

FAMILY: Doryphoribiidae

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: Morphologically indistinguishable from species originally discovered in Sicily. No molecular evidence for further comparisons.

SPECIES COMMENTS: Freshwater. Apparently cosmopolitan species, but only recorded in Colorado and the Smokies in USA.

ID COMMENTS: Small, with maximum size of 200 µm, colorless, smooth cuticle and eyes in posterior position. Ventral mouth, without peribuccal lamellae; forehead sloped. Buccal tube with reinforcement bar, 25 µm long, and about 2.3 µm wide, in specimens of 107 µm. The buccal tube, observing the animal in profile, is curved (see Fig. 152, B); slender stylets, furcae sufficiently developed. Pharynx oval, with length to width ratio equal to about 1.2-1.3:1. Apophyses well developed and 2 macroplacoids (wide rods); the 1st is almost twice as long as the 2nd and has a slight central construction (in a 107 µm specimen the 1st placoid measures 4.6 µm, the 2nd about 2.4 µm). Isohypsibius type slender doubleclaws, but relatively large size, with respect to that of the body; principal branch with two thin accessory points; the doubleclaws of each leg not very different in shape and size; the external is scarcely a little larger than the internal. Eggs are unknown.

-Ramazzotti & Maucci 1983

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

HABITAT: Stream sediment.

OBSERVATION METHODS: PC and DIC microscopy.