

## A case of phoresis of midges on Zygoptera

Narcís Prat

Freshwater Ecology, Hydrology and Management group (F.E.H.M). Departament de Biologia Evolutiva, Ecologia i Ciències Ambientals, Universitat de Barcelona. Diagonal 643, 08028 Barcelona.

E-mail: [nprat@ub.edu](mailto:nprat@ub.edu)

Several midges live phoretically on different invertebrates, as was described by Thienemann in his book *Chironomus* (Thienemann 1974) and may be found in many papers published since. For example, I found some time ago a *Podonomus* living on the gastropod *Chilina dombeyana* (Prat et al. 2004). This is a classic topic in midge studies; I found the first revision of the topic in White et al. (1980). Phoresis between Chironomidae and Odonata was one of the most common phoretic associations. Last year, two colleagues working on Odonata sent me several larvae of midges living on Zygoptera larvae. In the first sample (Fig. 1), tubes of *Rheotanytarsus* larvae were attached to *Calopteryx virgo meridionalis*. Larvae of the midge inside the tubes were very small. In the second sample examined, cases were simple tubes, and the midges were from the genus *Paratanytarsus*, and were present on *Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis* and *Calopteryx xanthostoma* (R. Martin pers. comm.). Both samples are from the River Tordera, in Catalonia (NE Spain). More details of the sites and the number of larvae found, and the instar of the Odonata may

be found in Martin and Maynou (2021). Although phoresis between Chironomidae and Odonata has been frequently described over many years, the picture of this occurrence may be of interest to people working on midges.

### References

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Figure 1. Cases of *Rheotanytarsus* sp. on *Calopteryx virgo meridionalis* larvae. Photo: Ricard Martin.

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