

NEOCORDULIA LONGIPOLLEX CALV.,
A REMARKABLE NEW RECORD FROM
MEXICO (ANISOPTERA: CORDULIIDAE)

Members of the family Corduliidae are known to be poorly represented in Mexico and Central America (P.P. CALVERT, 1909, *Ent. News* 20: 409-412; 1942, *Proc. VIIIth Am. Sci. Congr.*, pp. 323-331; J.G. NEEDHAM, 1933, *Ent. News* 44: 88-90) and also South America (D.C. GEIJSKES, 1970, *Stud. Fauna Suriname* 12: 1-42). Up to now only two members of this family have been recorded from Mexico: *Gomphomacromia mexicana* Needham and *Macromia annulata* Hag. *Gomphomacromia mexicana* was the first corduliid recorded from Mexico (NEEDHAM, 1933, l.c.). This species has its nearest relatives in the temperate zone of southern South America (D.R. PAULSON, 1982, in: S.H. Hurlbert & A. Villalobos-Figueroa, Eds., *Aquatic Biota of Mexico, Central America and the West Indies* pp. 249-277, San Diego St. Univ.). *Macromia annulata* has been recorded from the state of Nuevo León under the synonym of *M. caderita* Needham (J.G. NEEDHAM & M.J. WESTFALL, 1954, *A manual of the dragonflies of North America*, Univ. California Press, Berkeley). Members of this genus are widely distributed in North America, so the presence of this species in northern Mexico is not surprising.

Recently I received a small collection of Odonata from the highlands of Oaxaca State

(southern Mexico) through the kindness of Mr. Adolfo Ibarra, (Instituto de Biología, UNAM). To my surprise, there was included a single specimen belonging to the family Corduliidae, which I further examined and determined as *Neocordulia longipollex* Calvert. The genus *Neocordulia* had not been previously recorded for Mexico, and is constituted by five known species, viz., *N. androgynis* (Sel.), *N. batesi* (Sel.), *N. longipollex* Calvert, *N. setifera* (Sel.) and *N. volxemi* (Sel.) (R. MARTIN, 1914, *Genera Insect.* 155: 1-32). All species have a South American distribution except *N. longipollex*, which was described from a single male from Costa Rica (San Jacinto, W of Guapiles) (CALVERT, 1909, l.c.). More recently, *N. longipollex* has also been recorded for Panamá and South America (PAULSON, 1982, l.c.).

A single male of *N. longipollex* was collected 3 km SW of La Esperanza (1700 m) along route 175 in the Sierra de Juárez, Oaxaca (between Valle Nacional and Cerro Machín) on August 20 1984, by A. Ibarra. This new record extends the distributional range of this genus in America

approximately 1600 km to the North.

The Mexican specimen differs from the original description and figure given by CALVERT (1909, l.c.) in having the vertex and frons metallic-blue and the labrum with a stripe of reddish brown in the lower half. The hamule is also not clearly branched so that the "anterior branch" only consists of a triangular projection directed ventrally. The hind wings have 13 postnodals and the distal cubitoanal crossvein is a little proximal to the arculus. All other characters are the same. I have illustrated here (Fig. 1) the ventral view of the inferior abdominal appendage which was incompletely figured in CALVERT (1909, l.c.)

Measurements of the Mexican specimen: Abdomen (incl. app) 34.4 mm, superior appendages 2.2 mm, costal edge of pterostigma (FW) 2.3 mm, maximum width of hind wing (at origin of M_3) 11.5 mm. The specimen is deposited at the IBUNAM (Colección Entomológica del Instituto de Biología, UNAM); Mexico City, D.F.

I thank Dr R.W. GARRISON for providing some bibliography on the neotropical Corduliidae. I also thank RODOLFO NOVELO for drawing the figure of the inferior abdominal appendage.

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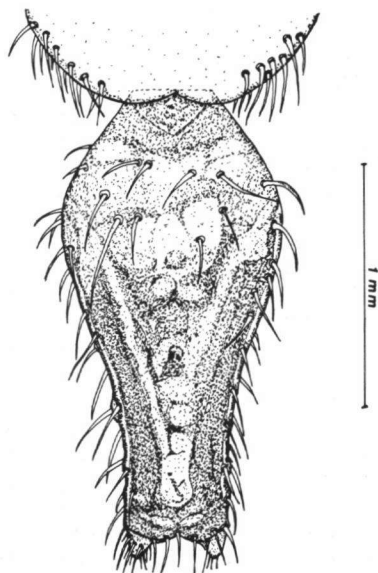


Fig. 1. male: inferior abdominal appendage, ventral view.