

21. Family CHAOBORIDAE

By Art Borkent

Adults of this family are relatively large (similar in size to mosquitoes), nonbiting midges. The family has a worldwide distribution and includes 6 extant genera with a total of 50 species. As treated here, the family excludes *Corethrella*, which is relegated to the Corethrellidae.

Immatures are most commonly found in lentic habitats, ranging from small pools to lakes. Some species of *Chaoborus* are known elsewhere to occur in huge numbers as planktonic larvae or as adults in swarms. Larvae of all species are

predaceous with the exception of *Australomochlonyx nitidus*, which has been shown to be a filter feeder.

Our understanding of this family has been markedly improved by the recent publication of an analysis of the Australian fauna by Colless (1986). Vlaardingerbroek (1984) has recorded but not described *Chaoborus* larvae from Papua New Guinea.

Refs.: Colless (1977, biol.; 1986, rev., key), Edwards (1930a), Freeman (1962).

Genus AUSTRALOMOCHLONYX Freeman

AUSTRALOMOCHLONYX Freeman, 1962: 41. Type species: *Australomochlonyx nitidus* Freeman, 1962, orig. des.
nitidus Freeman, 1962: 41. Australia (Vic); Australia (NSW).

Genus PROMOCHLONYX Edwards

PROMOCHLONYX Edwards, 1930a: 540. Type species: *Corethra australiensis* Ferguson, 1921, orig. des.
australiensis Ferguson, 1921c: 30 (*Corethra*). Australia (Vic); Australia (NSW, Qld, WA).

Genus CHAOBORUS Lichtenstein

CHAOBORUS Lichtenstein, 1800: 174. Type species: *Chaoborus antisepticus* Lichtenstein, 1800 [= *Tipula crystallina* De Geer, 1776], mon.
CORETHRA Meigen, 1803: 260. Type species: *Tipula culiciformis* De Geer, 1776 [misid., = *Tipula crystallina* De Geer, 1776], mon.
SAYOMYIA Coquillett, 1903b: 190. Type species: *Corethra punctipennis* Say, 1823, orig. des.
longicercus Colless, 1986: 22. Australia (NT); Australia (Qld, WA).
ornatipennis Colless, 1986: 15. Australia (NSW); Australia (ACT, Qld, Vic).
punctilliger Colless, 1986: 20. Australia (NT); Australia (Qld, WA).
queenslandensis Theobald, 1905f: 43 (*Sayomyia*). Australia (Qld); Australia (NSW, NT).
vagus Colless, 1986: 11. Australia (SA); Australia (ACT, NSW, Qld, Tas).