

Thulinius romanoi

FAMILY: Doryphoribiidae

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: The genus was transferred to Doryphoribiidae by Gasiorek et al. 2019.

SPECIES COMMENTS: Freshwater. New species described in the GSMNP, and so far only reported from there. 18s rDNA and partial cox1 sequences deposited at GenBank.

ID COMMENTS: Large body size (328.7–542.3 μm in length), body shape sometimes suggesting a fat piglet (Fig. 4A). Cuticle sculptured on all surfaces (dorsally, ventrally and on all legs) with polygonal mesh (Fig. 4C) forming an extended roughness where the cuticle is contracted. Eyes not observed in the mounted material. Peribuccal lamellae present. Lobes around the mouth not subdivided. Buccal armature with only the posterior band of small teeth followed by a line of large rounded teeth (Fig.4B). Large straight buccal tube. Large pharyngeal apophyses developed longitudinally; three long rod-shaped macroplacoids; no microplacoid. The curvatures of the placoid rows resemble a Grecian urn (Fig. 4B). Small stylet furcae (Fig. 4B). Large claws of Isohypsibius type (Figs 5A–C), the external claw more slender than the internal. Primary branch of the internal claw with a distinct dorsal knob. Accessory points on the primary branches present. Basal portions of all claws slender, wider in their distal portion in the internal claw (Figs 5 A–B). Lunules probably absent on all legs (Figs 5 A–C), or present only on the external or posterior claw but very reduced. Long cuticular bars, subdivided into two parts, present under the claws on the first three pairs of legs (Figs 5 A–B).

-Bertolani et al. 2014

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

HABITAT: Freshwater streams.

OBSERVATION METHODS: PC and DIC.