

THE GENUS *ASTHENOPODES* ULMER AND ITS TYPE SPECIES (EPHEMEROPTERA: POLYMITARCIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

The type species of the genus *Asthenopodes* Ulmer, 1924, which has been referred to as *Asthenopodes albicans* (Pictet), is given a New Name, *Asthenopodes picteti*. The distribution of the Neotropical genus *Asthenopodes* is discussed.

Ulmer (1924) established the genus *Asthenopodes* for the species of mayfly which he referred to as *Palingenia albicans* Pictet, and which at that time was placed in the genus *Asthenopus* (Ulmer 1921, 1924). *Palingenia albicans* Pictet, 1843, was designated as the type species by Ulmer (1924) and is still the only described species in the genus.

Pictet (1843-5), however, did not describe the species *Palingenia albicans* as new, but listed and described a misidentified species which he thought was the species originally described by Percheron (1838, in Guérin and Percheron) as *Ephemera albicans* (Lestage 1924; Ulmer 1920, 1921; Traver 1956). *Ephemera albicans* Percheron is now considered to be a species of *Campsurus* (Ulmer 1921, 1924; Traver 1956).

Article 49 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature states that a specific name used in an erroneous specific determination cannot be retained for the species to which the name was wrongly applied, even if in different genera. Because *Asthenopodes albicans* was misidentified by Pictet as the species described by Percheron (now *Campsurus albicans*) and wrongly credited to Pictet by Ulmer (1921, 1924) as a new species, this species must be renamed. I therefore propose the NEW NAME *Asthenopodes picteti* for *Asthenopodes albicans* (Percheron) sensu Pictet, 1843. This then becomes the new name for the type species of *Asthenopodes* Ulmer, 1924; the formal synonymy follows:

Asthenopodes picteti Nomen Novum

Palingenia albicans (Percheron); Pictet, 1843:149 (misidentification).

Campsurus albicans (Pictet); Eaton, 1883:40.

Asthenopus albicans (Pictet); Ulmer, 1921:239.

Asthenopodes albicans (Pictet); Ulmer, 1924:26.

Asthenopodes picteti is known from "Brazil" (Pictet 1943-5, Ulmer 1924), and from the Cuarem River, Artigas Province, Uruguay (Traver 1956). Traver (1950, 1956) also listed *Asthenopodes* sp. from Kartabo, Bartica District, Guyana and another *Asthenopodes* sp. from the Cuarem River, Artigas Province, Uruguay. Thus the genus appears to have a distribution from northern Uruguay through Brazil to Central Guyana. Unfortunately I do not know the locality from which the Brazilian specimen was taken, but I suspect it was from the south central lowlands. This type of distribution pattern, covering the Amazon Basin and the Paraná depression (Sick 1969), is discussed as one of the principal biogeographic divisions

of Ephemeroptera in South America, the polystenothermal lowland fauna (Guiana—Brazilian division of Fittkau, 1969), by Hubbard and Peters (in press).

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