

# Description of the third instar larva of *Haliplus subseriatus* (Coleoptera: Haliplidae)

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*Abstract:* The third instar larva of *Haliplus subseriatus* from Argentina is described and illustrations are given showing the entire larva and details of the head, thorax, antenna, mandible, and legs.

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## Introduction

In the collection of the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen (Denmark) there is a sample of Haliplidae from the southern part of Argentina, containing three adults of *Haliplus subseriatus* Zimmermann and also four larvae of a *Haliplus*-species. During my work on a revision of the Neotropical Haliplidae I have never seen that *H. subseriatus* is found together with other *Haliplus*-species, so there is little doubt that the larvae also belong to *H. subseriatus* and below I will describe them as such.

## *Haliplus subseriatus* Zimmermann (fig. 1-8)

### Material

Third instar larvae: 4 ex., Argentina, Santa Cruz Prov., Meseta de las Vischachas, 700 m, 26.xi.1981, J. Fjeldrå leg., M. Holmen det. (*Haliplus subseriatus* Zimm.). The same sample contained 3 adults of *H. subseriatus*. (3 larvae and 2 adults in Zoological Museum Copenhagen, 1 larva and 1 adult in authors collection).

## Description

Body slender (fig. 1), dorsally yellow-brown, at most vaguely maculated, ventrally yellow to yellow-brown.

Head approximately round. Mandible with sharp point, 3-4 spines on outer margin, small raspy area on inner margin (fig. 8). Eyes consisting of 3 or 4 ocelli grouped together and

one below the antenna (fig. 2, 3). Antenna with segment 1 and 2 of same length and segment 3 about 4 x as long as segment 4 (fig. 7).

Thoracic segments dorsally covered with many small brown tubercles which posteriorly end in a lateral extension on each side and dorsally form a vague pattern with 4 posterior extensions (fig. 1, 3). Forelegs with a strong bulbous extension with many strong spines on inner side of femur (fig. 4). All tarsi with one long claw (fig. 4 - 6).

Abdominal segments dorsally covered with

Table 1. Measurements of the third instar larva of *Haliplus subseriatus* (in mm)

|  | 3rd instar (n=4) |
|--|------------------|
| Total length   | 8.2-10.8         |
| Length from mandible to end of 9th abdominal segment | 4.8-6.2          |
| Length of 10th abdominal segment including urogomphi | 3.4-4.4          |
| Length of head including mandibles                   | 0.40-0.48        |
| Width of head including eyes                         | 0.52-0.56        |
| Antenna  |                  |
| Length of 2nd segment                                | 0.03             |
| Length of 3rd segment                                | 0.12             |
| Ratio 3rd to 2nd segment                             | 4:1              |
| Mandible   |                  |
| Length from point to hind lobe                       | 0.18-0.20        |
| Number of spines on outer margin                     | 3-4              |
| Pronotum, length                                     | 0.56-0.60        |
| Width  | 0.78-0.82        |
| Mesonotum, length                                    | 0.30-0.40        |
| Width  | 0.78-0.82        |
| Metanotum, length                                    | 0.30-0.40        |
| Width  | 0.78-0.82        |

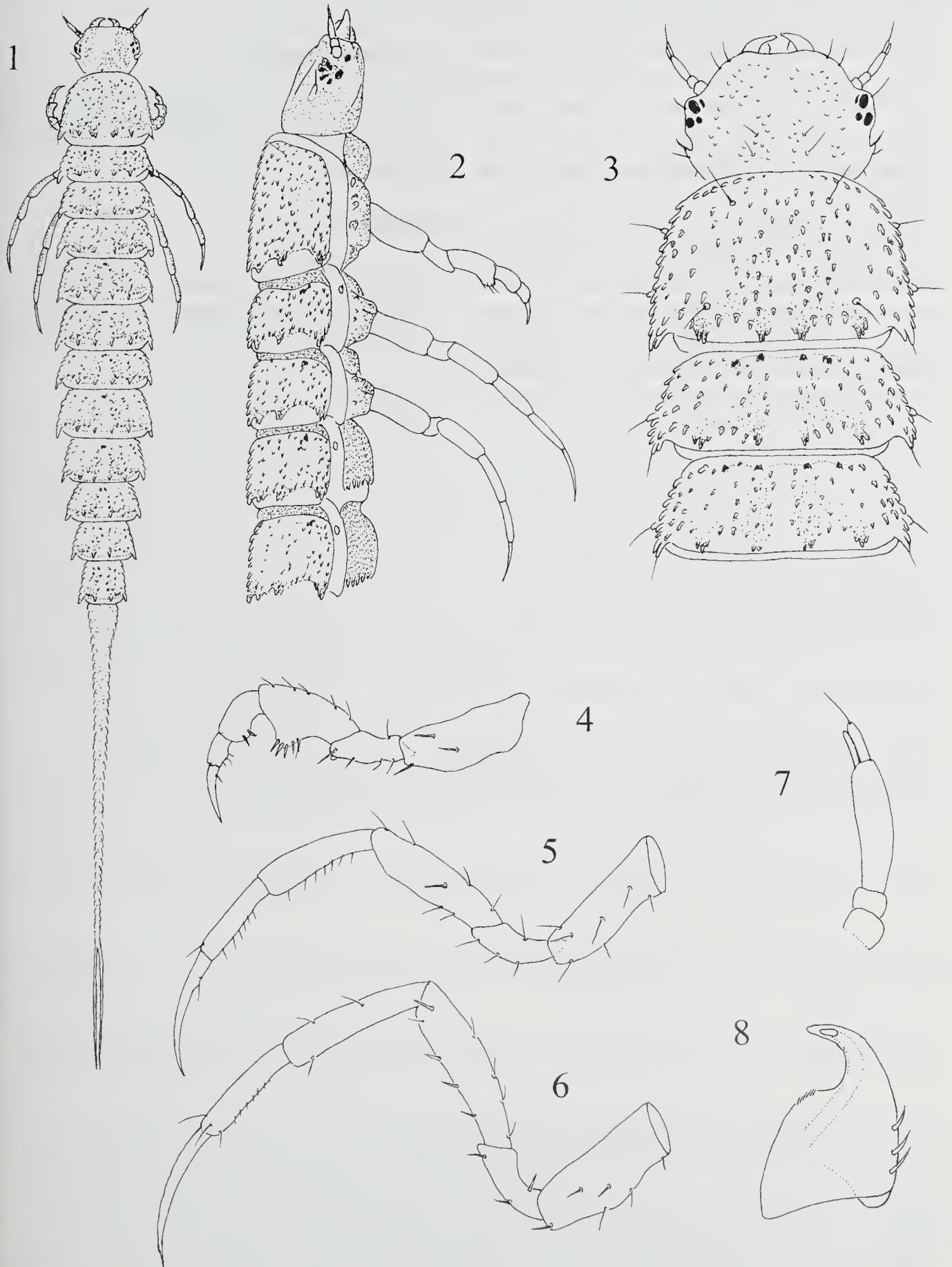


Fig. 1-8. *Haliplus subseriatus*, 3rd stage larva. 1, dorsal view; 2, lateral view of head and first segments; 3, dorsal view of head and pronotal segments; 4, foreleg; 5, midleg; 6, hindleg; 7, antenna; 8, mandible.

many small brown tubercles which posteriorly end in a lateral extension on each side and dorsally form a vague pattern with 4 (first 7 segments) or 2 (segments 8 and 9) posterior extensions (fig. 1). Abdominal segments ventrally with small tubercles especially on posterior edge. Tenth (last) segment with backwards directed, for the greater part fused, urogomphi (fig. 1). Measurements are given in table 1.

The knowledge of the immature stages of Neotropical Haliplidae is extremely poor. It seems that the only species of which the larva (3rd instar) is well described is *Haliphus valdiviensis* (Moroni, 1989). At the moment it is therefore not possible to indicate which characters distinguish *H. subseriatus*

from other Neotropical species, although I think that the profemoral lobe is very interesting.

### Acknowledgements

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### References

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