

## A new, non-marine species of the genus *Thalassomya* Schiner, 1856

(Insecta, Diptera, Chironomidae, Telmatogetoninae)

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The adult male of *Thalassomya reissi*, spec. nov. is described from inland Kenya, Africa. This is the first non-marine species of the genus.

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### Introduction

The genus *Thalassomya* Schiner, 1856 is cosmopolitan and includes the following species: *T. africana* Edwards, 1926, *T. bureni* Wirth, 1949, *T. cocosensis* Hashimoto, 1979, *T. frauenfeldi* Schiner, 1856, *T. japonica* Tokunaga & Etsuko in Tokunaga & Komyo, 1955, *T. longipes* (Johnson, 1924), *T. maritima* Wirth, 1947, *T. pilipes* Edwards, 1926, *T. sabroskyi* Tokunaga, 1964, and *T. setosipennis* Wirth, 1947. The present author is currently preparing descriptions of two new species from Brazilian coasts. All the above-mentioned species have marine habitats, living on rocks in the intertidal zone. In contrast, the new species described below was collected in Amboseli National Park, continental Kenya, a long way from the Indian Ocean. Some species of *Thalassomya* live in relatively low-salinity conditions near river estuaries, and the otherwise marine genus *Telmatogeton* Schiner, 1866 has members endemic to Hawaiian mountain torrents. But so far no *Thalassomya* has ever been proven to live in inland saline or even fresh water. Therefore, further collections near the type locality of the new species are needed to evaluate its ecology.

The descriptive terminology used follows Sæther (1980) for general morphology, and Cranston (1989) for the hypopygium.

*Thalassomya reissi*, spec. nov.  
Figs 1a-g

**Type material.** Holotype: adult ♂, slide-mounted in Canada balsam; Kenya, Amboseli Natl Park, Amboseli Lodge, 27.IV.1980, leg. E. G. Burmeister; deposited at Zoologische Staatssammlung München, Munich, Germany.

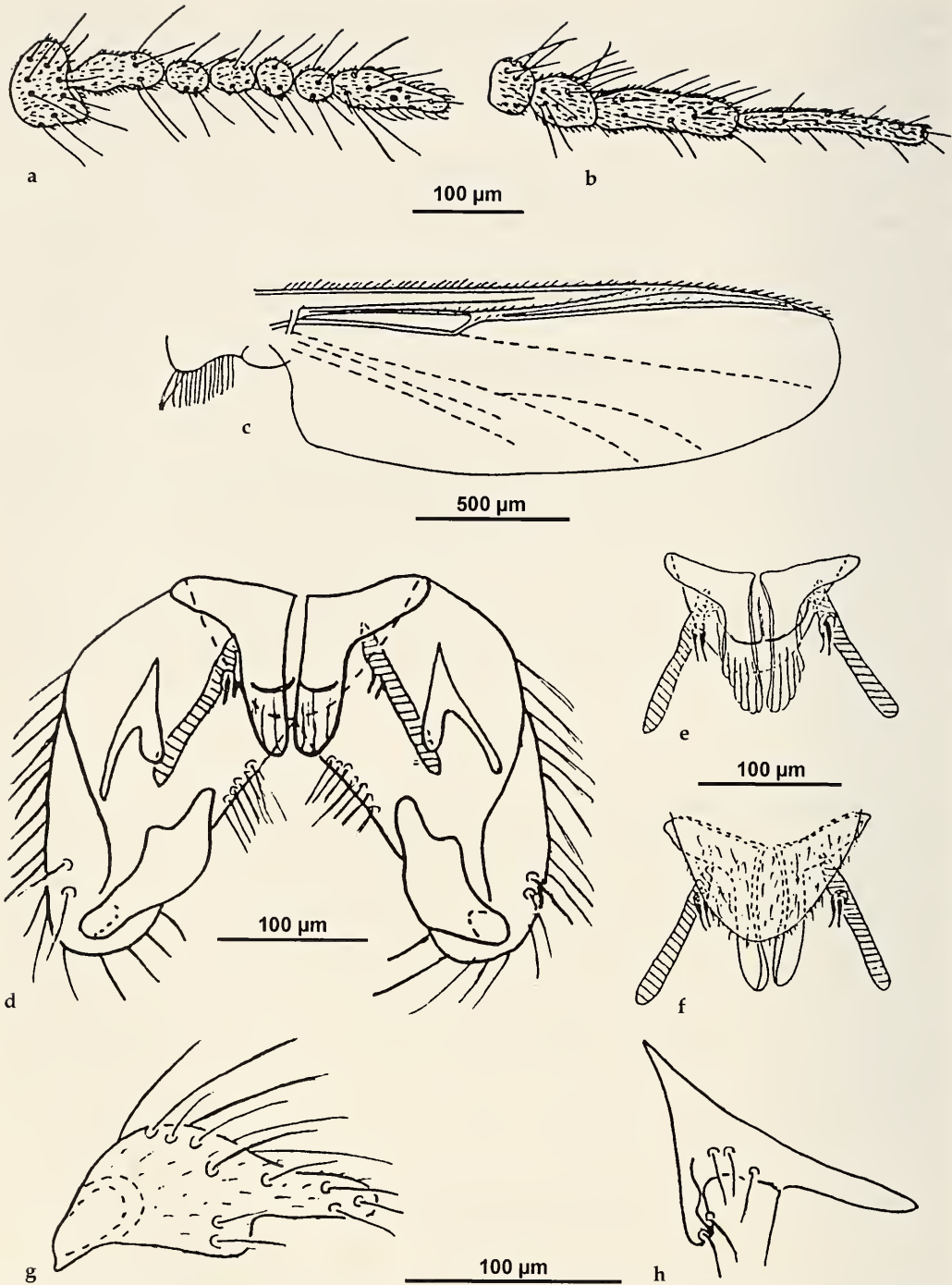


Fig. 1. *Thalassomyia reissi*, spec. nov.; adult male. a. Antenna. b. Palpus. c. Wing. d. Hypopygium. e. Aedeagus, endomere and phallapodeme, ventral view. f. Aedeagus, endomere and phallapodeme, dorsal view. g. Gonostylus. h. Dorso-basal lobe of gonocoxite.

**Diagnosis.** *Thalassomya reissi*, spec. nov. differs from all species of the genus by the following character combination: wing veins  $M_{1+2}$ ,  $M_{3+4}$ ,  $Cu_1$  and An scarcely discernible; shape of dorso-basal lobe of gonocoxite; shape and 2 strong, dorsal black spines of phallapodeme; rounded tip of gonostylus; low number of scutellar setae. is closest to *T. africana* Edwards, originally of Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, but differs by the antenna being as long as the palpus, by the more slender gonocoxite dorsal lobe with different setation, and by the gonostylus being distinctly widened medially. *T. reissi*, spec. nov. differs from all other species of the genus because it has two black spines in the basal third of the phallapodeme.

**Etymology.** Named after the late Dr Friedrich Reiss, colleague and friend, in honour of his fine studies on Chironomidae.

## Description

### Adult male (n=1).

Median-sized species, body length 4.11 mm, wing length 1.94 mm.

General colour brown.

Head. Antenna (Fig. 1a). Pedicel large with 10 long setae; flagellum with six flagellomeres, lengths (in  $\mu\text{m}$ ): 90, 40, 45, 35, 35, 110; AR = 0.44; fm 1 about twice as long as broad, with median constriction and 4 long setae in distal third; fm 2-5 subspherical, with three sensorial pits in distal portion, 4 long setae each; fm 6 about three times as long as wide, bottle-shaped, with 4 long setae in proximal portion and 1 short seta subapically. Temporal setae 70, multiserial. Palp (Fig. 1b) 5-segmented, basal pm indistinct, lengths of palpomeres 2-5 (in  $\mu\text{m}$ ): 40, 70, 150, 200; pm 2 bulbous, with 4 long setae; pm 3 with long setae and one sensillum capitatum near the apex; pm 4 elongate with long setae, pm 5 slender with about 10 short setae.

Thorax brown. All thoracic setae arising from light-colored, ocellate spots; 3 humerals, 18 dorso-centrals, 12 prealars (arrangement and number of achrostichals not visible in the lateral mount). Scutellum light brown, with 5+5 setae. Postnotum bare.

Wing (Fig. 1c) covered with fine punctuation due to microtrichia visible at 20 $\times$  magnification; pale brown except for darker area delimited by veins C, M, and  $R_{4+5}$ ; VR = 1.45; C, R,  $R_1$  and  $R_{4+5}$  with strong setae;  $M_{1+2}$ ,  $M_{3+4}$ ,  $Cu_1$  and An scarcely discernible, bare; squama with 18 marginal setae; anal lobe rounded. Halteres light brown.

Legs slender, brown, covered with short, brown setae; tarsomere 4 cordiform,  $ta_5$  cylindrical.  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  with pectinate outer and simple inner claws;  $P_3$  with both claws simple.

Segment lengths (in  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and proportions:

	fe	ti	$ta_1$	$ta_2$	$ta_3$	$ta_4$	$ta_5$	LR	BV	SV
$P_1$	1300	1800	1000	400	200	60	120	0.55	5.25	3.10
$P_2$	2000	1900	800	300	200	60	120	0.42	6.91	4.87
$P_3$	1840	2400	1240	600	340	80	140	0.51	4.72	3.41

Abdomen. Light brown, covered with small setae.

Hypopygium (Figs 1d-h). Apex of endomere (Figs 1d-f) not setose. Phallapodeme with 2 strong, black dorsal spines proximo-medially. Dorso-basal lobe of gonocoxite (Fig. 1h) slender, with peculiar shape, with 2 small setae on a finger-like protuberance and 4 setae (1 of them larger) at base. Gonostylus (Fig. 1g) broadest medially; tapering distally to a rounded tip, bearing some large setae on dorsal margin and three subapical small ones.

Female, pupa and larva unknown.

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