

First record of the genus *Brachycercus* Curtis, 1834 in Tunisia (Ephemeroptera, Caenidae)

Primera cita del género *Brachycercus* Curtis, 1834 en Túnez (Ephemeroptera, Caenidae)

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The current catalog of Tunisian Ephemeroptera includes 22 species (Boumaïza & Thomas, 1986, 1988), distributed along the majority of the watershed networks of Tunisia. More recent works concerning the Tunisian Ephemeropterofauna (Boumaïza, 1994; Boumaïza & Thomas, 1995; Ben Zineb, 1996; Rejeb, 2003, Korbâa, 2005) mentioned the 22 species cited by Boumaïza et Thomas (1986, 1988).

In the above publications, the family Caenidae was represented in Tunisia by a single genus, *Caenis* Stephens, 1835. During a study carried out in the stream of Joumine (South-west tributary of Ichkeul lagoon, North Tunisia) from September 2004 to October 2005, four nymphs belonging to the genus *Brachycercus* Curtis, 1834 were collected. The four *Brachycercus* specimens were living in an area inhabited also by *Caenis* species. This is the first time that the genus *Brachycercus* is recorded in Tunisia.

The genus of *Brachycercus* Curtis, 1834, is represented in the western Palearctic region by three species. Because the specimens collected were nymphs, the species could not be identified. Further sampling would be necessary to collect last instar nymphs and adults for identification of the *Brachycercus* species occurring in Tunisia.

Material examined

4 nymphs: Tunisia, Bizerte, Stream of Joumine (N: 36°57,762; E: 009°31,478); 90 m a.s.l., 24-X-2005.

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