and Salta Provinces).

New records: ARGENTINA: Jujuy Province, Libertador General San Martín (23°48'S, 64°48'W), Ledesma Department, XI-2012, CDC traps with UV-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 2 females, Veggiani Aybar det. Salta Province, San José de Metán (25°30'S, 64°58'W), Metán Department, IX-2013, CDC traps with white-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 2 females, Veggiani Aybar det.

Subgenus *Hoffmania* Fox

Culicoides (Hoffmania) brasilianum Forattini

Current distribution: Argentina (Misiones Province) and Brazil.

New records: BOLIVIA: Aniceto Arce Province, Pozo del Bermejo (22°35'S, 64°26'W), Tarija Department, VIII-2012, CDC traps with UV-light, anthropogenic environment and forested, Veggiani Aybar coll., 2 females, Veggiani Aybar det.; Gran Chaco Province, Itavicua (21°50'S, 63°38'W), Tarija Department, X-2013, CDC traps with UV-light, anthropogenic environment, Laci & Carrizo coll., 1 female, Veggiani Aybar det.

Culicoides (Hoffmania) guttatus Coquillett

Current distribution: Argentina (Corrientes, Salta and Tucumán Provinces), Brazil, Ecuador, Paraguay, Surinam, and Venezuela.

New records: ARGENTINA: Jujuy Province, Yuto (23°38'S, 64°28'W), Ledesma Department, XI-2012, CDC traps with UV-light and white-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 3 females, 1 male, Veggiani Aybar det. BOLIVIA: Gran Chaco Province, Itavicua (21°50'S, 63°38'W), Tarija Department, X-2013, CDC traps with UV-light, anthropogenic environment, Laci & Carrizo coll., 2 females, Veggiani Aybar det.; Campo Verde (21°52'S, 63°34'W), Tarija Department, X-2013, CDC traps with UV-light and white-light, anthropogenic environment, Laci & Carrizo coll., 5 females, Veggiani Aybar det.

Culicoides (Hoffmania) insignis Lutz

Current distribution: Argentina (Buenos Aires, Corrientes, Salta, and Tucumán Provinces), Central America and Caribbean, México, and USA.

New records: ARGENTINA: Jujuy Province, Libertador General San Martín (23°48'S, 64°48'W), Ledesma Department, XI-2012, I-2010, CDC traps with UV-light and white-light, anthropogenic environment and forested, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 15 females, Veggiani Aybar det.; Yuto (23°38'S, 64°28'W), Ledesma Department, XI-2012, CDC traps with UV-light and white-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 9 females, 1 male, Veggiani Aybar det.

Table 1. Updated checklist of *Culicoides* species in northwestern Argentina.

| Taxon | Species | Province |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Subgenus | | |
| <i>Cotocripus</i> | <i>Culicoides nigrigenus</i> Wirth & Blanton ⁽⁵⁾ <i>Culicoides caridei</i> Bréthes ⁽¹³⁾ <i>Culicoides chacoensis</i> Spinelli & Wirth ^(2,5) <i>Culicoides saltaensis</i> Spinelli & Wirth ^(2,5,13) | Salta (location not specified) Jujuy (Ledesma Department) Salta (General José de San Martín Department) Salta (Cafayate Department) Tucumán (Chicligasta, Río Chico, and Juan Bautista Alberdi Departments) |
| <i>Haematomyidium</i> | <i>Culicoides debilpalpis</i> Lutz ^(9,10,11) <i>Culicoides lahillei</i> Iches ^(3,9,10,11) <i>Culicoides pampaensis</i> Spinelli & Wirth ^(7,13) <i>Culicoides paraensis</i> Goeldi ^(6,9,10,11) <i>Culicoides calchaqui</i> Spinelli & Veggiani Aybar ⁽¹²⁾ <i>Culicoides guttatus</i> Coquillett ^(11,13) | Tucumán (Capital, Chicligasta, Juan Bautista Alberdi, La Cocha, Lules, Monteros, Río Chico, Trancas, and Yerba Buena Departments) Salta (General Güemes, General José de San Martín, Metán, Orán, Rosario de la Frontera, and Rosario de Lerma Departments) Jujuy (Ledesma, Metán and Palpalá Departments) Tucumán (Capital, Chicligasta, Juan Bautista Alberdi, La Cocha, Lules, Monteros, Río Chico, Trancas, and Yerba Buena Departments) Salta (General Güemes, General José de San Martín, Metán, Orán, Rosario de la Frontera, and Rosario de Lerma Departments) Jujuy (Ledesma, Metán and Palpalá Departments) Catamarca (Londres Department) Salta (Metán Department) Jujuy (Ledesma Department) Tucumán (Capital, Chicligasta, Juan Bautista Alberdi, La Cocha, Lules, Monteros, Río Chico, Trancas, and Yerba Buena Departments) Salta (General Güemes, General José de San Martín, Metán, Orán, Rosario de la Frontera, and Rosario de Lerma Departments) Jujuy (Ledesma, Metán, and Palpalá Departments) Tucumán (Lules and Chicligasta Departments) Tucumán (La Cocha Department) Salta (Orán Department) Jujuy (Ledesma Department) |
| <i>Psychophaena</i> | <i>Culicoides insignis</i> Lutz ^(1,6,9,10,11,13) <i>Culicoides pseudoheliconiae</i> Felipe-Bauer ⁽¹²⁾ <i>Culicoides venezuelensis</i> Ortiz & Mirsa ^(9,10,11,13) | Tucumán (Capital, Chicligasta, Juan Bautista Alberdi, La Cocha, Lules, Monteros, Río Chico, Trancas, and Yerba Buena Departments) Salta (Orán Department) Jujuy (Ledesma Department) Tucumán (Monteros Department) Tucumán (Capital, Chicligasta, Juan Bautista Alberdi, La Cocha, Lules, Monteros, Río Chico, Trancas, and Yerba Buena Departments) Salta (Orán Department) Jujuy (Ledesma Department) |
| Subgenus unplaced | | |
| <i>Daedalus</i> group | <i>Culicoides crescentis</i> Wirth & Blanton ^(9,10,13) <i>Culicoides daedaloides</i> Wirth & Blanton ⁽¹²⁾ | Tucumán (Monteros Department) Salta (Rosario de Lerma Department) Jujuy (Ledesma Department) Salta (Orán Department) |
| <i>Dasyophirus</i> group | <i>Culicoides estevezae</i> Ronderos & Spinelli ⁽⁸⁾ <i>Culicoides willinkii</i> Spinelli & Veggiani Aybar ⁽²⁾ | Salta (General José de San Martín Department) Tucumán (Monteros Department) |

* First report for northwestern Argentina.

Note: Original records by ⁽¹⁾Lien & Lu (1978), ⁽²⁾Spinelli & Wirth (1984), ⁽³⁾Spinelli & Wirth (1986), ⁽⁴⁾Wirth & Felipe-Bauer (1989), ⁽⁵⁾Spinelli & Wirth (1993), ⁽⁶⁾Spinelli et al. (1993), ⁽⁷⁾Spinelli & Ronderos (2005), ⁽⁸⁾Spinelli et al. (2005), ⁽⁹⁾Veggiani Aybar et al. (2010), ⁽¹⁰⁾Veggiani Aybar et al. (2011), ⁽¹¹⁾Veggiani Aybar et al. (2012), ⁽¹²⁾Spinelli et al. (2013), and ⁽¹³⁾present study.

Table 2. Updated checklist of *Culicoides* species in Bolivia.

| Taxon | Species | Distribution in Bolivia |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Subgenus | | Province (Department) |
| <i>Anilomyia</i> | <i>Culicoides efferus</i> Fox ⁽¹⁾ <i>Culicoides chacoensis</i> Spinelli & Wirth ^(2,6) | Chapare (Cochabamba Department) Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) Sara (Santa Cruz Department) |
| <i>Haematomyidium</i> | <i>Culicoides debilipalpis</i> Lutz ^(9,10,11) <i>Culicoides lahillei</i> Ichas ^(3,9,10,11) <i>Culicoides paraensis</i> Goeldi ^(5,9,10,11) | Aniceto Arce (Tarija Department) Aniceto Arce (Tarija Department) Sara (Santa Cruz Department) Aniceto Arce (Tarija Department) Cercado (Cochabamba Department) Nor Yungas (La Paz Department) |
| <i>Hoffmania</i> | <i>Culicoides batesi</i> Wirth & Blanton ⁽⁷⁾ <i>Culicoides brasilianum</i> Forattini ^(9,12) <i>Culicoides diabolicus</i> Hoffman ⁽¹⁾ <i>Culicoides foxi</i> Ortiz ^(1,7) <i>Culicoides franklini</i> Spinelli ⁽⁸⁾ <i>Culicoides fusipalpis</i> Wirth & Blanton ⁽⁷⁾ <i>Culicoides guttatus</i> Coquillett ^(11,12) <i>Culicoides insignis</i> Lutz ^(1,7,9,10,11,12) <i>Culicoides plaumanni</i> Spinelli ⁽⁷⁾ | Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) Ichilo (Santa Cruz Department) Aniceto Arce (Tarija Department) Gran Chaco (Tarija Department) Chapare (Cochabamba Department) Chapare (Cochabamba Department) Ichilo (Santa Cruz Department) Ichilo (Santa Cruz Department) Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) Vallegrande (Santa Cruz Department) Gran Chaco (Tarija Department) Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) Aniceto Arce (Tarija Department) Chapare (Cochabamba Department) Sara (Santa Cruz Department) Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) Ichilo (Santa Cruz Department) |
| <i>Mataemyia</i> | <i>Culicoides bricenoi</i> Ortiz ⁽³⁾ <i>Culicoides lenti</i> Tavares & Luna Dias ⁽²⁾ | Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) |
| <i>Psychophaena</i> | <i>Culicoides venezuelensis</i> Ortiz & Mirsa ^(9,10,11) | Aniceto Arce (Tarija Department) |
| Subgenus unplaced | | |
| <i>Carpenteri</i> group | <i>Culicoides carpenteri</i> Wirth & Blanton ⁽³⁾ | Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) Sara (Santa Cruz Department) Vallegrande (Santa Cruz Department) |
| <i>Daedalus</i> group | <i>Culicoides crescentis</i> Wirth & Blanton ^(9,10) | Aniceto Arce (Tarija Department) |
| <i>Eublepharus</i> group | <i>Culicoides rangeli</i> Ortiz & Mirsa ⁽¹⁾ | Chapare (Cochabamba Department). |
| <i>Fluvialis</i> group | <i>Culicoides leopoldoi</i> Ortiz ^(3,6) | Location not specified. |
| <i>Limai</i> group | <i>Culicoides boliviensis</i> Spinelli & Wirth ^(2,6,8) <i>Culicoides vernoni</i> Wirth & Blanton ⁽³⁾ | Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department). Vallegrande (Santa Cruz Department). Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) Vallegrande (Santa Cruz Department) |
| <i>Reticulatus</i> group | <i>Culicoides aureus</i> Ortiz ⁽³⁾ <i>Culicoides paucienfuscatu</i> Barbosa ^(1,3) | Sara (Santa Cruz Department) Andrés Ibáñez (Santa Cruz de las Sierras Department) Chapare (Cochabamba Department) |
| <i>Stigmalis</i> group | <i>Culicoides fluviatilis</i> Lutz ⁽⁴⁾ | Location not specified |
| Miscellaneous unplaced | <i>Culicoides transferrans</i> Ortiz ⁽¹⁾ | Chapare (Cochabamba Department) |

+First report for Bolivia.

Note: Original records by ⁽¹⁾Lien & Lu (1978), ⁽²⁾Spinelli & Wirth (1984), ⁽³⁾Spinelli & Wirth (1986), ⁽⁴⁾Wirth et al. (1988), ⁽⁵⁾Wirth & Felipe-Bauer (1989), ⁽⁶⁾Spinelli & Wirth (1993), ⁽⁷⁾Spinelli et al. (1993), ⁽⁸⁾Marino et al. (2002), ⁽⁹⁾Veggiani Aybar et al. (2010), ⁽¹⁰⁾Veggiani Aybar et al. (2011), ⁽¹¹⁾Veggiani Aybar et al. (2012), and ⁽¹²⁾present study.Subgenus *Psychophaena**Culicoides (Psychophaena) venezuelensis* Ortiz & Mirsa

Current distribution: Argentina (Entre Ríos, Salta, and Tucumán Provinces), Bolivia (Aniceto Arce Province), Brazil, Ecuador, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panamá, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

New records: ARGENTINA: Jujuy Province, Yuto (23°38'S, 64°28'W), Ledesma Department, XI-2012, CDC traps with UV-light and white-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 12 females, 1 male, Veggiani Aybar det.

Subgenus unplaced

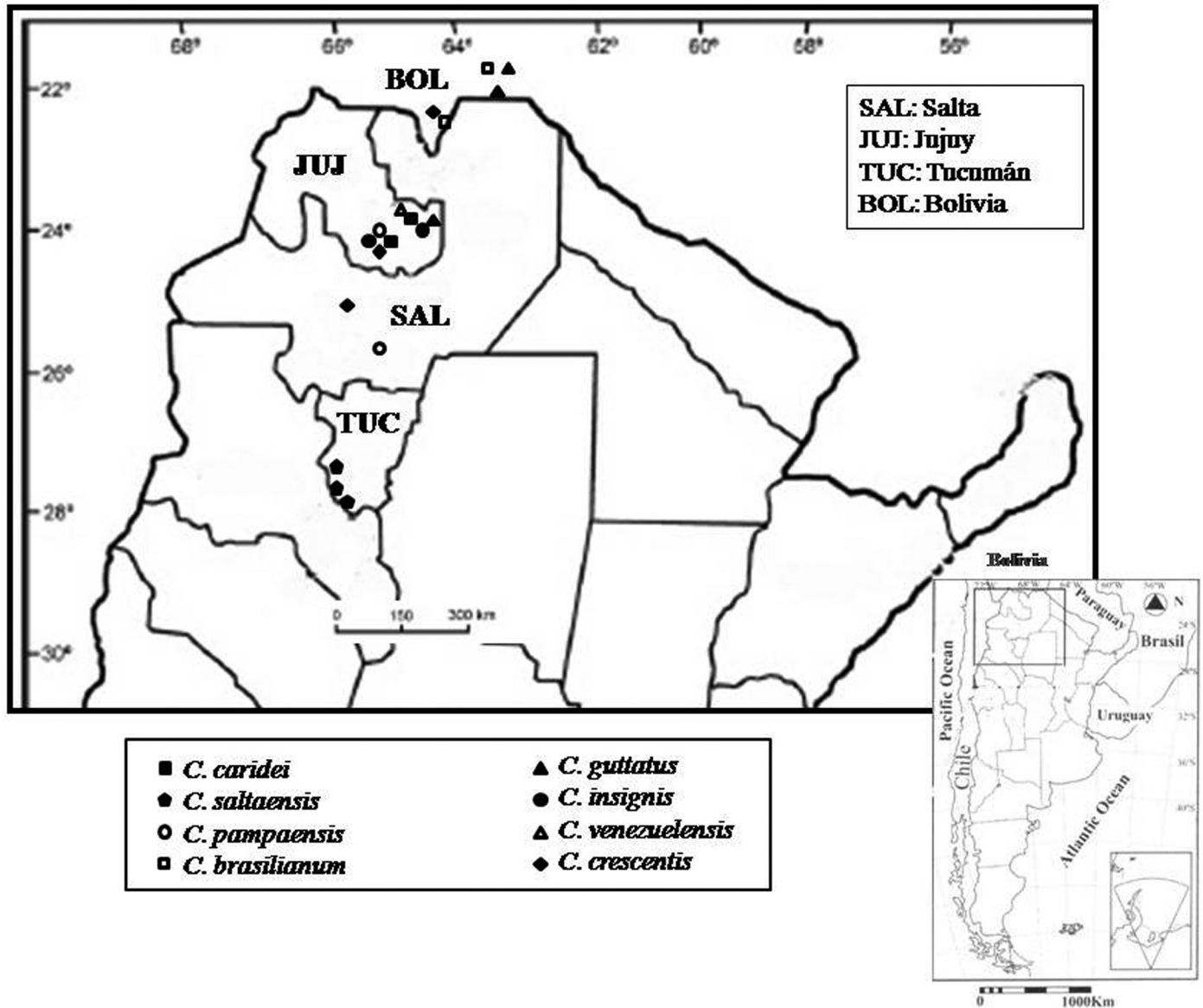


Fig. 1. Distribution map of *Culicoides* species in northwestern Argentina and southwestern Bolivia.

daedalus group

Culicoides crescentis Wirth & Blanton

Current distribution: Argentina (Salta and Tucumán Provinces), Mexico to Colombia.

New records: ARGENTINA: Jujuy Province, Libertador General San Martín (23°48'S, 64°48'W), Ledesma Department X-2012, CDC traps with white-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 1 female, Veggiani Aybar det. Salta Province, Campo Quijano (24°54'S, 65°41'W), Rosario de Lerma Department, X-2009, traps with UV-light, anthropogenic environment, Veggiani Aybar coll., 2 females, Veggiani Aybar det.; Reserva Nacional Pizarros (24°10'S, 64°03'W), Anta Department, I-2012, traps with UV-light, forested environment, Laci & Carrizo coll., 2 females, Veggiani Aybar det. BOLIVIA: Aniceto Arce Province, Pozo del Bermejo (22°35'S, 64°26'W), Tarija Department, VIII-2012, CDC traps with UV-light, forested environment, Veggiani Aybar & Dantur Juri coll., 2 females, Veggiani Aybar det.

LATITUDINAL DISTRIBUTION AND UPDATED CHECKLIST

Below is a map with distribution records of *Culicoides* species reported in the study area (Fig. 1). In addition, Tables 1 and 2 are updated checklists of recorded species of *Culicoides* in the Yungas and Chaco Ecoregions of Argentina and Bolivia.

Discussion

The objective of this study was to present the geographical distribution of the *Culicoides* fauna, extending its range of distribution in the subtropical mountainous rainforest ecoregion of Argentina and in the Chaco Ecoregion of Bolivia, including anthropogenic and forested environments. Other surveys of the genus *Culicoides* in this area were by Veggiani Aybar et al. (2010, 2011, 2012).

Of the species recorded, only *C. insignis* and *C. venezuelensis* have been incriminated in the transmission of diseases of veterinary importance (Ronderos et al. 2003; Perruolo 2009). For example, *C. insignis* has been reported as a vector of bluetongue virus in northeastern

Argentina (Gorch et al. 2002; Ronderos et al. 2003). The discovery of this potential vector in the Yungas Ecoregion is of vital importance for developing health and veterinary measures aimed at minimizing the effect of this disease in this and surrounding areas.

Acknowledgments

We thank M. Zaidenberg and E. Laci, C. Laci, and D. Carrizo, Chief and Technicians of Coordinación Nacional de Control de Vectores, Ministerio de Salud de la Nación, for their collaboration during field work. We also give special thanks to William L. Grogan, Jr., Research Associate Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for invaluable comments that helped to improve the manuscript.

References Cited

- Borkent A. 2004. Ceratopogonidae. Chapter 10, pp. 113-126 *In* Marquardt WC [ed.], *Biology of Disease Vectors*. 2nd edition. Elsevier Press, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. 785 pp.
- Borkent A. 2014a. World species of biting midges (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). <http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/files/9913/9144/3328/CeratopogonidaeCatalog.pdf> (last accessed 31 Mar 2015).
- Borkent A. 2014b. The subgeneric classification of species of *Culicoides*. <http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/files/9613/9136/7590/CulicoidesSubgenera.pdf> (last accessed 31 Mar 2015).
- Borkent A, Spinelli G. 2007. Neotropical Ceratopogonidae (Diptera: Insecta), pp. 1-198 *In* Adis J, Arias J, Rueda-Delgado G, Wnatzon KM [eds.], *Aquatic Biodiversity in Latin America*. Pensoft, Sofia, Bulgaria, and Moscow, Russia.
- Carpenter S, Groschup M, Garros C, Felipe-Bauer M, Purse B. 2013. *Culicoides* biting midges, arboviruses and public health in Europe. *Antiviral Research* 100: 102-113.
- Felipe-Bauer M, Sternheim U. 2008. *Culicoides paraensis* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) infestations in cities of the Itapocú River valley, southern Brazil. *Entomological News* 119: 185-192.
- Gorch C, Vagnotii A, Duffy S, Miquet J, Pacheco I, Bolondi A, Draghi C, Cetra B, Soni C, Ronderos M, Russo S, Ramirez V, Lager L. 2002. Bluetongue: isolation and characterization of the virus and identification of vectors in north-eastern Argentina. *Revista Argentina de Microbiología* 34: 150-156.
- Lien J-C, Lu L-C. 1978. A small collection of biting midges of the genus *Culicoides* from Bolivia (Diptera, Ceratopogonidae). *Journal of the Taiwan Museum* 40: 91-100.
- Linley J, Hoch A, Pinheiro F. 1983. Biting midges (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) and human health. *Journal of Medical Entomology* 20: 347-364.
- Marino P, Spinelli GR, Cazorla C. 2002. Type specimens of Ceratopogonidae (Insecta: Diptera) in the collection of the Museo de La Plata, Argentina. *Revista Museo de La Plata* 42: 1-37.
- Mellor P, Boorman J, Baylis M. 2000. *Culicoides* biting midges: their role as arbovirus vectors. *Annual Review of Entomology* 45: 307-340.
- Perruolo GJ. 2009. Clave de las especies de *Culicoides* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) asociadas con la ganadería en la región Neotropical. *Revista Científica* 19: 124-133.
- Ronderos M, Spinelli G, Lager I, Díaz F. 2003. La importancia sanitaria de los jejenes del género *Culicoides* (Diptera: Nematocera) en la Argentina. *Entomología y Vectores* 10: 601-612.
- Seblova V, Sadlova J, Carpenter S, Volf P. 2012. Development of *Leishmania* parasites in *Culicoides nubeculosus* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) and implications for screening vector competence. *Journal of Medical Entomology* 49: 967-970.
- Sherlock I, Guitton N. 1965. Dermatozoonosis by *Culicoides* bite (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) in Salvador, State of Bahía, Brazil. II. The bionomics of the *Culicoides*. *Memórias do Instituto Oswaldo Cruz* 62: 145-159.
- Slama D, Haouas N, Remadi L, Mezhoud H, Babba H, Chaker E. 2014. First detection of *Leishmania infantum* (Kinetoplastida: Trypanosomatidae) in *Culicoides* spp. (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Parasites and Vectors* 7: 1-3.
- Spinelli GR, Ronderos M. 2005. Description of the male of *Culicoides pampanensis* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Revista de la Sociedad Entomológica Argentina* 64: 43-46.
- Spinelli GR, Wirth WW. 1984. Ocho especies nuevas del género *Culicoides* Latreille de la región Neotropical. Primera descripción del macho de *C. flinti* Wirth y de la hembra de *C. lenti* Tavares y Luna Dias (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Revista de la Sociedad Entomológica Argentina* 43(1-4): 171-185.
- Spinelli GR, Wirth WW. 1986. Clave para la identificación de las especies del género *Culicoides* Latreille presentes al sur de la Cuenca Amazónica. Nuevas citas y notas sinonímicas (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Revista de la Sociedad Entomológica Argentina* 44(1): 49-73.
- Spinelli GR, Wirth WW. 1993. Los Ceratopogonidae de la Argentina (Insecta: Diptera), pp. 1-124 *In* Castellano Z [ed.], *Fauna de Agua Dulce de la República Argentina*, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Spinelli GR, Greiner EC, Wirth WW. 1993. The Neotropical bloodsucking midges of *Culicoides guttatus* group of the subgenus *Hoffmania* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Contributions of the American Entomological Institute* 27: 1-91.
- Spinelli GR, Ronderos M, Diaz, F. 2005. The bloodsucking biting midges of Argentina (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Memórias do Instituto Oswaldo Cruz* 100: 137-150.
- Spinelli GR, Santamaría E, Cabrera O, Ronderos M, Suárez M. 2009. Five new species of *Culicoides* Latreille described from Colombia, yielding a new species list and country records (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Memórias do Instituto Oswaldo Cruz* 104: 81-92.
- Spinelli GR, Veggiani Aybar CA, Dantur Juri M, Lizarraldede Grosso M, Marino P. 2013. Two new species and new records of biting midges of the genus *Culicoides* from northwestern Argentina (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Memórias do Instituto Oswaldo Cruz* 108: 586-589.
- Veggiani Aybar CA, Dantur Juri M, Lizarralde de Grosso M, Spinelli GR. 2010. Species diversity and seasonal abundance of *Culicoides* biting midges in northwestern Argentina. *Medical and Veterinary Entomology* 24: 95-98.
- Veggiani Aybar CA, Dantur Juri M, Lizarralde de Grosso M, Spinelli GR. 2011. New records of *Culicoides* species (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) for Bolivia. *Journal of the American Mosquito Control Association* 27: 306-307.
- Veggiani Aybar CA, Dantur Juri M, Stein M, Oria G, Lizarralde de Grosso M, Spinelli GR. 2012. New records of *Culicoides* Latreille (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) for the Yungas and Chaco Ecorregions of Argentina. *Florida Entomologist* 95: 808-809.
- Wirth WW, Blanton FS. 1959. Biting midges of the genus *Culicoides* from Panamá (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Proceedings of the United States National Museum* 109: 237-482.
- Wirth WW, Dyce AL, Spinelli GR. 1988. An atlas of wing photographs: with a summary of the numerical characters of the Neotropical species of *Culicoides* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Contributions of the American Entomological Institute* 25: 1-72.
- Wirth WW, Felipe-Bauer ML. 1989. The neotropical biting midges related to *Culicoides paraensis* (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae). *Memórias do Instituto Oswaldo Cruz* 84: 551-565.