



**UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL AUTÓNOMA DE MÉXICO
POSGRADO EN CIENCIAS DEL MAR Y LIMNOLOGÍA**

**ZOOPLANCTON DE AGUAS EPICONTINENTALES: ESPECIES
ANFIATLÁNTICAS O ESPECIES CRÍPTICAS. UN ANÁLISIS
BASADO EN LA TAXONOMÍA INTEGRATIVA.**

TESIS

**QUE PARA OPTAR POR EL GRADO DE:
DOCTORA EN CIENCIAS**

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“La ciencia será siempre una búsqueda, jamás un descubrimiento real. Es un viaje, nunca una llegada”. Karl Raimund Popper (1902-1994)

Dedicado a mis padres y hermana por su apoyo incondicional.

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Se seleccionaron tres especies de microcrustáceos de aguas epicontinentales considerados cosmopolitas, dos cladóceros (*Moina micrura* y *Moina macrocopa*) y un copépodo (*Mesocyclops pehpeiensis*), en base a su abundancia en el continente europeo y americano, para ser estudiados desde el enfoque de la taxonomía integrativa que consiste en utilizar diferentes herramientas complementarias para delimitar las especies putativas. En este caso, utilizamos la morfología, la genética, usando una secuencia de aproximadamente 650 pb de la subunidad 1 del gen mitocondrial de la citocromo oxidasa (COI), y la biogeografía, para delimitar las especies seleccionadas. En total se recolectaron y estudiaron unas 200 muestras crudas de zooplancton principalmente de España y México.

Mesocyclops pehpeiensis, resultó ser una especie oportunista que se está extendiendo por todo el mundo debido posiblemente a una reciente translocación de origen antropogénico relacionada con el cultivo del arroz. Sin embargo, los cladóceros, resultaron ser complejos de especies crípticas con patrones de distribución muy restringidos. El complejo *Moina micrura*, está formado por siete especies diferentes, dos en España habitando en simpatria en la Albufera de Valencia y cinco en México dispersas por toda la República. *Moina macrocopa* tenía hasta el momento dos subespecies descritas, una europea (*Moina macrocopa macrocopa* o *Moina macrocopa* s.l.) y una subespecie americana (*Moina macrocopa americana*). En este trabajo se demostró gracias al uso de la taxonomía integrativa que son dos especies distintas que presentan grandes diferencias morfológicas, genéticas y biogeográficas. La especie americana, *Moina americana* (antes *Moina macrocopa americana*) que se distribuye en el continente americano desde Canadá a Argentina y la especie europea *Moina macrocopa* s.l. que por sí misma es un complejo de especies distribuido por todo el continente Euroasiático.

In base of their abundance in the European and American continent, three different species of freshwater microcrustaceans, considered cosmopolite, were selected: two cladocerans (*Moina micrura* y *Moina macrocopa*) and one copepod (*Mesocyclops pehpeiensis*), to study them from an integrative approach which include the use of distinct tools to delimitate the putative species. In this case, we used morphology, genetics (using a sequence of 650 pb of the subunit 1 of the mitochondrial gene of cytochrome oxidase - COI), and biogeography, to delimitate the selected species. In total, we collected and studied 200 raw samples of zooplankton mainly, from Mexico and Spain.

Mesocyclops pehpeiensis, is an opportunistic species that is expanding all over the world due possibly to a recent anthropogenic translocation associated to rice cultivation. However, the cladoceran resulted to be complexes of cryptic species with restricted distributions. The *Moina micrura* complex, studied in this research, is formed by seven distinct species, two in Spain inhabiting in sympatry at Albufera de Valencia Lake, and five in Mexico scattered throughout the Republic.

Moina macrocopa has two subspecies, one European (*Moina macrocopa macrocopa* o *Moina macrocopa* s.l.) and other, American (*Moina macrocopa americana*). This research demonstrates by the integrative taxonomy, that they are two different species with deep morphological, genetical, and biogeographical differences. The American species, *Moina americana* (named before *Moina macrocopa americana*) is distributed in the American continent from Canada to Argentina and the European species, *Moina macrocopa* s.l., is a complex by itself distributed all over the European continent.

CAPÍTULO I. INTRODUCCIÓN

La clasificación taxonómica de los grupos principales de zooplancton, clase Brachiopoda y Maxillopoda, Suborden Cladocera y Copepoda, respectivamente, es bastante confusa (Van Damme et al. 2011). Desde hace más de 30 años Frey (1982) empezó a cuestionar el conocimiento que se tenía sobre la distribución de estos organismos. A pesar de que el tiempo transcurrido desde entonces ha sido relativamente largo, las técnicas tradicionales de clasificación taxonómica solo han permitido de manera limitada, determinar si las especies que encontramos en ambas partes del océano Atlántico principalmente del continente americano y europeo son realmente anfiatlánticas, o bien representan una amplia diversidad críptica (Michael & Frey 1983; Michael & Frey 1984; Frey 1985; Frey 1986; David G Frey 1987; David G. Frey 1987; Frey 1988a; Frey 1988b; Forró et al. 2008; Smirnov & Kotov 2009; Kotov & Alonso 2010; Van Damme et al. 2013; Nédli et al. 2014; Bekker et al. 2016). Debido a esto, recientemente se ha recurrido a la inducción artificial de machos para analizarlos con detalle ya que, presentan caracteres morfológicos más claros para distinguir las especies (Kim et al. 2006). Sin embargo, estas técnicas requieren una inversión elevada de tiempo y la estabilización de las especies en condiciones de cultivo, lo cual no siempre se puede lograr.

Una alternativa interesante son los métodos moleculares. Entre estos destacan los códigos de barras, que utilizan una secuencia de aproximadamente 650 pares de bases (pb) de la subunidad 1 del gen mitocondrial citocromo c oxidasa (COI), el cual fue propuesto hace quince años como un sistema de identificación universal para animales (Hebert et al. 2003). En el caso del zooplancton, esta metodología demostró que puede ser una primera aproximación para el descubrimiento de especies crípticas, sobre todo de cladóceros y copépodos (Elías-Gutiérrez & Valdez-Moreno 2008; Bekker et al. 2016). Sin embargo, la información molecular en si misma constituye un solo carácter más, que no siempre funciona de manera efectiva. Por ejemplo, en ciertos grupos como la familia Characidae de peces, los códigos de barras no distinguen las especies del complejo *Astyanax-Bramocharax* (Valdez-Moreno et al. 2009). Debido a estos problemas, la mejor aproximación para el reconocimiento de la biodiversidad deriva de un nuevo concepto

denominado taxonomía integrativa, que surgió a partir de las controversias originadas al usar solo datos moleculares para delimitar las especies (Dayrat 2005; Will et al. 2005). Es en México donde por primera vez se describieron dos especies de cladóceros (Elías-Gutiérrez & Valdez-Moreno 2008; Quiroz-Vázquez & Elías-Gutiérrez 2009) y una de copépodos (Montiel-Martínez et al. 2008) utilizando esta nueva aproximación taxonómica. Esta tendencia se está consolidando cada vez más en el descubrimiento de nuevas especies en diversos grupos (Bertolani et al. 2011; Boyer et al. 2011; Galimberti et al. 2012; Cruz-Barraza et al. 2012; Ceccarelli et al. 2012; Razo-Mendivil et al. 2013; Lavinia et al. 2017; Bataille et al. 2013).

Por otro lado, en el caso del zooplancton, la integración de los protocolos moleculares para la obtención de códigos de barras se ha visto limitada por problemas metodológicos para amplificar la región de interés, que apenas hasta hace cinco años aparentemente han sido resueltos (Prosser et al. 2013). A pesar de lo anterior, los avances logrados en el conocimiento del zooplancton mexicano se han convertido en un modelo de referencia a nivel global (Van Damme & Sinev 2013, Makino et al. 2017). Conforme se avanza en el conocimiento de estos grupos, diversos autores coinciden en señalar que el siguiente paso es la comparación intercontinental de las especies de microcrustáceos, a fin de reconocer su diversidad real.

Por esta razón, la base principal de este trabajo será la comparación anfiatlántica de algunas especies de cladóceros y copépodos ciclopoideos, que siguiendo la taxonomía actual en las claves regionales se están identificando con el mismo nombre en América y Europa, a fin de confirmar si realmente se trata de una misma especie o son en realidad especies diferentes.

Antecedentes

Para el caso de los Cladóceros libres de las aguas epicontinentales, el libro “Fauna Ibérica” (Alonso 1996) cita 90 especies de cladóceros en España de las cuales, comparándolas con el libro “Guía ilustrada de Cladocera y Copepoda de las aguas continentales de México”

(Elías-Gutiérrez, Suárez-Morales, et al. 2008), observamos que 26 especies son aparentemente anfiatlánticas.

En el caso de los Copépodos libres de las aguas continentales, más concretamente, la Familia de los Cyclopidae, a los que se va a dedicar también parte de este estudio, nos encontramos ante la misma problemática, de las 62 especies encontradas en Europa continental, citadas por (Dussart 1969), 13 aparentemente también son anfiatlánticas.

Por ejemplo, *Acanthocyclops robustus* (Sars), ha sido considerado cosmopolita, pero hay evidencias de que se trata de un complejo de especies crípticas distribuido por todo el mundo. Por ejemplo, ciertas poblaciones americanas previamente consideradas como *A. robustus* resultaron ser una nueva especie denominada *Acanthocyclops rebecae* (Fiers et al. 2000). Otra especie confundida con *A. robustus* resultó ser *A. americanus*, el cual además representa una amplia distribución anfiatlántica, derivada a partir de una posible introducción reciente en Europa (Miracle et al. 2013).

En el caso de cladóceros, el género *Moina*, está representado por varias especies anfiatlánticas bien definidas como *Moina macrocopa* (Straus) y *Moina micrura* (Kurz). Goulden (1968) reconoce dos subespecies de *M. macrocopa*, una americana y otra europea. Creemos que en realidad se trata de dos especies distintas y no de subespecies. En cuanto *Moina micrura*, es considerada un complejo de especies. En México se han detectado genéticamente tres subgrupos diferentes, que son también consistentes con su distribución geográfica (Elías-Gutiérrez, Martínez-Jerónimo, et al. 2008) En el caso de España, *Moina micrura* ha sido registrada en por todo el país incluyendo las Islas Baleares (Armengol, 1978; Alonso, 1996).

Lo anterior permite reconocer la evidencia de especies crípticas y la aparente distribución restringida de la mayoría de las especies de zooplancton de las aguas epicontinentales, lo cual se demostró en un gradiente norte-sur en Norteamérica (Jeffery et al. 2011). Esto apoya la idea de que la mayor parte de la fauna de cladóceros sigue siendo muy subestimada (Forró et al. 2008) y que la mayoría de los nuevos descubrimientos serán en latitudes más bajas, particularmente en los trópicos (Adamowicz & Purvis 2005), o las

regiones más cálidas de Europa (ver el caso de la *Moina* anteriormente mencionado). Es así que de 1996 a 2003 se descubrieron 17 nuevas especies de Cladóceros en México de estas, 7 son endémicas (Elías-Gutiérrez & Suárez-Morales 2003). En el caso de España, a pesar de que se ha considerado que el inventario faunístico es completo desde del trabajo de Alonso (1996), desde entonces se han descrito tres especies nuevas: dos endémicas de *Leydigia* (Kotov & Alonso 2010) y una de Alona (Sinev et al. 2012).

Desde el punto de vista molecular se utiliza de manera universal una divergencia genética del 3% para considerar dos especies como diferentes (Jeffery et al. 2011), este valor podría ser variable. La divergencia intraespecífica calculada por Costa et al. (2007) para *Daphnia* promedió 1.32%, en cambio Gutiérrez-Aguirre et al. (2014) encontraron más del 4% en el género *Mastigodiatomus*, lo que no le permitió concluir respecto a la identidad de las especies encontradas. Elías-Gutiérrez et al. (2008) encontró una divergencia intraespecífica promedio del 0.82% para cladóceros y 0.79%. Sin embargo, encontró valores superiores al 4% en unos pocos casos y concluyó que posiblemente se tratara de especies crípticas. Los valores máximos por encima del 4% que encontraron otros autores que se han abocado al problema del valor de corte entre las especies de crustáceos (Costa et al. 2007; Lefébure et al. 2006) son cuestionables, pues están basados en gran medida en secuencias obtenidas del GenBank, donde se ha demostrado que un gran número de identificaciones son erróneas (Fritz et al. 2012; Hsu et al. 2013), siendo este problema aún más grave en copépodos, donde la identificación es más difícil (Karanovic & Krajicek 2012). Desafortunadamente los errores incluidos en GenBank aparentemente no tienen solución viable y expedita (Fritz et al. 2012).

Justificación e Importancia

La base de cualquier análisis ecológico, fisiológico o toxicológico radica en una correcta identificación de las especies. El zooplancton comprende una gran variedad de organismos que se encuentran cerca de la base de la cadena trófica en los ecosistemas acuáticos, siendo muy importantes para las poblaciones de peces. Estos organismos se utilizan como bioindicadores de contaminación, y también para proporcionar información sobre las

características del medio en un gran número de trabajos de ecología aplicada. Por lo tanto, es imprescindible una identificación acertada de las especies, a fin de poder describir y estudiar el sistema ecológico en el que habitan.

Los resultados de este trabajo son fundamentales en cualquier estudio que requiera la correcta identificación de las especies del zooplancton epicontinental.

Actualmente existe la base de datos de GenBank, donde la técnica de BLAST, para un gen específico, permite asociar una secuencia con alguna especie que ya exista en esta base de datos. Sin embargo, la mayor parte del material disponible en este sistema no cuenta con una identificación confiable, ni se puede asociar a una región geográfica en particular.

Una buena alternativa es la base de datos BOLD (Barcode of Life Data base). Los códigos de barras, asociados a esta base de datos y las nuevas metodologías en metagenómica (secuenciación de segunda generación) podrían permitir el reconocimiento de las especies con más del 90% de certeza a un costo cada vez más bajo.

En la actualidad, la principal limitante es la biblioteca de secuencias que, a pesar de tener más de 5,997,719 especímenes secuenciados (www.boldsystems.org, consultada el 19 de marzo del 2018) apenas representa una mínima fracción de la biodiversidad global. A pesar de lo anterior, existe una buena base para partir con el análisis de grupos de zooplancton (cyclopoides 1,873 especímenes con código de barras y cladóceros 8,797 especímenes con código de barras).

Por otra parte, la mayoría de las especies de cladóceros y copépodos que se conocen actualmente han sido descritas por primera vez en Europa. Gran parte de ese material se ha perdido, o los métodos de preservación solo permiten el análisis de morfología comparada, con bastantes limitaciones dependiendo de la forma en que se han conservado los especímenes. Por lo que, para la realización de este proyecto, es necesario la obtención de topotipos (o visitar localidades lo más cercanas posibles a las localidades tipo) para esclarecer la clasificación taxonómica de estos grupos.

Preguntas e hipótesis

1. ¿Son o no anfiatlánticas las especies de microcrustáceos epicontinentales que actualmente se encuentran en los registros para México y España?
 - Hipótesis: Las especies seleccionadas (*Moina micrura*, *Moina macrocopa* y *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis*) que actualmente se presentan como comunes para España y México son especies crípticas y diferentes.
2. Si se tratara de especies crípticas, entonces ¿existirá una correspondencia directa entre los haplotipos con base al gen COI y los fenotipos?
 - Hipótesis: Al tratarse de posibles especies crípticas, el gen COI permitirá su diferenciación e identificación
3. ¿Cuáles son los límites de divergencia genética, que nos permiten establecer que se trata de especies diferentes?
 - Hipótesis: Un 3% de divergencia genética permitirá distinguir las especies, tal como lo señala Jeffery et al. (2011).
4. ¿Es posible aplicar los principios de taxonomía integrativa (sensu Razo-Mendivil et al. 2013a) en el caso de las especies que no sean anfiatlánticas?
 - Hipótesis: La mejor aproximación para establecer nuevas hipótesis respecto a las especies y su ámbito de distribución geográfica es a través de la taxonomía integrativa.
5. ¿Estos métodos modernos son compatibles con el sistema Linneano de clasificación jerárquica?
 - Hipótesis: Los resultados que se obtengan a partir de análisis con la taxonomía integrativa son compatibles con la actual clasificación jerárquica de los seres vivos basada en el sistema de Linneo.

Objetivos

Objetivo General:

Analizar la diversidad, basados en caracteres moleculares con el gen CO1, su distribución y su morfología. de tres especies de copépodos y cladóceros epicontinentales aparentemente anfiatlánticos, con énfasis especial en México y la Península Ibérica Con base a esta información, identificar los patrones reales de distribución de las especies estudiadas.

Objetivos específicos:

1. Contrastar la identidad taxonómica de las especies seleccionadas con base a caracteres morfológicos,
2. Analizar el grado de variabilidad fenotípica en las especies analizadas y determinar que caracteres morfológicos facilitarían la mejor diferenciación de estas.
3. Determinar empíricamente que el umbral de divergencia conocido en las secuencias genéticas del COI (3%), es el más adecuado.
4. Establecer la correlación entre los haplotipos encontrados y el fenotipo de las especies analizadas y su correspondencia con el sistema de clasificación de Linneo.
5. Con base a la información anterior, realizar inferencias sobre los posibles patrones de distribución de las especies estudiadas.

CAPÍTULO II. *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* Hu, 1943

Montoliu, L., Miracle, M. R., & Elías-Gutiérrez, M. (2015). Using DNA barcodes to detect non-indigenous species: the case of the Asian copepod *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* Hu, 1943 (Cyclopidae) in two regions of the world. *Crustaceana* 88 (12-14), 1323-1338



USING DNA BARCODES TO DETECT NON-INDIGENOUS SPECIES:
THE CASE OF THE ASIAN COPEPOD *MESOCYCLOPS PEHPEIENSIS*
HU, 1943 (CYCLOPIDAE) IN TWO REGIONS OF THE WORLD

BY

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ABSTRACT

To date, little attention has been paid to analyses of copepods as exotic species. The genus *Mesocyclops*, a freshwater cyclopoid, has a worldwide distribution, but individual species within the genus have a quite restricted geographical range. *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* Hu, 1943 is a Central-East Asian species, rarely found outside of this area, and when it appears should be considered as non-native. Based on morphology and DNA barcode analyses, using the COI gene, we confirmed records of *M. pehpeiensis* in two ponds in Mexico and in a rice paddy near Valencia, Spain. The morphology of this species, based on morphometric analyses, was found to be variable, but DNA barcoding confirmed the same identity for specimens from two continents. The extremely low COI genetic divergence among these disjunct populations of *M. pehpeiensis* strongly evidences anthropogenic translocations. DNA barcoding can be a fast and useful analytical tool to accurately identify exotic species across the world.

RESUMEN

Poca atención se ha prestado al análisis de los copépodos como especies exóticas. El género *Mesocyclops* de aguas continentales tiene una amplia distribución mundial pero las especies que lo componen tienen distribuciones bastante restringidas. *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* Hu, 1943 es una especie del Centro-Este de Asia, raramente encontrado fuera de esta área, y cuando se ha registrado se considera como no-nativo. Basados en la morfología y el ADN mitocondrial confirmamos la presencia de *M. pehpeiensis* en dos estanques en México y en un arrozal cercano a Valencia, España. La morfología de esta especie es variable en caracteres morfométricos, pero los llamados códigos de barras del ADN confirmaron la misma identidad para los especímenes encontrados en ambos continentes. La baja divergencia genética entre estas poblaciones tan disyuntas evidencia la existencia de translocaciones antrópicas. Proponemos el uso de códigos de barras como una herramienta analítica rápida y confiable para detectar especies exóticas en todo el mundo.

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INTRODUCTION

The genus *Mesocyclops* Sars, 1914 comprises 71 species from around the world (Hołyńska, 2006). It is especially common in the tropics, from where most species have been described in recent years. The first described species, *Mesocyclops leuckarti* Claus, 1857, was thought to be cosmopolitan. Since its description from Germany at the end of the 19th century until the work of Kiefer (1981), who showed that this species was restricted to Europe and West Asia, misidentifications of *Mesocyclops* from other parts of the world have occurred (Menendez-Díaz et al., 2006). Van de Velde (1984) performed a taxonomic revision of the African populations of this genus that revealed all records of *M. leuckarti* as misidentifications and confirmed that this species did not occur on that continent. Because of the poor knowledge on the taxonomy of this genus at that time, and reliance on European identification keys, *M. leuckarti* appeared to be the only species found in European waters, except for a taxon named as *M. ruttneri* by Kiefer (1981), recorded from one locality, a greenhouse in Lunz (Austria). This species was later also found in North America (Reid, 1993). Subsequently, *M. ruttneri* was synonymized by Guo (2000) with *M. pehpeiensis* Hu, 1943, who accurately redescribed it from its terra typica: Central and East China. On the basis of this information, all records of *M. ruttneri* can be considered as introduced populations of *M. pehpeiensis*.

Interestingly, the genus *Mesocyclops* has not been recorded from the Iberian Peninsula (Dussart, 1969; Dussart & Defaye, 2006), the westernmost end of Europe, except for a single and recent record under the name of *M. leuckarti* in the south of Spain (Frisch et al., 2006). Considering the fact that it is the only species of the genus included in Western European keys, this record could be a misidentification.

Mesocyclops pehpeiensis is a widespread tropical species from central and southeast Asia with confirmed records from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, India, Sri Lanka, Indochina, China, Japan (Hołyńska et al., 2003; Dussart & Defaye, 2006; Resmi & Jayachandran, 2014) and Taiwan (record mined from GenBank, see table II). This species was introduced in the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the United States (Mississippi, Louisiana and the District of Columbia), associated with rice fields and aquatic gardens (Reid, 1993; Reid & Marten, 1995; Hołyńska et al., 2003; Wyngaard et al., 2010). Later, in 2005, this species was also found in Southeast Mexico (Suárez-Morales et al., 2005), in two ponds located near to the Pacific Coast, and it was suggested to be a human introduction in a similar way as the above-mentioned records from the United States. In 2006 it was recorded from Cuba (Menendez-Díaz et al., 2006) and in 2014 it was also recorded from Crimea (Russia) (table I). This latter record is the first finding of the species

TABLE I
Records confirmed of *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* Hu, 1943 in localities outside its original range

| Country | Exact locality | Date | Coordinates | No. of specimens | Reference |
|---------|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Austria | Glashaus, Lunz | 4 December 1926 | 48°16'59"N 14°18'43"E* | 25+ | Kiefer (1981) |
| USA | Joe Brown Park, New Orleans, LA | July 1987 | 30°02'11"N 89°58'08"E* | 41+ | Reid (1993) |
| USA | Ricefield, Compton Farm, New Orleans, LA | 10 August 1990 | NA | 2 | Reid (1993) |
| USA | Ricefields near Jennings, LA | 9 August 1990; 26 July 1991 | 30°12'03"N 92°32'43"W* | 21+ | Reid (1993) |
| USA | Ricefields near Cleveland, MS | 10 August 1991 | 33°46'26"N 90°41'52"W* | 20+ | Reid (1993) |
| USA | Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, DC | 1 June 1996 | 38°54'46"N 76°56'31"W | 3 | Wyngaard et al. (2010) |
| Mexico | Fishpond, Simón Bolívar, Tapachula | 29 August 2003 | 14°37'37"N 92°16'08"W | 50 | Suárez-Morales et al. (2005) |
| Mexico | Pond, highway to Ciudad Hidalgo Cosalapa, Chiapas | 23 September 2003 | 14°30'23" 92°16'1"W | 14 1 | Suárez-Morales et al. (2005) |
| Cuba | El Cacao reservoir, La Habana | 2005 | 23°04'08"N 82°16'08"W | – | Menéndez-Díaz et al. (2006) |
| Russia | Kuchuk-Adjigol, Crimea | 8 August 2012 | 45°06'00"N 35°27'00"E | – | Anufrieva et al. (2014) |

* Approximate coordinates, not provided in the original source of information.

in a natural water body in Europe (Anufriieva et al., 2014). All these records, except the one from GenBank, have been based only on morphological analyses. The main problem with this type of analysis is the need for an expert to study the minute anatomical details of the morphology, which could be why *Daphnia lumholtzi* Sars, 1885 is the only well-documented exotic micro-crustacean species. This cladoceran is easily recognizable due to its long spines on the head and the valves (see Frisch et al., 2013).

Here, based on comparative morphology and DNA barcodes, we confirm the presence of *M. pehpeiensis* in America (Mexico) and Europe (Iberian Peninsula), and discuss the potential of molecular analyses to detect invasive or non-indigenous species that are difficult to identify. The possible causes of today's disjunct distribution of the species are also analysed.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Collections of *Mesocyclops* were made in Spain and Mexico in 2011 and 2012. In Spain, specimens were collected from a rice paddy on the Mediterranean coast of the Iberian Peninsula (L'Estell fields, in the Albufera of Valencia Natural Park), and in Mexico from two ponds located in Yucatan Peninsula (near Palizada town, Campeche State) (table III). Samples were taken in the littoral zone of the water bodies with a 50 μm plankton net attached to a handle and fixed immediately with 96% non-denatured ethanol.

In the laboratory the samples were sorted under a Zeiss SV6 binocular stereomicroscope. Specimens were placed on slides (in a drop of a glycerol-formaldehyde mixture) and studied under an Olympus model BX51 optical microscope using a differential interference and/or phase contrast. The organisms were measured with an eyepiece micrometer and morphologically identified using the descriptions given by Guo (2000), Hołyńska et al. (2003) and Suárez-Morales et al. (2005).

DNA analyses based on mitochondrial barcodes (*cytochrome c oxidase I, COI*) were made following the protocols reported by Elías-Gutiérrez et al. (2008). DNA was extracted using the HOTSHOT method (Montero-Pau et al., 2008) from detached eggs sacs of single females or a male cephalothorax (see table II). The remains of each specimen were used for identification and preserved as a voucher in the collections in the University of Valencia (Spain), and El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR), Chetumal, Mexico. Primers used for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) were LCO1490-HCO2198 (Folmer et al., 1994) and ZplankF1_t1-ZplankR1_t1 (Prosser et al., 2013).

Sequence data, electropherograms, trace files, primer details, photographs of the main taxonomical characters and accession numbers for all specimens are available

in the project “*Mesocyclops*” in the Barcode of Life Data System-BOLD (Ratnasingham & Hebert, 2007; <http://www.boldsystems.org>) and GenBank database (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>) (see Appendix for ID tree).

All analyses were conducted using MEGA 6 software (Tamura et al., 2013). The obtained sequences were checked manually and aligned using the MUSCLE algorithm (Edgar, 2004) with default parameters. The best-fit model of nucleotide substitution was established with the option Find Best Fit Model (Maximum Likelihood, ML). Once the best model was selected, we calculated the ML tree using the bootstrap method, with 1000 replications and the nearest-neighbour interchange heuristic method. For comparison, we also obtained the ID Tree using as distance model Kimura 2 parameter (K2P; Kimura, 1980) and the BOLD Aligner provided in BOLD (<http://www.boldsystems.org>). As an outgroup we included a *COI* sequence of *Mesocyclops edax* Forbes, 1891 (table II), an American congener of *M. pehpeiensis*.

RESULTS

Comparative morphology

We found *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* outside its native area of distribution in two very distinct localities. One was a rice paddy in the Albufera Lake Natural Park, Valencia in the fields of L’Estell (table II). This park is a wetland area comprising Albufera Lake (24 km²) and surrounding marshland (10 times the lake area) that has been converted to rice fields. The aforementioned rice paddy and Albufera Lake are interconnected by irrigation channels (Carrera de la Reina), but *M. pehpeiensis* has not yet been found in the lake or in other sites in that area. The other localities were two ponds in Campeche State (Mexico), an important rice producer in this country. A morphological comparison with specimens and drawings after Guo (2000) and Suárez-Morales et al. (2005) confirmed the identity of this species as *M. pehpeiensis*. One diagnostic character of this species is the spinule ornamentation on the caudal surface of the P4 coxopodite, which is relatively short and stout in comparison to the spinules in the same position for other congeners (Hołyńska et al., 2003). In table III morphometric ratios from our specimens are compared with those found in the literature.

MOLECULAR ANALYSES

The *COI* sequences for the 15 specimens of *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* processed in this work were between 546 and 658 bp of length.

TABLE II
Confirmed records for *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* Hu, 1943 for GenBank and BOLD searches

| Species | Location | Coordinates | Date | BOLD sample ID | GenBank accession no. | Sex and life stage sequenced | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|--------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Mesocyclops pehpeiensis</i> Hu, 1943 | Rice field, Albufera Natural Park, Spain | 39°17'45''N 0°18'57''W | 21 July 2012 | EES104 | KT962940 | ♀ Adult | | | | |
| | | | | EES106 | KT962939 | ♂ Adult | | | | |
| | | | | EES108 | KT962938 | ♀ Adult | | | | |
| | | | | EES126 | KT962937 | ♀ Adult | | | | |
| | | | | EES135 | KT962936 | ♀ Adult | | | | |
| | | | | EES137 | KT962935 | ♀ Adult | | | | |
| | | | | EES142 | KT962934 | ♀ Adult | | | | |
| | | | | EES149 | KT962933 | Egg sac | | | | |
| | | | | EES150 | KT962932 | ♂ Adult | | | | |
| | | | | EES151 | KT962931 | Egg sac | | | | |
| | | | | EES156 | KT962930 | Egg sac | | | | |
| | | | | <i>M. pehpeiensis</i> | Palizada, pond I, Mexico | 18°03'47''N 92°01'01''W | 26 June 2011 | HE580.1 HE580 | KC617307 KC617278 | ♀ Adult ♀ Adult |
| | | | | <i>M. pehpeiensis</i> | Palizada, pond II, Mexico | 18°02'53''N 92°53'16''W | 26 June 2011 | HE313.1 | KC617566 | Egg sac |
| | | | | <i>M. pehpeiensis</i> | Taiwan | – | – | – | KJ020571 | Mined from GenBank |
| | | | | <i>Mesocyclops edax</i> Forbes, 1891 | Tecualilla, Mexico | 22°45'80''N 105°40'10''W | 18 February 2011 | – | JQ284449 | Mined from GenBank |

TABLE III
Comparison of morphometric ratios (mean values and standard deviation) of different *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* Hu, 1943 populations

| | <i>n</i> | L/W | | Si/Sme | Sme/Smi | Si/Se | CRL/Sd | A17/A16 |
|------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| | | CR | L4END3 | | | | | |
| Published ranges | | 2.81-4.0 | 2.6-3.3 | 0.63-0.73 | 0.51-0.71 | 3.1-3.6 | 1.05-1.38 | 0.68-0.79 |
| Mexico (present study) | 5 | 3.06 ± 0.25 | 2.49 ± 0.37 | 0.67 ± 0.24 | 0.95 ± 0.33 | 2.63 ± 0.29 | 1.33 | 0.91 ± 0.1 |
| Spain (present study) | 5 | 3.34 ± 0.69 | 2.73 ± 0.45 | 0.66 ± 0.02 | 0.7 ± 0.03 | 2.91 ± 0.11 | – | 0.76 ± 0.05 |

Characters based on Guo (2000): CR, caudal rami; L4EN3, third endopodal segment of the fourth swimming leg; TL, total length to the distal end of CR; Sd, dorsal seta; Se, outermost terminal seta; Si, innermost seta; Sme, outer medial seta; Smi, inner medial seta; A, antennular segment; L, length; W, width. Italicised numbers correspond to values outside ranges reported by Hu (1943), Guo (2000), Reid (1993), Suárez-Morales et al. (2005) and Anufrieva et al. (2014). *n* = number of measured specimens (2 measurements for each animal, at both sides of the body).

In our sequence compositions, the mean GC% in position 1, 2 and 3 was 41.93, 43.15 and 10.85%, respectively. The mean composition was: G 18.32% (SE = 0.11), C 13.68% (SE = 0.05), A 26.86% (SE = 0.06) and T 41.14% (SE = 0.09).

The model that provided the best description of the nucleotide substitution pattern was the Hasegawa-Kishino-Yano model (HKY) (Hasegawa et al., 1985), and this was used to calculate the ML tree shown in fig. 1. A discrete Gamma distribution was used to model evolutionary rate differences among sites (+G, parameter = 0.2508). The ML and ID Tree calculated in BOLD were identical (see Appendix).

The sequence of *M. pehpeiensis* species from Taiwan was equal to three of the Spanish specimens (see fig. 1). The other sequences differed from the one from Taiwan in positions 166 and 173 where the guanine and cytosine from our sequences were replaced by adenine and thymine, respectively. The Mexican specimen with Sample ID HE313.1 in BOLD presents the same variation in position 166 and a guanine instead of thymine, in position 463.

The *COI* sequences from Spanish and Mexican specimens of *M. pehpeiensis* cluster together with Taiwan specimen (see referred project in <http://www.boldsystems.org> or table II for GenBank accession numbers to all sequences). The maximum divergence within species is only 0.59% and the maximum divergence within the genera 16.99%. On the other hand, the Barcode Index Number (BIN) assigned in BOLD (<http://www.boldsystems.org>) for the *M. pehpeiensis* species is ABA8110. The BIN system is an online framework that clusters barcode sequences algorithmically, generating a web page for each cluster. Since clusters show high concordance with species, this system can be used to verify species identifications as well as document diversity when taxonomic information is lacking or unreliable (Ratnasingham & Hebert, 2013).

DISCUSSION

There are only few occurrences of *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* reported from outside its native area of distribution (Central-East Asia) (table I). Our analysis of the *COI* sequence (fig. 1, table II) showed that all haplotypes found were extremely similar, with the same haplotype found in the Mediterranean (Spain) and Campeche (Mexico) populations. Furthermore, the haplotype recorded from a population in the original area of East Asia is the same as several found in the West European population. These results can only be explained by recent invasions, most probably via anthropogenic translocations.

In this work, we provide a record from two ponds close to the southern Gulf of Mexico, near Palizada town, in the state of Campeche (table II). Previous American

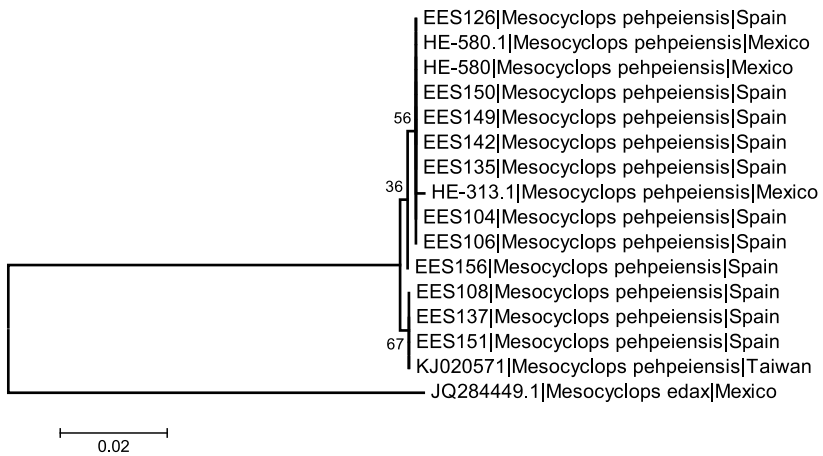


Fig. 1. Maximum likelihood tree based on the Hasegawa et al. (1985) model for *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* Hu, 1943 from America and Europe. The outgroup corresponds to *Mesocyclops edax* Forbes, 1891. Numbers preceding the species name are the specimen ID in BOLD, except for the Taiwan and *Mesocyclops edax* specimens, that are the GenBank Accession numbers.

records were mostly from rice fields in Louisiana and Mississippi (U.S.A.) (Reid, 1993; Reid & Marten, 1995), all of them along the northern Gulf of Mexico coast. We found it in two isolated ponds in Palizada, which is also an important rice crop area. Other records from Mexico (Suárez-Morales et al., 2005) and Cuba (Menendez-Díaz et al., 2006) are related to aquaculture ponds of the Malayan prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii* De Man, 1879). The species has also been detected in urban ponds (District of Columbia; Reid, 1996). Finally, the single record from Austria (Kiefer, 1981) was reported after the introduction of exotic plants in a greenhouse.

On the other hand, on the Iberian Peninsula the genus *Mesocyclops* has not been found, and besides our record of *M. pehpeiensis*, in a rice paddy near Valencia (table II), only a single recent record of *M. leuckarti* exists from a man-made pond in a coastal wetland (Doñana National Park), where rice is also produced. This locality is further south than Valencia, and the occurrence of *M. leuckarti* is questionable because it could be misidentified with *M. pehpeiensis*, not included in West European identification keys. The oldest previous record of *M. pehpeiensis* in Europe is the above-mentioned pond in a greenhouse (Kiefer, 1981), but it has not been reported again since. The less extreme weather in Spain may have allowed the settlement of this subtropical-tropical species, probably combined with the eutrophication of the water (Vicente & Miracle, 1992) that is still ongoing (Miracle, pers. obs.). In the rice field, subject to periodic desiccations, *M. pehpeiensis* was found associated with dense populations of

filamentous cyanobacteria and other algae. It agrees with the observation that *M. pehpeiensis* is often associated with high abundances of these blue-green algae (Sarma et al., 2013). Furthermore, Albufera Natural Park, Valencia is an active agricultural area where other exotic microcrustaceans, such as ostracoda, have been also recorded (Valls et al., 2014). These authors consider rice agricultural practices to be the most probable vector for introduction and establishment of exotic ostracods.

However, other factors could be involved in the introduction of this copepod in other places. Anthropogenic translocation associated with shipping activities, through ballast water discharge, is considered one of the major vectors of copepod dispersion (Karanovic & Krajicek, 2012). On the other hand, a recent Crimean record of *M. pehpeiensis* has been attributed to transportation by birds (Anufrieva et al., 2014). In spite of this, we consider that *M. pehpeiensis* has spread recently in Europe and America owing to human-derived translocation, as can be inferred from the extremely small divergences in the DNA barcodes. At the same time, the ongoing expansion of its range may be a result of the global change (i.e., climatic changes and man's impacts on water bodies).

Due to the complexity of the characters used for the genus *Mesocyclops* in classical taxonomy (Hołyńska, 2000; Suárez-Morales et al., 2005), and the variability of morphological characters as we have noted here for *M. pehpeiensis*, genetic analyses can be an important alternative for correct identification. The main morphometric characters of the Spanish specimens of *M. pehpeiensis* are within the ranges known for this species, except the ratio of the antennular segments (A17/A16) (Suárez-Morales et al., 2005). However, Mexican specimens from Palizada showed small differences between some of the ratios, such as L/W CR (length/width caudal rami), L/W L4END3 (length/width third endopodal segment of fourth swimming leg), Si/Se (innermost seta/outermost terminal seta) and A17/A16 (last antennular segment/before last antennular segment). This variation of relative lengths in some structures within one species can be related to ecological factors, but, in general, these processes are subtle and not well understood for this group of animals (Williamson & Reid, 2001). Commonly *M. pehpeiensis* coexisted with other congeners autochthonous to the collection sites (Reid, 1996) and it was difficult to detect their presence.

Therefore, we applied the barcoding technique that has been demonstrated to be effective for the identification of freshwater microcrustaceans, including the copepods (Elías-Gutiérrez et al., 2008). Another example of the usefulness of this technique to clarify distribution and taxonomical problems in copepod species is the study of *Acanthocyclops*. The first interpretation of invasion of *Acanthocyclops americanus* Marsh, 1892 from North America made by Lowndes (1926) could

only be confirmed by molecular studies (Miracle et al., 2013). This work showed that specimens of *A. americanus* from Europe and America were genetically very close, sharing haplotypes, but differed greatly from other morphologically closely-related European species of the genus (*A. robustus robustus* (Sars G. O., 1863) and *A. vernalis robustus* (Sars G. O., 1863)). Synonymization of *A. americanus* with *A. robustus*, including the recent description of species that are junior synonyms of *A. americanus*, has caused a lot of confusion. Again it could be only clarified with molecular genetic analyses. Indeed, recent molecular genetic studies on other freshwater zooplanktons, such as cladocerans and rotifers, have also demonstrated that many species thought to be cosmopolitan are possibly cryptic with restricted distributions (Elías-Gutiérrez & Valdez-Moreno, 2008; García-Morales & Elías-Gutiérrez, 2013; Karanovic, 2015).

These techniques have only recently been applied to different groups of aquatic organisms (Mineur et al., 2012). Even though their potential has been highlighted (Blanchet, 2012), especially in species difficult to identify (Porco et al., 2014), their use still is in preliminary or in experimental phases.

It is important to note that for future identifications it is not necessary to get a full 640-bp barcode, as a mini-barcode of about 100 bp can provide species identification with 90% accuracy (Meusnier et al., 2008). The cost of and time needed for these mini-sequences is quite low (Ivanova et al., 2009). In the short term, with the popularization of second-generation sequencing, routine environmental barcoding will be a reality, allowing the discovery of exotic fauna before it will become widespread (Bronnenhuber & Wilson, 2013). The sequences presented here can be used as a reference to compare and accurately identify organisms of the same species from any part of the world.

The development of these tools will help to expand new techniques, such as the environmental barcodes or eDNA (Rees, 2014), which will be much more accurate methods to monitor all kinds of waters; nevertheless, the bottleneck in all these studies still is the incompleteness or lack of reliable identifications in reference databases such as BOLD or GenBank (Crocetta et al., 2015).

Finally, the consequences or ecological impacts of *M. pehpeiensis* introduction could be very important. It is well known that some species of *Mesocyclops* and other copepods are useful as a biological control for mosquitoes (*Aedes* sp.) (Soto et al., 1999; Dieng et al., 2003). *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* is also an omnivorous tactile predator that naturally may influence the density and species composition of its preys (cladocerans, rotifers and dipteran larvae) (Dieng et al., 2003; Nagata & Hanazato, 2006; Sarma et al., 2013). These alien predatory cyclopids may change the zooplankton composition in their new habitats, further destabilizing

the ecosystems and opening ways for new incomers (Anufriieva et al., 2014). To date, this has not been studied to our knowledge. Thus, the next step will be to analyse the impact on the plankton community once they are introduced in a new site.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

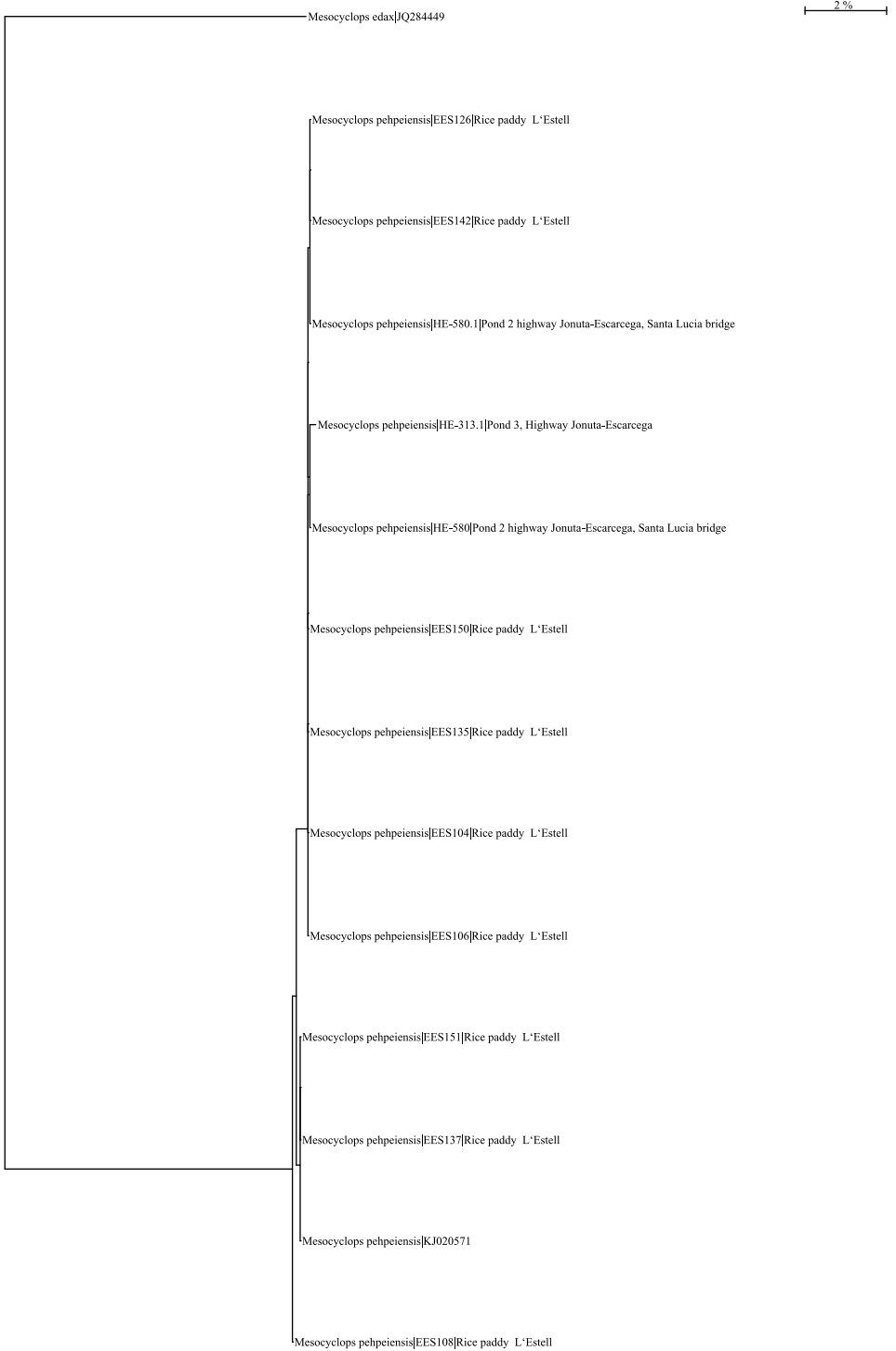
We are grateful to Dr. Eduardo Vicente for his help in the lab at the University of Valencia and Dr. Nancy F. Mercado Salas for her help in preparation of material. We acknowledge the grants to the first author as a student in Posgrado de Ciencias del Mar y Limnología (UNAM) and CONACYT, Mexico, through MEXBOL network (Grant Nos. 194045 and 194025) and a grant for a short stay from Universitat de Valencia to the third author. The work was also supported by Projects CONABIO HE009 and CGL2009-1229 from MICINN (Spain). Spanish specimens were sequenced in the Genomic Service (SCSIE, University of Valencia, Spain). Mexican material was processed by M.S. Arely Martínez Arce from the Chetumal Node of the MEXBOL network and sequenced at the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario (BIO), Canada.

APPENDIX

ID tree from BOLD tools from Sequence Analysis link (see <http://www.boldsystems.org>, project MESO; Mesocyclops)

Bold TaxonID tree

```
Title           : SEARCH: Tax(Mesocyclops),
                  Include public records [SEARCH2]
Date            : 16-October-2015
Data Type       : Nucleotide
Distance Model  : Kimura 2 Parameter
Marker          : COI-5P
Codon Positions : 1st, 2nd, 3rd
Labels          : Site, SampleID
Filters         : Length > 200
Colorization    : [blue]=Stop Codons
                  [red]=Contamination or misidentification
Sequence Count  : 14
Species count   : 2
Genus count     : 1
Family count    : 1
Unidentified    : 0
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CAPÍTULO III. *Moina macrocopa*, Straus 1820

Montoliu-Elena, Lucia, Elías-Gutiérrez, Manuel & Jacobson Brianna J.
2017. *Moina macrocopa*: another complex of species in a common
Cladocera. *GENOME* Vol. 60, p. 975

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Moina macrocopa: another complex of species in a common
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(Aceptado)

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Brianna J. 2017. *Moina macrocopa*: another complex of
species in a common Cladocera. GENOME Vol. 60, p. 975

minthes. We performed a phylogenetic placement of the clustered operational taxonomic units (OTUs) from the different environmental datasets in order to retain sequences with interesting phylogenetic position within, or close to, Platyhelminthes. We then used these sequences to reconstruct the phylogeny of the phylum. Furthermore, we combined our phylogenetic results with data of abundance and other ecological parameters to assess the worldwide distribution of the different clades within Platyhelminthes. **Significance:** To our knowledge, this is the first effort to compile such a rich and diverse dataset in order to address the question of hidden diversity within the phylum Platyhelminthes. Apart from the well-studied planarians, polyclads, and neodermatans, very little is known about the rest of the flatworm orders that are usually collectively referred to as “microturbellarians”. We expect not only to better understand the diversity patterns of all Platyhelminthes but to also unravel previously undescribed free-living clades, to gain a better understanding of the microturbellarian “dark matter” and to make inferences of their ecology.

DNA barcoding for identification of small-sized beetles from steppe areas of the Republic of Moldova

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Background: Steppes in the Republic of Moldova are part of the unique Eurasian steppe ecosystem, supporting a rich flora and fauna, and providing invaluable ecosystem services. Steppes are little involved in the network of protected areas, and their degradation continues. Insect communities of the steppes are poorly known. Particularly, identification of small-sized beetles represents a major challenge. For many taxonomic groups, DNA barcoding proved to be a useful, standardized tool for species identification. **Results:** This study is the first attempt to reveal the small-sized beetle diversity of the steppe areas of the Republic of Moldova using the DNA barcoding tool for identification. DNA was extracted from 95 specimens and depending on the size of the sampled individual, one or two legs were used. Voucher specimens are deposited in the collection of the Entomological Museum, Institute of Zoology of the Academy of Sciences of Moldova. COI sequences were obtained from 77 specimens, of which 61 (79%) were barcode compliant. Based on the Barcode of Life Data System (BOLD), 39 (51%) specimens were identified at species level (18 species), 34 (44%) at genus level (15 genera), and 4 (1%) were not assigned to a lower-level taxon. **Significance:** The current study indicates that the DNA barcoding tool is effective for identifying species of small-sized beetles and facilitates the discovery of new beetle species. Obtained sequences will contribute to extending the reference library of Coleoptera. The availability of barcode data will help to solve taxonomic confusion and reduce the time needed for species identification.

Construction of a baseline for zooplankton from the biggest karstic sinkhole in the south of Yucatan Peninsula (Mexico)

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Background: Even though DNA barcoding has become extremely popular since Hebert's proposal in 2003, until now, there has not been a single baseline created for zooplankton in any freshwater system in the world. This is due to the fact that zooplankton species are often hard to barcode and that sampling methods have not changed in the past 100 years. In this study, we established a baseline of the Cenote Azul using new sampling methods and one single set of primers (Zplank) for all groups collected. **Results:** The Cenote Azul is a karstic, oligotrophic system that is 74 m deep and 200 m in diameter without a littoral zone. We used a combination of plankton nets (50 and 300 μ m mesh size) and light traps of our own design for collections.

We registered a total of 40 taxa including 4 cladocerans, 4 copepods, 2 ostracods, 1 palaemonid, 2 fish larvae, 2 rotifers, 1 isopod, 1 bivalve, 7 chironomids, and 13 arachnids. We believe that this number will increase with additional sampling. At least half of all the species that we found have not been registered in the Barcode of Life Data System (BOLD) or in previous species lists from this location. There was a significant difference in the number of taxa collected with the plankton nets and with the light traps. Only eight taxa were collected in the nets, while almost all the taxa recorded were present in the light traps. **Significance:** The results of this study demonstrate that light traps were an effective method for a rapid evaluation of zooplankton in this system. Combining DNA barcoding and next-generation methods will enable us to perform rapid evaluations to determine the conservation status of these aquatic systems. For this reason, we believe that it is fundamental to first elaborate species baselines in these ecosystems.

Moina macrocopa: another complex of species in a common Cladocera

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Background: The genus *Moina* encompasses many complexes of sibling species with worldwide distributions as in the case of *Moina micrura*, *Moina brachiata*, and the target of this study, *Moina macrocopa*. Many of these species have been described in Europe during the 19th century, and the material used for these descriptions is lost. Most of the keys for identification all over the world are based on a single species, usually European in origin, leading to large confusion as to their real identity. **Results:** Molecular analyses based on COI demonstrate that *M. macrocopa* is a complex of at least two species. Moreover, we found *M. macrocopa macrocopa*, the European species, in a temporal pond in Calderitas, México, living in sympatry with some congeners of the *M. micrura* complex. The COI gene shows a mean divergence of 7.04% between the American *M. macrocopa americana* and the European *M. macrocopa macrocopa* sequences. Morphological analyses and molecular results indicate that they are clearly distinct species. **Significance:** The significance of this study is to reorder one of the most common cladocerans in the world, belonging to the complex *M. macrocopa* and demonstrates that it is possible to distinguish them. This study reaffirms that an integrative taxonomical approach is necessary and useful to delimit species.

Key limitations to aquatic eDNA metabarcoding: a cautionary case study from a diverse public aquarium

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Background: Environmental DNA (eDNA) and DNA metabarcoding techniques have been widely touted as powerful new tools for monitoring biodiversity in aquatic ecosystems. However, these techniques are still in their infancy and require thorough validation because there are still several key uncertainties surrounding eDNA metabarcoding. These uncertainties include both methodological and analytical limitations that must be addressed before there is wider adoption of eDNA metabarcoding in biodiversity monitoring. In this study, we assess both the ability for eDNA metabarcoding to capture biodiversity in a highly diverse closed system at the Ripley's Aquarium of Canada in Toronto, Ontario, as well as address a number of knowledge gaps pertaining to eDNA metabarcoding to open a discussion on current issues limiting this tool. **Results:** This study found that eDNA metabarcoding recovered 62 of 107 (58%) target species and 30 of 44 (68%) target genera from a closed system when using a multi-marker (COI, 16S, 12S) approach. Additionally, individual markers showed great disparity in off-target identification noise, with COI pro-

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1 ***Moina macrocopa* (Straus, 1820): another complex of species in a common Cladocera,**
2 **highlighted by morphology and DNA barcodes**

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13 Abbreviated title: *Moina macrocopa* complex

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15

16 **RESUMEN**

17 ***Moina macrocopa* (Straus, 1820): otro complejo de especies en un cladóceros común, resaltado**
18 **por morfología y códigos de barras de ADN**

19 Los microcrustáceos de aguas continentales son uno de los grupos más diverso y menos estudiado
20 del reino animal. Un enfoque integrativo, que incluya al menos, datos morfológicos, moleculares y
21 geográficos, es esencial para delimitar las especies de estos invertebrados, como es el caso del
22 complejo *Moina macrocopa*. En este estudio, utilizamos tres tipos de caracteres: morfológicos,
23 genéticos (códigos de barras del ADN) y geográficos, para demostrar que *Moina macrocopa*
24 (Straus, 1820), el clado del Viejo Mundo, considerada aquí como *M. macrocopa* s.l., y *Moina*
25 *macrocopa americana* (Goulden, 1968), el clado americano, son especies distintas, no
26 subespecies. Además, confirmamos que *Moina macrocopa* s.l. es un complejo de especies,
27 formado por un mínimo de 3 clados diferentes.

28 Palabras clave: zooplancton, *Moina macrocopa*, especies crípticas, taxonomía integrativa, Códigos
29 de Barras de la Vida, COI

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33 **ABSTRACT**

34 ***Moina macrocopa* (Straus, 1820): another complex of species in a common Cladocera,**
35 **highlighted by morphology and DNA barcodes**

36 Freshwater microcrustaceans are one of the most diverse and understudied groups of the animal
37 kingdom. The use of an integrative approach, including morphological, molecular and geographical
38 data at least, is essential to delimitate the species of these invertebrates, as the case of the
39 Cladocera *Moina macrocopa* complex. In this study, we demonstrate, with three different types of
40 characters, including detailed morphological analyses, DNA barcodes (COI gene) and geographical
41 distribution to study *Moina macrocopa* (Straus, 1820), the Old-World clade, here considered as *M.*
42 *macrocopa* s.l. and *Moina macrocopa americana* (Goulden, 1968), the American clade. We found
43 that they are different species, not subspecies. Moreover, we confirm that *Moina macrocopa* s.l. is
44 a complex of species, formed by minimum three different clades.

45 Key words: zooplankton, *Moina macrocopa*, cryptic species, integrative taxonomy, DNA Barcodes,
46 COI

47

48 **INTRODUCTION**

49 *Moina* is one of the most confusing genera of cladocerans and is the second most diverse
50 Anomopod (Goulden, 1968; Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2008a; Nédli *et al.*, 2014; Bekker *et al.*, 2016).
51 *Moina macrocopa macrocopa* (Straus, 1820) was drawn for the first time by Joblot in 1754 who
52 referred to it as “pou aquatique” (water flea) (Joblot, 1754). Late, after 65 years, in 1819, the
53 French zoologist Hercule Eugène Straus-Durckheim illustrated this species again, and finally, in
54 1820, he described it as *Daphnia macrocopus* (Straus, 1820). After his publication, too many
55 synonyms have been described due to the lack of details on his description and illustration (Straus,
56 1819, 1820; Goulden, 1968) and it was not recognized as *Moina macrocopa*, the actual name until
57 the early 1900’s (Goulden, 1968).

58 Goulden (1968) after his review of the genus, proposed two subspecies: *Moina macrocopa*
59 *macrocopa* (Straus, 1820) as the typical form restricted to the Old World, and described *Moina*
60 *macrocopa americana* limited to North America, specifically the United States. This proposed
61 subspecies was collected from a roadside ditch, along a county road one mile east of the
62 Cheyenne Bottoms Waterfowl Refuge in Barton County, Kansas. He found between both morphos,
63 the American and Old World, several differences being the first clues of the non-cosmopolitanism
64 of Cladocera suggested later by Frey (1980, 1987) and afterward presented by Bekker *et al.* (2016)
65 on their figure 2.

66 It was Arevalo (1920), who cited *Moina macrocopa macrocopa* (Straus, 1820) for the first time in
67 the Iberian Peninsula, from Gandía (Comunidad Valenciana, Spain) under the name *Moina*
68 *rectrirostris var. casañi*. Then, Alonso (1996) on his revision of the Iberian Fauna, describes and
69 illustrates *Moina macrocopa macrocopa* (Straus, 1820) from Albufera de Valencia (Comunidad
70 Valenciana, Spain), being the only place at the Iberian Peninsula where he found this species. This

71 subspecies was reported in many different sites all over the world: in U.K, France, Norway, former
72 Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Azores, Algeria, Israel, Iran, Western Russia, Mongolia, Manchuria, Japan,
73 India, Philippines, Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil, South Korea and possibly Algeria (Goulden, 1968; Elías-
74 Gutiérrez & Zamuriano- Claros, 1994; Paggi, 1997; Petrusek, 2002; Mangas-Ramírez *et al.*, 2004;
75 Elmoor-Loureiro *et al.*, 2010; Kotov, Jeong & Lee, 2012; Rietzler *et al.*, 2014; Ghaouaci *et al.*, 2018).

76 In the case of the American subspecies, *Moina macrocopa americana* (Goulden, 1968), as
77 mentioned above, in its description was considered restricted to the United States but in 2011, it
78 was recorded in Manitoba (Canada) (Jeffery *et al.*, 2011), and in central Mexico, in reservoirs from
79 the cities of Aguascalientes and Mexico (Elías-Gutiérrez, 1995; Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2008b;
80 Prosser, Martínez-Arce & Elías-Gutiérrez, 2013) expanding its distribution area all over North
81 America.

82 This cladoceran has been mainly recorded in water bodies severely eutrophicated under heavy
83 anthropogenic influences (sewage, fertilizers). It is a species whose populations play a key role in
84 food webs of epicontinental aquatic environments (Vignatti *et al.*, 2013) and it is of economic
85 importance due to its use as live food for fishes (Valdivia-Villar, 1988; Elías-Gutiérrez, 1995) and as
86 bioindicator (Nandini *et al.*, 2004).

87 Due to the ubiquity, small size, phenotypic plasticity, genetic variability, cryptic taxa and lack of
88 taxonomical identification keys for many parts of the world, an integrative approach must be
89 made to delimitate with accuracy the species from this complex. In the other regard, since DNA
90 barcoding (cytochrome oxidase c subunit 1 – COI gene) has been proposed as fast, reliable and
91 cost-effective tool to delimitate the animal species (Hebert *et al.*, 2003a). After his proposal, a vast
92 cryptic diversity has been discovered among the invertebrates (Mills *et al.*, 2016; Chertoprud *et*
93 *al.*, 2017 and Lavinia *et al.*, 2017) and in general in all the animal groups (i.e. Álvarez-Castañeda *et*

94 *al.*, 2012; Lima *et al.*, 2017). In particular, within *Moina*, Bekker *et al.*, (2016) demonstrated, with
95 DNA barcodes, a possible high cryptic diversity of the Old World *Moina macrocopa* (Straus, 1820)
96 and they did not discuss but presented a tree with differences among Eurasian clades. Because of
97 this reason, we will call all specimens from the Old World as *M. macrocopa* s.l. (*sensu lato*).

98 Other authors proved the value of DNA Barcoding for the early detection of exotic species in many
99 groups (Valdez-Moreno *et al.*, 2012; Gutiérrez-Aguirre *et al.*, 2014; Montoliu *et al.*, 2015). Finally,
100 the biogeographical signal of this gene shows a high correspondence between haplotypes and
101 restricted distributions permitting us to delimitate with accuracy the species (Mills *et al.*, 2016).

102 In this work, we studied *Moina macrocopa* complex using morphological, genetical (DNA
103 Barcodes) and biogeographical analyses to re-describe *Moina macrocopa americana* (Goulden,
104 1968) and demonstrate that it is a distinct species, not a subspecies, of *Moina macrocopa* s.l.

105 **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

106 **Sampling**

107 Specimens of *Moina macrocopa* s.l. and *Moina macrocopa americana* Goulden, 1968 were
108 collected with a plankton net with mesh size of 45 µm, and a hand net with mesh size of 90 µm,
109 from Albufera Lake in Valencia (Spain), a small pond in Calderitas (Quintana Roo, Mexico), Texcoco
110 Lake (Mexico State, Mexico), Los Gringos dam and Niagara dam (Aguascalientes, Mexico) (see
111 table S1, available at <http://www.limnetica.net/en/limnetica>). All samples were preserved in 96%
112 alcohol (non-denaturated) following the procedure suggested by Prosser *et al.* (2013) and stored
113 in the freezer a minimum of 72h, to preserve the DNA.

114 **Morphological observations**

115 Specimens were sorted from the ethanol samples under a stereomicroscope and placed in a drop
116 of glycerol. Several females and males were dissected. Whole animals and dissected sections were
117 examined and measured under a compound microscope. The organisms were morphologically
118 identified following descriptions by several authors, i.e., Straus (1820), Goulden (1968), Alonso
119 (1996), Paggi (1997), Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.* (2008b). Some specimens were prepared for Scanning
120 Electron Microscopy (SEM) for the observation of microcharacters. We made part of the images in
121 a JEOL microscope Model JSM6010 Plus at Chetumal Unit of ECOSUR at 10 KV and the other part
122 in a JEOL microscope Model LB5900 at 12 KV in the Autonomous University of Aguascalientes.

123 Mexican specimens are deposited in the reference collection of El Colegio de la Frontera Sur
124 (ECOSUR) Chetumal unit, in Mexico, and Spanish ones, are in the collection of Freshwater
125 zooplankton at the Institut Cavanilles de Biodiversitat i Biologia Evolutiva (University of Valencia,
126 Spain).

127 **Molecular markers**

128 COI gene was selected as molecular marker for this study for its fast-evolving mitochondrial
129 protein-coding genes, which reflect the evolutionary history of invertebrate populations
130 (Audzijonyte & Väinölä, 2006). Also, it is quite used to discriminate cladoceran species, becoming
131 in these last years, a standard to compare the fauna to species level (Machida *et al.*, 2004;
132 Dasmahapatra *et al.*, 2010; Gutiérrez-Aguirre, Cervantez-Martínez & Elías-Gutiérrez, 2014;
133 Montoliu, Miracle & Elías-Gutiérrez, 2015), and has been used as a model in species delimitation
134 (Puillandre *et al.*, 2012).

135 **DNA isolation, PCR amplification, and sequencing**

136 DNA was extracted using AcroPrep 96 Filter Plate 3 µm GF/ 0.2 µm BioInert (Pall Corporation, Port
137 Washington, NY, USA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. The Polymerase Chain

138 Reaction (PCR) was used to amplify approximately 600-658 bp of the COI gene using Zplank
139 primers suggested by (Prosser *et al.*, 2013). The 12.5 µl PCR reaction mixes included 6.25 µl of 10%
140 trehalose stabilizer, 2 µl of ultrapure water, 1.25 µl of 10X PCR buffer, 0.625 of MgCl₂ (50 mM),
141 0.125 µl of each primer (0.01 mM), 0.0625 µl of each dNTP mix (0.05 mM), 0.625 µl of Taq
142 polymerase (5 U/µl) (New England Biolabs or Invitrogen), and 2.0 µl of DNA template.
143 Thermocycler program was as follows: 94°C for 1 minute, 5 cycles of 94°C for 40 seconds, 45°C for
144 40 seconds, 72°C for 1 minute, followed by 35 cycles of denaturation at 94°C for 40 seconds,
145 annealing at 51°C for 40 seconds, elongation at 72°C for 1 minute, and a final extension at 72°C for
146 5 minutes, with a final hold at 4°C. The PCR products were visualized on a 2% agarose gels (E-gel®
147 96 system, Invitrogen Inc.). Amplicons were bidirectionally sequenced using BigDye Terminator
148 Cycle Sequencing Kit (v3.1) on an ABI 3730XL DNA Analyzer. The forward and the reverse
149 sequences were assembled, edited and aligned using CodonCode Aligner v. 5.0.1 (CodonCode
150 Corporation, USA) and tested in MEGA (V_6.0) to verify that they were free of stop codons and
151 gaps.

152 We prepared a dataset under the name DS-MMACRO with all specimens and sequence
153 information in the Barcode of Life (BOLD). It includes all sequences generated in this study and all
154 public sequences available and previously published, including those in GenBank. In particular, we
155 also used the sequences of *M. macrocopa* (Straus, 1820) published by Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*
156 (2008a).

157 **Sequence analysis**

158 COI sequences obtained in this study were combined with those for *M. macrocopa* s.l. and *M.*
159 *macrocopa americana* (Goulden, 1968) available in GenBank and BOLD (see table S1, available at
160 <http://www.limnetica.net/en/limnetica>) to corroborate the identity of our sequences and to gain a

161 better understanding of the geographical patterning of the genetic diversity for both, *Moina*
162 *macrocopa americana* and *Moina macrocopa* s.l.

163 COI sequences were aligned with BOLD aligner (Amino Acid based HMM) and the non-overlapping
164 sequence regions at the 5' - and 3' -ends were trimmed; then sequences were downloaded for
165 further analyses.

166 As the first approach, genetic divergence between groups was calculated using K2P model
167 (Kimura, 1980) with pairwise deletion of gaps and missing data.

168 To perform the Maximum Likelihood (ML) tree distances, a best-fitting model of nucleotide
169 substitution was selected in MEGA, based on the likelihood for 24 different nucleotide substitution
170 models and the Akaike information criterion (Posada & Buckley, 2004). The best model was
171 Tamura 3-parameters with a specific fraction of sites evolutionarily invariable (T92+I) (Tamura,
172 1992). The analyse was performed using 500 bootstraps, and partial deletion of gaps and missing
173 data. Finally, as an outgroup, a sequence of *Moina* cf. *micrura* 2 from Mexico was used (See table
174 S1, available at <http://www.limnetica.net/en/limnetica>). The subtree for each group was collapsed
175 with the “compress/ expand subtree” function on MEGA software. Monophyly was confirmed with
176 the web service “Monophilizer” (Mutanen *et al.*, 2016).

177 *Delimitation of M. macrocopa* s.l. and *M. macrocopa americana* complex groups by different
178 clustering algorithms

179 Molecular operational taxonomic units (MOTU's) have frequently been used to infer putative
180 species boundaries where morphological identifications are difficult (Ashfaq *et al.*, 2015). To
181 assess the presence of cryptic taxa, we implemented four different clustering algorithms to assign
182 the COI sequences from *M. macrocopa* s.l. and *M. macrocopa americana* complex species to
183 MOTU's: the Refine Single Linkage algorithm (RESL, Barcode Index Number, or BIN)

184 (Ratnasingham & Hebert, 2013), Automatic Barcode Gap Discovery (ABGD) (Puillandre *et al.*,
185 2012), multi-rate Poisson tree processes (mPTP) (Triantafyllidis *et al.*, 2011) and statistical
186 parsimony networks (TCS)(Clement *et al.*, 2002) were used.

187 The BIN system uses the RESL algorithm to reach decisions on the number of MOTU's in a
188 sequence dataset through a three-phase analysis based on, sequence variation with a 2.2%
189 threshold of maximum divergence allowed within a cluster.

190 ABGD employs a multi-phase system which initially divides sequences into MOTUs based on a
191 statistically inferred barcode gap (i.e., initial partitioning), and subsequently conducts additional
192 rounds of splitting (i.e., recursive partitioning). It is a statistical method that explores the
193 distribution of all pairwise distances looking for the gap between intra- and interspecific distances.

194 An online version of ABGD (<http://wwwabi.snv.jussieu.fr/public/abgd/abgdweb.htm>) was
195 employed using default parameters and K2P as the distance metric.

196 The mPTP is a multi-rate Poisson tree processes for single-locus species delimitation under
197 maximum likelihood and Markov chain Monte Carlo (Kapli *et al.*, 2017). For this analysis, also an
198 online version was used (<http://mptp.h-its.org/#/tree>).

199 Finally, TCS applies the statistical parsimony method to construct haplotype networks. It has been
200 shown that the count of Linnaean species present in a COI alignment greatly matches that of
201 independent statistical parsimony networks inferred by the software. A nexus file was generated
202 to calculate a TCS network (Clement *et al.*, 2002) in PopART (<http://popart.otago.ac.nz>) (Leigh &
203 Bryant, 2015). This Interface permits to visualize in a graph the network of relationships between
204 the haplotypes and geographical distributions.

205 *Genetic diversity analysis*

206 The alignments in FASTA format were imported into DnaSP v5 to perform haplotype diversity
207 analyses and verify results obtained by TCS network (Librado & Rozas, 2009).

208 **RESULTS**

209 **Morphological observations**

210 Family Moinidae Goulden, 1968

211 Genus *Moina* Baird, 1850

212 *Moina macrocopa* s.l. (Fig. 1A-P)

213 Type locality: unknown, Europe. Considering that the majority of the species described by Straus
214 where from France, as *Daphnia magna* Straus, 1820 described from Paris in the same publication,
215 and the proximity among France (*terra typica*) and Spain. We consider that the population shared
216 between Spain, Russia and Calderitas (Mexico) corresponds to the real *Moina macrocopa* s. str.
217 (Straus, 1820).

218 Material examined: from a rain pond in Calderitas (Quintana Roo state, Yucatan Peninsula,
219 Mexico) (18.6308 N; 88.2251 W) probably recently introduced, and from a rice field of Albufera de
220 Valencia Lake (Spain) (39.296 N; 0.316 W).

221 Parthenogenetic female

222 Size: Mean: length 1.3 ± 0.103 mm; wide 81 ± 0.08 mm; ratio: 0.656 ± 0.008 mm (N=10). Color of
223 specimens: brownish.

224 The Mexican (from Calderitas) and Spanish specimens' features, of this European form (*Moina*
225 *macrocopa* s.l.), agrees with those of the typical form (Fig. 1). The head and shell surface are
226 covered with scattered long hairs, the head broad with a slightly supraocular depression (Fig. 1A,

227 arrow) and there is an oval "nucal pore" close to the dorsal end of the head (illustrated in *Moina*
228 *americana*, Fig. 2B,C), as the Argentinean and Spanish specimens studied by Paggi (1997) and
229 Alonso (1996) respectively, but not mentioned by Goulden (1968) and it is possibly the most
230 significant character of the complex because it has not been reported in other congeners as i.e.
231 *Moina micrura*.

232 The shell is deeply reticulated (visible at SEM) with hairs appearing on the border of the polygons.
233 The hairs are denser at the anterior part of the shell and disappear at the dorsal part. The number
234 of setae of the ventral rim of the shell ranges from fifty-five to seventy (Fig. 1D,E), the posterior
235 edge has a submarginal, continuous row of fine spinules (Fig. 1E,F), and at the dorsum there is a
236 pair of hooks, one on each valve (Fig. 1G). The setae of the anterior rim are slightly feathered.

237 The antennule is cylindrical (mean length: 0.214 mm; mean ratio width/length: 0.22), ciliated,
238 slightly curved on the tip and in its surface has many short rows of spinules around it (Fig. 1B). At
239 the tip of the antennule, there are nine aesthetascs (only eight visible at Fig. 1C) with flat tip and
240 without projections as in *Moina micrura*. The sensory seta is long, but not as long as Goulden
241 (1968) and Paggi (1997) remarked, and it is inserted in the mid-point of the antennule.

242 The antennae are robust, covered with many rows of spinules. Both rami have medial rows of long
243 and fine setulae and the usual distribution of swimming setae (1-1-3/0-0-1-3) and spines (0-0-1/0-
244 1-0-1). The sensory setae of the basipodite are approximately equal in length, about one-third the
245 length of the segment. The basipodite covered by a row of spines parallel to it, and one stout spine
246 at the tip (Fig. 1H).

247 The first trunk limb has the setation pattern common to most species of *Moina* (3-2-2-3), eight
248 feathered setae, two toothed setae, and two ejector hooks (Fig. 1I). The anterior seta of the
249 penultimate segment has a row of stout and distal teeth that may be longer than the seta's width.

250 (Fig. 1I). The teeth on the seta of the last segment are much smaller but higher in number and
251 closer than the penultimate tooth seta.

252 Limb II with the two setae of the proximal group of the gnathobase of the same size as Alonso
253 (1996) remarked. We did not consider it as a significant taxonomical feature because it is similar in
254 other congeners and does not present any variation in the studied populations.

255 In Limb IV Alonso (1996) cited that the setae of the filter plate are less and more separated than
256 the other congeners, but we did not find any significant difference with other congeners i.e.
257 populations of *Moina micrura* complex (pers. obs.).

258 The postabdomen is long and robust with many short rows of spinules at the dorsal and lateral
259 sides (Fig. 1J) with two biarticulated natatory setae with long hairs at the distal part (Fig. 1K). The
260 conical distal part of the postabdomen carries 7-10 feathered teeth, as Goulden (1968) described
261 instead of 9-11 teeth cited by Paggi (1997), and one bifid tooth (Fig. 1L). The branches of the bifid
262 tooth are distinctly unequal. There are some scattered tiny spinules near the base of the bifid
263 tooth. The inner side of the claw has a continuous row of fine setae a little thicker than those on
264 the outer side. On the ventral base, there is a pecten with seven teeth (Fig. 1L) only visible at SEM .

265 Ephippium

266 The surface of the ephippium is covered with thick rounded cells and contains two eggs (Fig. 1N-
267 P). It is sub rectangular in lateral view (fig. 1N).

268 Male (Fig. 1Q-U)

269 Size: 0.52 mm (N=1). Color of specimens: brownish.

270 The body male and head are covered with hairs (Fig.1Q,R). These are longer and denser, on the
271 body than in the head. The head lacks the supraocular depression.

272 The long antennules originate below the eye, are bent at the mid-point and have two sensory
273 setae arising at or near the knee of this bend (Fig. 1S). The distal halves of the antennules are
274 curved inward and have four to six short hooks at the tip. The hooks form a semicircle around a
275 group of sensory papillae that project from the end of the antennule.

276 The surface of the shell is reticulated and covered with hairs, as mentioned above. The ventral rim
277 has from thirty-five to forty marginal setae. The shorter spines along the posterior margin of the
278 shell are ungrouped and scattered as in the female (Fig. 1T).

279 The first leg of the male has a long, recurved hook originating from the penultimate segment (Fig.
280 1U). The terminal segment carries three setae; the middle seta is long and hook-like. The other
281 two setae are feathered. The penultimate segment covered with many short hairs along the
282 medial margin, and there is a seta arising from this surface opposite the hook. The first leg has an
283 exopod segment that terminates with a very long seta which is longer than the leg and reaches to
284 the posterior margin of the shell. This seta is usually bent ventrally and projects well beyond the
285 ventral margin as Goulden described in his review (Goulden, 1968).

286 The postabdomen and the claw of the male, are similar in general form, to that of the female.
287 However, the conical part of the postabdomen is much broader, and the claw projects from the
288 middle of the distal margin of the postabdomen (Fig. 1V).

289 Biology: In Spain, this species has only appeared in the Albufera of Valencia, and related water
290 bodies (Arévalo, 1920; Alonso, 1996) as the rice fields at the south part of the lake. In these rice
291 fields, the quality and stationarity of the water mass depend on the rice cultivation cycle. During
292 the summer waters are transparent, but loaded with organic matter from rice fertilizers, shallow
293 (about 25 cm depth) and come from Jucar River, so they are always renewing. In Calderitas

294 (Mexico), we collected the specimens possibly recently introduced, from a temporary pond
295 formed by the rain, with a high organic load.

296

297 *Moina americana* s.str. (Goulden, 1968) (= *Moina macrocopa americana* (Goulden, 1968))

298 Type locality: According to Goulden (1968), a roadside ditch, along a county road one mile east of
299 the Cheyenne Bottoms Waterfowl Refuge in Barton County, Kansas (USA). Cheyenne Bottoms is
300 the largest marsh in the interior of the United States, deeply modified by man, was designated a
301 Wetland of International Importance in 1988 by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. The area is
302 considered the most important shorebird migration point in the western hemisphere.
303 Approximately 45 percent of the North American shorebird population stops at the Bottoms
304 during spring migration.

305 Sequenced specimens from terra typica where collected in a pond in Denver (40.73 N, -104.40W).

306 Type specimens of this subspecies are in the United States National Museum (Catalogue Numbers
307 Holotype 123203; Paratypes 123204).

308 Material examined: Texcoco Lake (State of Mexico, Mexico) (19.45 N, -99.00 W) and Los Gringos
309 dam (Aguascalientes, Mexico) (21.91 N, -102.26 W).

310 Differential diagnosis (see Table 1)

311 *Moina americana* can be easily distinguished from *Moina macrocopa* s.l. for the following
312 characters: the sensory seta of the antennule is longer, and it is inserted in the first third (Fig. 2D);
313 the setae on the posterior rim formed three groups increasing in size (Fig. 2D), following these
314 setae at the dorsal part, there is a row of stout and robust spinules instead of fine spinules as is
315 present in *Moina macrocopa* (Fig. 2I); the first trunk limb presents the anterior seta of the

316 penultimate segment with a row of stout teeth, smaller and more numerous than in *M.*
317 *macrocopa*_s.l. (Fig. 2J). The ephippium is bigger than *M. macrocopa*, its surface covered with
318 trapezoidal cells instead of round and it seems a water drop with the point slightly curved upwards
319 (Fig. 2O). The male's first leg has a very large recurved hook, originating from the penultimate
320 segment more prominent than in the Old-World form and presents several tiny spinules on the tip
321 (Fig. 3F).

322 *Parthenogenetic female* (Fig. 2A-L)

323 Size: Length 1.14 ± 0.05 mm; width 0.83 ± 0.05 mm and ratio: 0.729 ± 0.005 (N=10). Color of
324 specimens: whitish. In life sometimes red, due to the presence of hemoglobin.

325 The revised material agrees with the typical form described by Goulden (1968): the setae along
326 the posterior shell rim grouped, some being much larger than the others and there are usually two
327 or three groups with large teeth located just posterior to the ventral row of setae.

328 Long and dense hairs cover the body and head, more than the European clade (Fig. 2A,B). The
329 head presents a broad and slightly supraocular depression and an oval "nucal pore", cited by
330 Alonso (1996) and Paggi (1997) in the Old World form but never cited before for American form
331 (Fig. 2B,C). Hairy labrum covered with many scattered fine and long hairs, the proximal part very
332 bulky (Fig. 2F).

333 The shells are sub rectangular and rounded in lateral view (Fig. 2G), with a row of stiff feathered
334 marginal setae (Fig. 2H). The setae of the posterior rims are grouped and ordered in increasing in
335 size (Fig. 2I) followed by a continuous row of fine spinules.

336 The antennule is cylindrical, shorter than the observed in *M. macrocopa* s.l. (mean length: 0.25
337 mm; mean ratio width/length: 0.188 mm), ciliated, slightly curved on the tip and in its surface

338 present long rows of spinules around it (Fig. 2D,E). The sensory seta is also longer than the
339 European specimens analyzed and is inserted in the first third of the antennule (Fig. 2D).

340 The antennae are robust, covered with many rows of spinules. Both rami with medial rows of long
341 and fine setulae and the usual distribution of swimming setae (1-1-3/0-0-1-3) and spines (0-0-1/0-
342 1-0-1) (Fig.2A, H). The sensory setae of the basipodite are approximately equal in length, about
343 half the length of the segment. The basipodite covered by a row of spines parallel to the segment,
344 and one stout spine at the tip. (Fig. 2A).

345 The first trunk limb presents eight feathered setae, two toothed setae, and two ejector hooks of
346 different size. The anterior seta of the penultimate segment has a row of stout teeth, smaller and
347 more numerous than in *M. macrocopa* s.l. (Fig. 2J).

348 The postabdomen is similar to the Old World specimens but more hairy (Fig. 2K) It is very long and
349 robust with many short rows of spinules at the dorsal and lateral sides. The conical distal part
350 carries nine feathered teeth and one bifid tooth (Fig. 2L). The branches of the bifid tooth are
351 distinctly unequal. There are small groups of spinules near the base of the bifid tooth. The inner
352 side of the claw has a continuous row of fine setae a little thicker than those on the outer side. On
353 the ventral base, there are thirteen teeth (Fig. L).

354 Ephippium

355 The surface of the ephippium composed of flat cells that are more trapezoidal than squared in
356 cross section and contains two eggs. It is bigger than in *Moina macrocopa* s.l. and seems like a
357 water drop with the point slightly curved upwards (Fig. 2M,N).

358 Male (Fig. 3A-L)

359 The males mean size: length 0.92 mm (N=10).

360 The body male and head are hairy. The shell is deeply reticulated, the setules grow, mainly, in the
361 contours of these polygons. The head lacks the supraocular depression (Fig. 3A,M) but also
362 presents reticulation on dorsal view.

363 The long antennules originated below the eye, they are bent at the mid-point and have two
364 sensory setae arising at or near the knee of this bend (Fig. 3D). The distal halves of the antennules
365 are curved inward with a row of tiny spinules on the tip and four to six short brush-like setae (Fig.
366 3E). The brush-like setae form a semicircle around a group of sensory papillae that project from
367 the end of the antennule (Fig.3D).

368 The second antennae are robust, covered with many rows of spinules. Both rami with middle rows
369 of long and fine setulae and the general distribution of swimming setae (1-1-3/0-0-1-3) and spines
370 (0-0-1/0-1-0-1). The sensory setae of the basipodite are approximately equal in length, about one-
371 third the length of the segment. The basipodite covered by a row of spines parallel to the
372 segment, and one stout spine at the tip. (Fig. 3G).

373 The surface of the shell is reticulated and covered with hairs, as mentioned above (Fig.3A). The
374 ventral rim has from 34 to 43 marginal setae. The setae along the posterior margin of the shell are
375 grouped and ordered in increasing in size (see 1 in Fig. 3H) followed by a continuous row of fine
376 spinules (Fig.3I). At the dorsal rim, there are some stiff spinules, stronger than in the European
377 form, followed by two hooks (Fig. 3J).

378 The first leg of the male has a large recurved hook, originating from the penultimate segment,
379 bigger than Old World specimens (Fig 3F). The terminal segment carries three setae; the middle
380 seta is very long and hooklike without spinules on the tip (see a in Fig. 3F) as in other congeners as
381 *Moina micrura*. The other two setae are feathered. The penultimate segment covered with many
382 grouped short hairs along the medial margin, and there is a seta arising from this surface opposite

383 the hook. The first leg has an exopod segment that terminates with a very long seta which is
384 longer than the leg and reaches to the posterior margin of the shell and presents several little
385 teeth on the tip (see b in Fig. 3F). These latter are absent in *M. macrocopa* s.l.

386 The postabdomen and the claw of the male, are similar in general form to that of the female.
387 However, the conical part of the postabdomen is much broader, and the claw projects from the
388 middle of the distal margin of the postabdomen (Fig. 3K). The two genital openings are just at the
389 end of the feathered teeth row, in lateral view, one on either side of the postabdomen not as in
390 *Moina macrocopa* s.l. where they are ventral to the claws (see arrow and magnification in Fig.3L).

391 Biology: Los Gringos dam is in central highlands of Mexico, in the city of Aguascalientes (21.91 N;
392 102.268 W). The waters of this dam are highly eutrophicated due to the fact that it received the
393 sewage water from the nearby neighborhood. Texcoco Lake is in the east of Mexico City (19.452
394 N; 98.995 W), located at 2.236 meters above the sea level in the TransMexican volcanic belt
395 (Alcocer & Bernal-Brooks, 2010). This saline soda-lake is highly polluted and eutrophicated and
396 supports an active anthropogenic pressure since the arrival of the Aztecs (Alcocer & Bernal-
397 Brooks, 2010).

398 Notes

399 We have found morphological differences between the two populations of the European clade
400 inhabiting in Calderitas, as the spinulation pattern of the posterior shell rim and the antennule,
401 which have direct correspondence with genetical results commented later. But to describe this
402 possible new species, further genetical and morphological comparative studies must be
403 done. Alcocer, J. and Bernal-Brooks, F. W. (2010) 'Limnology in Mexico', *Hydrobiologia*, 644(1), pp.
404 15–68. doi: 10.1007/s10750-010-0211-1.

405 **Genetical analyses**

406 We created a dataset of 60 sequences under the name of DS-MMACRO in BOLD Systems database.
407 It includes 57 sequences of *Moina macrocopa* complex and three sequences of *Moina cf. micrura*
408 2, (Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2008a), used as an outgroup.

409 The “barcode identification request” in BOLD showed five different BINs. Sequences matching
410 European clade (possibly including the real *Moina macrocopa* (Straus, 1820), assigned to three
411 different BINs, BIN: BOLD:ACH4664 (population of Hungary, Russia and Mexico, Calderitas), BIN:
412 BOLD:ACA1705 (populations of Spain, Russia and Mexico, Calderitas) and BIN: BOLD:AAK6825
413 (population from European Russia). Sequences matching the American clade, including specimens
414 near the original type locality, *Moina americana* s. str. Goulden, 1968 were assigned to a unique
415 BIN: BOLD:AAC3108 and finally, sequences assigned to BIN: BOLD:ADF9261 correspond to the
416 Asiatic clade found in Russia, shown by Bekker *et al.* (2016).

417 Instead, MPTP and ABGD yield other results, three groups instead of five as Barcode Identification
418 request showed (Table 2). These three groups correspond to European clade (possibly the real
419 *Moina macrocopa* (Straus, 1820), American clade *Moina americana* Goulden, 1968 and the Asiatic
420 clade (*Moina cf. macrocopa*). Differences in the number of groups delimited by BIN system and
421 the other tools (MPTP and ABGD) five and three respectively, is due that the BIN system is more
422 sensitive than the other tools. It uses a threshold of maximum divergence of 2.2% to delimitate
423 the clusters and it should be mentioned that is continuously evolving in new BINs if more
424 information is added (Ratnasingham & Hebert, 2007, 2013).

425 Kimura 2-parameters (K2P) mean intraspecific distances for each population in *Moina macrocopa*
426 s.l. (European clade) are: 0.41% in BOLD:ACH4664, 0% in BOLD:AAK6825 and 0.75% in
427 BOLD:ACA1705. In the case of *Moina americana* (Goulden, 1968) (American Clade, BIN number
428 BOLD:AAC3108), the mean intraspecific distance is 0.64%. (Table 3). Interspecific distances ranged

429 from 3.72% to 13.36%. The European clade showed the minimum mean interspecific distance
430 between its populations (Russian population has not been considering for this analysis, due to the
431 low number of available sequences in BOLD). The biggest mean interspecific distance is between
432 the Asiatic clade (BOLD:ADF9261) evidenced by Bekker *et al.* (2016) and the European population
433 with BIN number BOLD:ACA1705 that it is distributed in Hungary, Mexico and Russia.

434 The low intraspecific divergence showed by the American clade (BOLD:AAC3108) which includes
435 sequences from *terra typica* in North America and other places from North and South America
436 suggest the incipient expansion of this species.

437 The high divergence in the European clade indicates that *Moina macrocopa* s.l. is a complex
438 composed by at least three distinct species, two of them confirmed by morphology, genetics and
439 distribution that corresponds to BIN numbers ACH4664 and ACA1705, the last one corresponding
440 to the real *Moina macrocopa* (Straus, 1820).

441 The high divergences showed between the clades from Europe and America corroborates our
442 hypothesis that they are different species.

443 Regarding the GC content at the sequence composition (Table 4), it ranges from 34.97 to 36.59.
444 Populations from cooler regions show low GC content than the other clades.

445 *Neighbor-Joining and Maximum Likelihood analysis*

446 ML analysis of COI gene is consistent with previous studies, showing that each clade is a
447 monophyletic cluster. The branch of each cluster is highly robust (Fig. 4). We emphasize that the Id
448 tree is not a complete phylogenetical analysis. This tree delimitates five groups, but we cannot
449 ascertain in deep the relationships between these groups.

450 *Genetic Diversity and haplotype analyses*

451 Genetic diversity indexes and the results of neutrality test for COI are shown in Table 5. The
452 average number of pairwise nucleotide differences (K), nucleotide diversity (π) and haplotype
453 diversity (H_d) varies among the clades showing elevated levels of diversity inside the clades. A
454 negative Tajima's D showed by the Asiatic clade demonstrates low levels of both low and high-
455 frequency polymorphism relative to expectation.

456 In total, 18 COI haplotypes were detected including four in the American clade (from two
457 countries) (Fig. 5). The Asiatic clade includes two haplotypes from Sakhalin area (Russia), and
458 finally, the European clade contains eight haplotypes from four different regions, with the
459 dominant haplotype, shared by Hungary and Mexico (Calderitas) and the American clade also
460 shows eight haplotypes disseminated from Canada to Bolivia.

461

462 **DISCUSSION**

463 Due to the high number of characters, analyzed in this paper, (morphological, genetical
464 divergences and geographical distribution), and the differences found between *Moina macrocopa*
465 s.l. (Old World clade) and *Moina macrocopa americana* Goulden, 1968 (the American clade) and
466 following the rules of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) (Jäch, 2000), a
467 taxonomical act can be made to elevate to species level the subspecies *Moina macrocopa*
468 *americana* (Goulden, 1868). So, we propose the name *Moina americana* Goulden, 1968, with a
469 BIN number BOLD:AAC3108 to facilitate its identification, in place of *Moina macrocopa americana*
470 Goulden, 1968.

471 The detailed morphological studies using tools as the Scanning microscope allowed verification of
472 some dubious characters, as the "nucal pore" and the claw pecten, not clearly visible using
473 traditional techniques. The "nucal pore" according to Alonso (1996), it is one of the most

474 significant characters of the species not seen previously in other congeners, and it did not appear
475 in the descriptions of the species of Goulden (1968) and Elmoor-Loureiro *et al.*, (2010). One other
476 variable character of the species, the faint claw pecten, has also contributed to the confusion.
477 Depending on the view of this setation on the claw, one might either conclude that a pecten is, or
478 is not, present. This accounts for the different description of *Moina banffy* (Daday, 1883) which
479 was said to lack a pecten while *Moina esau* was described as having one (Brehm, 1936). Both
480 forms are definitely the same species. In this study we confirm the presence of these characters in
481 the *Moina macrocopa* complex species and we remark the importance of the “nucal pore” to
482 identify the species along with the anterior seta on the penultimate segment of the female’s first
483 trunk limb toothed. Differences found by Elmoor-Loureiro *et al.* (2010) between South American
484 populations of *Moina macrocopa* s.l. must be confirmed by genetical analysis will allow
485 establishing their real identity of this *Moina*. In case of genetic characters, our results are
486 coincident with the morphology, and the maximum divergence threshold of 3% proposed by
487 several authors to delimitate the species level (Hebert *et al.*, 2003b; Bekker *et al.*, 2016). These
488 results also agree with the morphological differences previously published (Straus, 1820; Arévalo,
489 1920; Goulden, 1968; Smirnov, 1976; Elías-Gutiérrez & Zamuriano- Claros, 1994; Alonso, 1996;
490 Paggi, 1997; Elmoor-Loureiro *et al.*, 2010) between the American and Old World morphos, and add
491 some taxonomical remarks that should be taken into account for further descriptions of new
492 species belonging to these complexes of species. Specimens with genetic divergence lower than
493 3% do not present morphological differences, so we can conclude, that BIN number AAC3108,
494 representing *Moina americana* Goulden, 1968 is present in Canada, USA (from *terra typica*, near
495 the original type locality, see specimens with Process ID: BCRUS111-10, BCRUS107-10, and
496 BCRUS106-10 in BOLD), and is distributed in Mexico and Bolivia. The low variability of the
497 American species, the high number of haplotypes (8 haplotypes) and the broad geographical area

498 of distribution, shown by our results, indicates that this species is beginning an expansion that
499 started less than 250.000 years ago (according to Ratnasingham & Hebert 2007).

500 The high existent divergence between the populations in the Old World can be interpreted as a
501 longer time of separation represented by the BIN numbersACH4664 andACA1705) with a
502 maximum divergence of 3.72%. This divergence also is coincident with morphological traits as
503 mentioned above.

504 The use of molecular markers helped us to delimitate species, but the sole use of these tools, will
505 cause the loss of essential information (Will, Mishler & Wheeler 2005). The phenotypical plasticity
506 present in different geographical areas for invertebrate species evidence high cryptic speciation
507 and not morphotypes or cosmopolitanism, as it has been considered (Alcántara-Rodríguez *et al.*,
508 2012; Karanovic 2015; Lavinia *et al.*, 2017).

509 This example is one more of the so-called integrative taxonomy (*sensu* Dayrat, 2005), but the
510 information we have until now is not enough to conclude about the Old-World clades previously
511 seen (Nédli *et al.*, 2014; Bekker *et al.*, 2016).

512 In other regard, haplotypes shared between far geographical sites evidence a recent translocation
513 of both species, *Moina macrocopa* s.l. and *Moina americana* Goulden, 1968, possibly due to
514 human activities such as it has been documented several times for the European clade of this
515 species and for other microinvertebrate groups by several researchers (Elías-Gutiérrez &
516 Zamuriano- Claros, 1994; Miracle *et al.*, 2013; Vignatti, Cabrera & Echaniz, 2013; Montoliu, Miracle
517 & Elías-Gutiérrez, 2015) and also, due to biotic (birds) or/and abiotic factors. It is widely
518 documented that cladocerans during the glaciations of Pleistocene survived in small isolated
519 refugia during the Ice Age. Since the thaw, they colonized many new areas due to the ephippia
520 stuck in the legs of birds (Adamowicz *et al.*, 2002; Korovchinsky, 2006), and given their

521 opportunistic and potentially invasive nature (Vignatti, Cabrera & Echaniz, 2013) they became
522 common in new habitats or environments. In this regard, climate change drives birds to change
523 their migration routes, and with them, *Moina* and other invertebrates will benefit to disperse to
524 new warm regions, where before it was not possible to survive.

525 The proximity existent (morphological, genetical and geographical) between the different
526 populations of the American clade and the lack of interest in this American species (because the
527 European species is used as bioindicator and food for aquaculture) suggest that their distribution
528 can be due to biotic or abiotic factors and not for an anthropogenic translocation.

529 Instead, the Old-World species found in Calderitas (Mexico) seems to be a recent human mediated
530 translocation owing to the little divergence intraspecific existent between the Mexican
531 populations and the Europeans (ACH4664: 0.41% and ACA1705: 0.75%). We hypothesize that a
532 European student of Amphibia, who surveyed the ponds before us, introduced the resistant
533 ephippia inadvertently with his net in search of tadpoles. Both species were found inhabiting in
534 sympatry in two close, isolated temporary pools, with no fish. Otherwise, there is no explanation,
535 because *Moina macrocopa* s.l. was included in a list of 94 potential invaders of inland waters,
536 coastal and littoral lakes in Mexico (Okolodkov *et al.*, 2007), but it has not been previously found in
537 the tropics (Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2001; Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2008a; Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2008b).

538 In this work, we increased the distributional area of *Moina americana* s. str. Its new range is from
539 58.77°N to 18.24°S, but nowadays, only restricted to the American continent instead of just at the
540 USA as Goulden (1968) stated.

541 *Moina americana* Goulden, 1968 seems to prefer permanent water bodies, highly eutrophic and
542 with an excess of food supply as Los Gringos dam and Texcoco Lake.

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736

737 TABLES

738 Table 1. Morphological differences.

739 Tabla 1. Diferencias morfológicas.

| Characters | <i>Moina macrocopa</i> (Straus, 1820) | <i>Moina americana</i> (Goulden, 1968) |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Female | | |
| Antennulae (A1) | Sensory seta inserted in the middle | Sensory seta longer, inserted in the first third |
| Setae of posterior shell rim | No grouped | Forming three groups |
| Setae of dorsal shell rim | Fine spinules | Stout and robust spinules |
| Toothed seta of LI | Fine and separate teeth | A row of stout teeth, smaller and more numerous |
| Ephippium | Round cells | Trapezoidal cells |
| Male | | |
| Limb I | Large recurved hook | Very large recurved hook |
| Genital openings | Ventral to the claw | At the end of the feathered teeth |

740

741 Table 2. OTUs of *Moina macrocopa* complex by three different species delimitation methods.

742 Tabla 2. UTOs del complejo *Moina macrocopa* obtenidos a través de la aplicación tres métodos

743 diferentes para la delimitación de las especies

| Marker | BIN System | mPTP Model | ABGD | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|------------|------------|--------|---|--------|---|--------|---|--------|---|--------|---|--------|---|
| | | | 0.0017 | | 0.0028 | | 0.0077 | | 0.0129 | | 0.0215 | | 0.0359 | |
| | | | I | R | I | R | I | R | I | R | I | R | I | R |
| COI | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 |

744

745 Table 3. K2P Mean Genetic divergences (intra and interspecific) of *Moina macrocopa* complex.

746 Bold capitals: Mean Intraspecific distances.

747 Tabla 3. Divergencias genéticas K2P medias (intra e interespecíficas) del complejo *Moina*

748 *macrocopa*. Letra en negrita: Distancias intraespecíficas medias.

| | | <i>Moina macrocopa</i> European Clade | | <i>Moina cf macrocopa</i> Asiatic Clade | <i>Moina americana</i> American Clade |
|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|--|
| | | H, MX, RS BOLD:ACH4664 | SP, MX, RS BOLD:ACA1705 | RS BOLD:ADF9261 | CA, MX BOLD:AAC3108 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa</i> European Clade | H, MX, RS BOLD:ACH4664 | 0.41 | | | |
| | SP, MX, RS BOLD:ACA1705 | 3.72 | 0.75 | | |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa</i> Asiatic Clade | RS BOLD:ADF9261 | 13.36 | 12.64 | 0 | |
| <i>Moina americana</i> American Clade | CA, MX BOLD:AAC3108 | 12.74 | 13.17 | 6.62 | 0.64 |

749

750

751 Table 4. Mean GC% content at the sequence composition of the COI Gene.

752 Tabla 4. Contenido medio de GC% en la composición de las secuencias del gen COI.

| | European clade (36.3 ± 0.0826) | | | Asiatic clade | American Clade |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| BIN | ACH4664 | AAK6825 | ACA1705 | ADF9261 | AAC3108 |
| Mean GC% content (± SE) | 36.03 ± 0.0831 | 35.31 ± 0 | 36.59 ± 0.0496 | 34.97 ± 0.033 | 35.81 ± 0.092 |

753

754 Table 5. Genetic diversity index and neutrality test (Fu & Tajima's D) on the mitochondrial COI

755 sequences of *Moina macrocopa* complex. Sequences show no diversity. *n*: number of sequences;

756 *S*: number of polymorphic sites; *h*: number of haplotypes; *H_d*: haplotype diversity; π : nucleotide

757 diversity; *k*: average number of pairwise nucleotide differences. Tajima's D: A negative Tajima's D

758 signifies an excess of low frequency polymorphisms relative to expectation. A positive Tajima's D
 759 signifies low levels of both low and high frequency polymorphisms. Statistical significance: Not
 760 significant, $P > 0.1$.

761 Tabla 5. Índices de diversidad genética y test de neutralidad (Fu y Tajima's D) de las secuencias del
 762 gen mitocondrial COI del complejo *Moina macrocopa*. Las secuencias muestran baja diversidad. *n*:
 763 número de secuencias; *S*: número de sitios polimórficos; *h*: número de haplotipos; *Hd*: diversidad
 764 haplotípica; π : diversidad nucleotídica; *k*: número promedio de diferencias de nucleótidos por
 765 pares. Tajima's D: un valor negativo en el test significa un exceso de polimorfismos de baja
 766 frecuencia en relación con las expectativas un valor positivo en el test significa bajos niveles de
 767 polimorfismos de baja y alta frecuencia. Significancia estadística: No significativa, $P > 0.1$.

768

769

| | <i>n</i> | <i>S</i> | <i>h</i> | <i>Hd</i> | π | <i>K</i> | Tajima's D (Significance) | Fu & Li (Significance) |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| EUROPA | 28 | 19 | 8 | 0.86 | 0,02506 | 7,57 | 1,57 $P > 0.10$ | 0,96 $P > 0.10$ |
| ASIA | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0.5 | 0,00166 | 0,5 | -0,75 $P > 0.10$ | 1,44 $P > 0.10$ |
| AMERICA | 21 | 6 | 8 | 0.855 | 0,00760 | 2.286 | 0.18769 $P > 0.10$ | 0.18769 $P > 0.10$ |
| TOTAL | 64 | 59 | 18 | 0.937 | 0.07934 | 24.04 | 2.28 $P < 0.5$ | |

770

771 **LIST OF FIGURES**

772 Figure 1. SEM observations of *Moina macrocopa* s.l. (Female). A. Habitus, arrow: magnification of
 773 hairs. B. Antennule. C. Tip of the antennule. D. Anterior shell rim and first limb. E. Posterior shell
 774 rim, exterior view. F. Posterodorsal shell rim, interior view. G. Dorsal shell rim and hooks. H.
 775 Antenna. I. First limb, 1: toothed seta, 2: ejector hooks. J. Postabdomen. K. Postabdomen and

776 swimming setae. L. Claw and feathered teeth. M. Claw and pecten. N. Ehippium, lateral view. O.
777 Head and ehippium. P. Surface of ehippium. *Moina macrocopa* s.l. (Male). Q. Habito, illustration
778 of Alonso (1996). R. Habito. S. Antennula. T. Posterior shell rim. U. First limb, immature form. V.
779 Claw. All specimens are from Calderitas (Mexico).

780 Figura 1. Observaciones de *Moina macrocopa* s.l (hembra) con el Microscópio Electrónico de
781 Barrido. A. Habito. B. Anténula. C. Punta de la anténula. D. Margen anterior del caparazón y pata I.
782 E. Margen posterior del caparazón, vista exterior. F. Margen posterodorsal del caparazón, vista
783 interior. G. Margen dorsal del caparazón y ganchos. H. Antena. I. Pata I, 1: seta dentada, 2:
784 ganchos eyectores. J. Postabdomen. K. Postabdomen y setas natatorias. L. Garra y dientes
785 plumosos. M. Garra y pecten. N. Ehipio, vista lateral. *Moina macrocopa* s.l. (Macho). L. Habito. M.
786 Anténulas. N. Margen posterior del caparazón. O. Cabeza y ehipio. P. Surface of ehippium. *Moina*
787 *macrocopa* s.l. (Male). Q. Habito, ilustración de Alonso (1996). R. Habito. S. Anténula. T. Margen
788 posterior del caparazón, vista interior. U. Pata I, forma inmadura. V. Garra. Todos los especímenes
789 fueron recolectados en Calderitas (México).

790 Figure 2. SEM observations of *Moina americana* (Goulden, 1968) (Female). A. Habitus. B. Nucal
791 pore on head. C. Magnification of the nucal pore. D, E. Antennula. F. Labrum. G. Shell, lateral view.
792 H. Anterior shell rim. I. Groups of setae present at the posterior shell rim. J. First limb. K.
793 Postabdomen. L. Claw and feathered teeth. M. Head and ehippium. N. Ehippium, lateral view.
794 Specimens from Texcoco lake (City of Mexico) and Los Gringos dam (Aguascalientes, Mexico).

795 Figura 2. Observaciones de *Moina americana* (Goulden, 1968) (Hembra) con el Microscopio
796 Electrónico de Barrido. A. Habito. B. Órgano nucal. C. Magnificación órgano nucal. D,E. Anténula.
797 Caparazón vista lateral. H. Margen anterior del caparazón. I. Grupos de setas presentes en el
798 margen posterior del caparazón. J. Pata I. K. Postabdomen. L. Garra y dientes plumosos. M. Cabeza

799 y efipio. N. Efipio, vista lateral. Especímenes recolectados en el Lago Texcoco (Ciudad de Mexico) y
800 en la presa de Los Gringos (Aguascalientes, México).

801 Figure 3. SEM observations of *Moina americana* (Male). A. Habitus. B. Nucal pore on head. C.
802 Magnification of the nucal pore. D. Antennules. E. Tip of the antennae, brush-like setae and
803 aesthetascs. F. First limb, a: tip of the hook, b: tip of the middle seta of the penultimate segment.
804 G. Antennae. H. Shell lateral view. I. Posterior shell rim, interior view. J. Dorsal shell rim and hooks.
805 K. Postabdomen, claw and feathered teeth. L. Gonopores, arrow: shows the structure. M. Draw
806 from Goulden (1968). Specimens from Texcoco Lake (City of Mexico).

807 Figura 3. Observaciones de *Moina americana* (Goulden, 1968) (macho) con el Microscopio
808 Electrónico de Barrido. A Habito. B. Órgano nucal. C. Magnificación órgano nucal. D. Anténulas. E,
809 Punta de la antena, setas tipo brocha y aestetascos. F. Pata I, a: detalle del gancho, b: punta de la
810 seta del medio del penúltimo segmento. G. Antena. H. Caparazón, vista lateral. I. Margen posterior
811 del caparazón, Vista interior. J. Margen dorsal del caparazón y ganchos. K. Postabdomen, garra y
812 dientes plumosos. L. Gonoporos, flecha: muestra la estructura. M. Dibujo de Goulden (1968).
813 Especímenes recolectados en el Lago Texcoco (Ciudad de Mexico).

814 Figure 4. Id tree inferred by using the ML cluster analysis. Bootstrap values (500 replicates) are
815 shown above the branches. The scale bar shows K2P distances. The node of each clade with
816 multiples specimens is collapsed to a vertical triangle, with the horizontal depth indicating the
817 level of intraclade divergence.

818 Figura 4. Árbol de identificación inferido a través del análisis de clústeres de ML. Los valores de
819 Bootstrap (500 réplicas) están sobre las ramas. La escala muestra las distancias K2P. El nodo de
820 cada uno de los clados está colapsado en un triángulo vertical, la profundidad horizontal indica el
821 nivel divergencia dentro del clado.

822 Figure 5. COI Haplotype network of *Moina macrocopa* complex. Each circle indicates a unique
823 haplotype and variation in circle reflects the number of sequences assigned to haplotypes. Colors
824 represent the countries of each haplotype.

825 Figura 5. Red de haplotipos del gen COI del complejo *Moina macrocopa*. Cada círculo indica un
826 haplotipo único y la variación en el tamaño del círculo refleja el número de secuencias asignadas a
827 cada haplotipo. Los colores representan los países en donde se encuentra cada haplotipo.

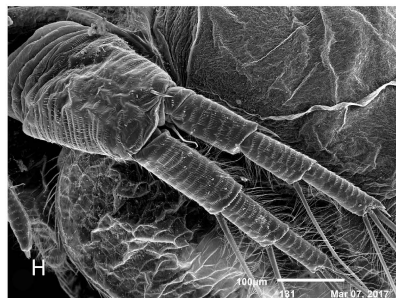
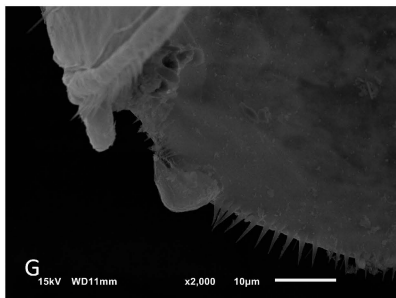
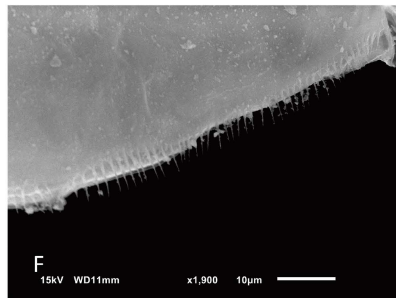
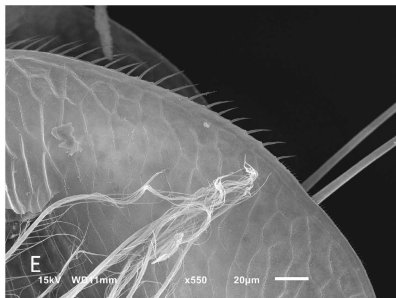
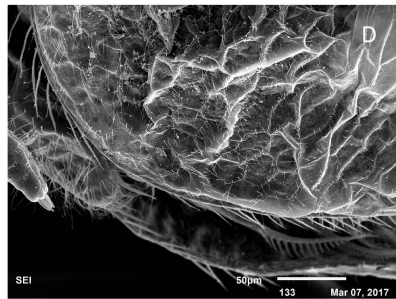
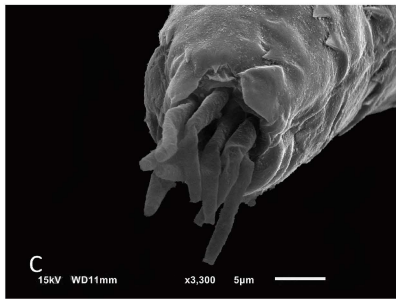
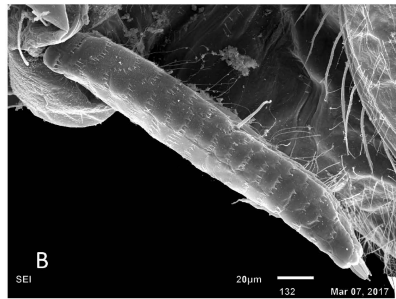
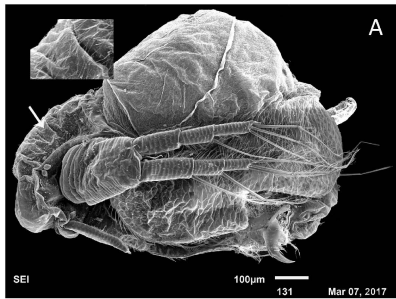
828 **Supplementary material**

829 S1. Table. Complete list of sequences generated in this study and public sequences from BOLD and
830 GenBank used in the analyses.

831 S1. Tabla. Lista completa de secuencias generadas en este estudio y secuencias públicas de BOLD Y
832 GenBank usadas en este análisis.

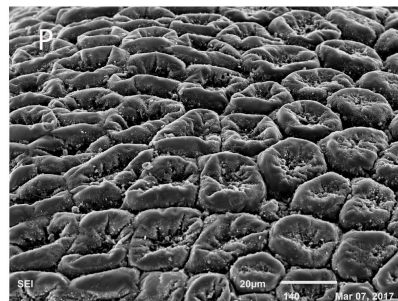
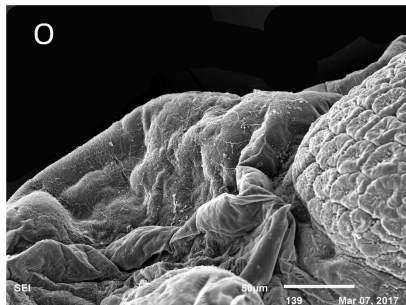
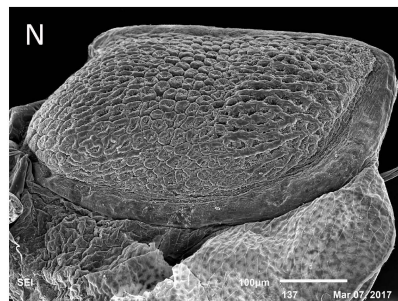
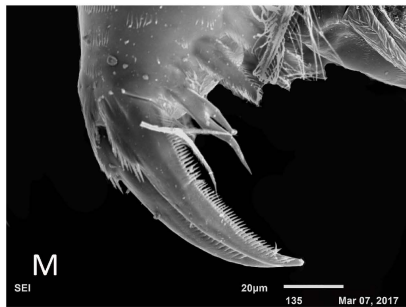
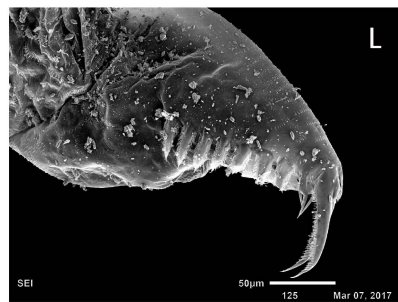
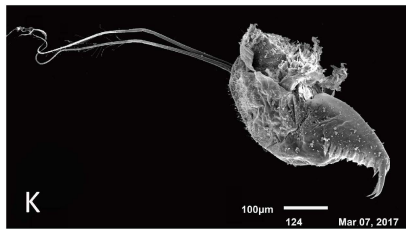
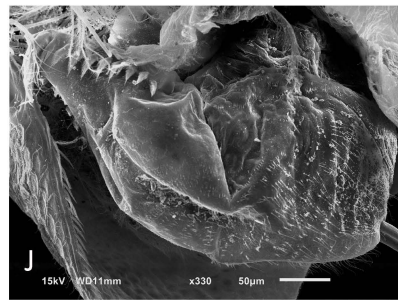
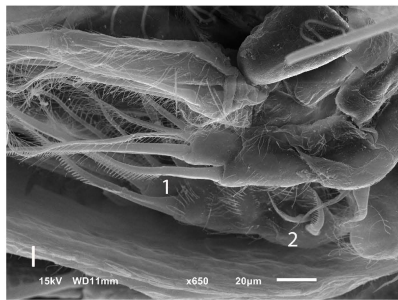
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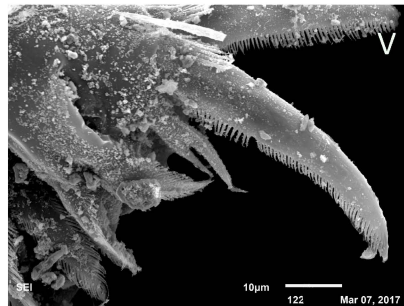
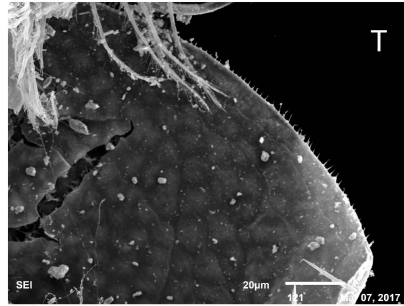
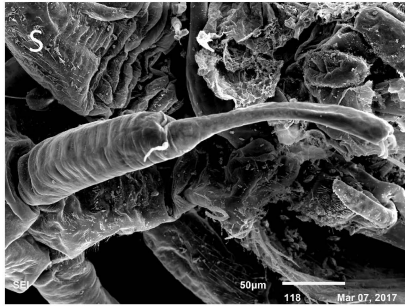
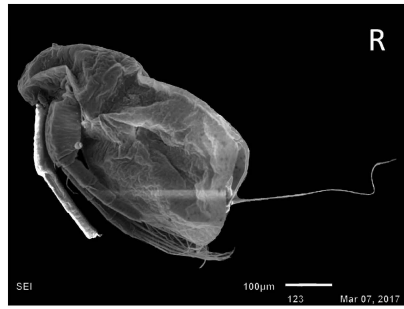
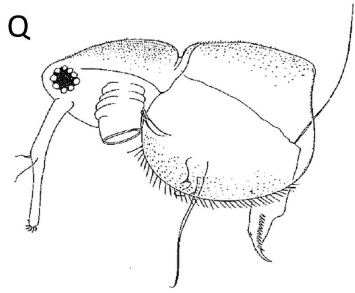
834 Fig. 1



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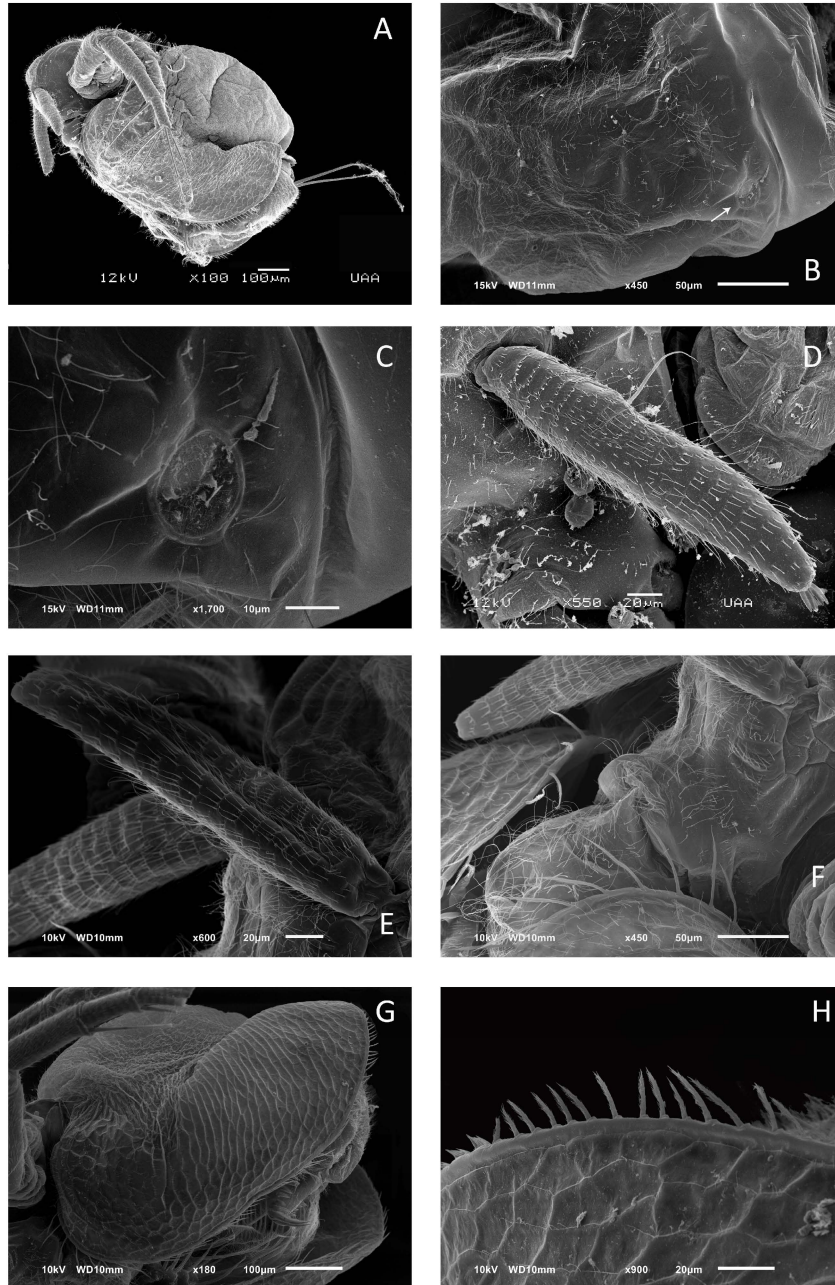
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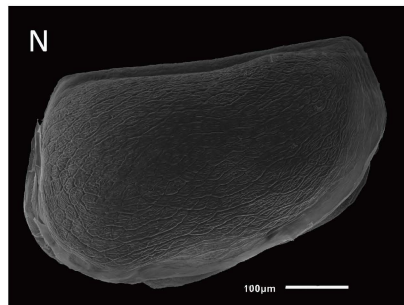
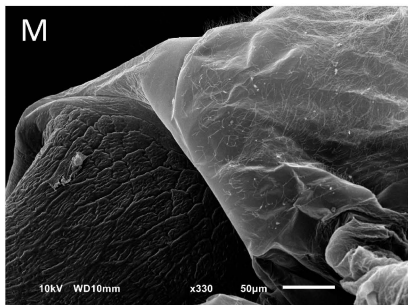
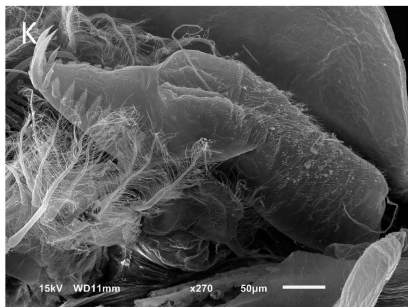
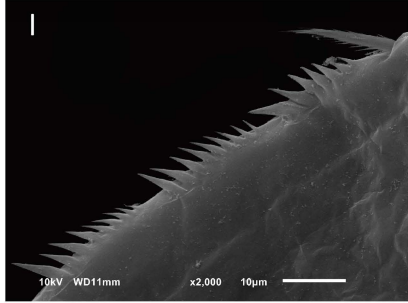
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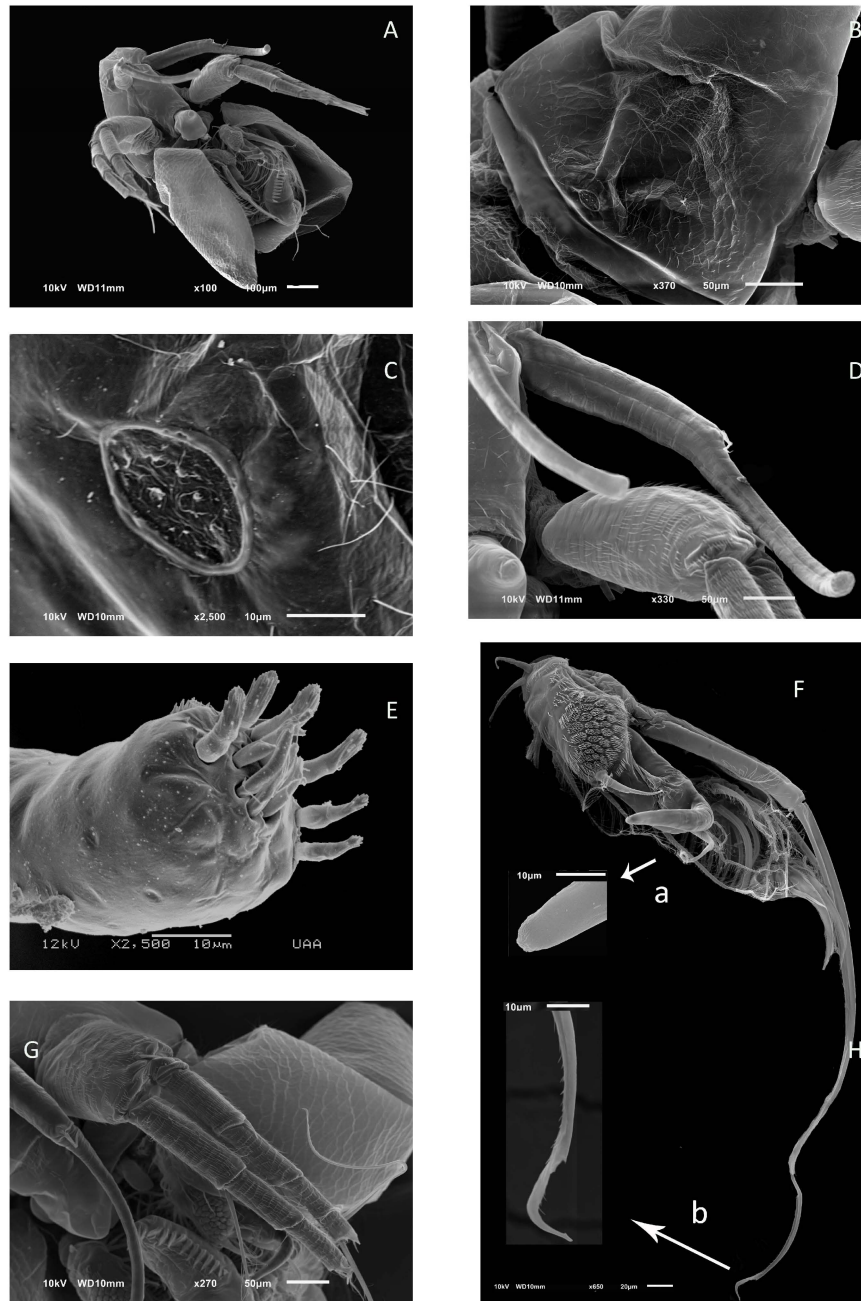




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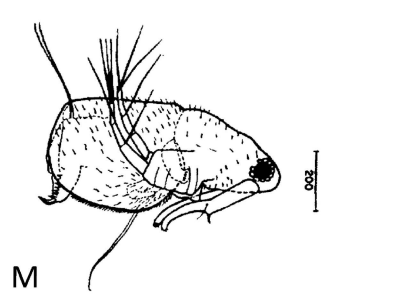
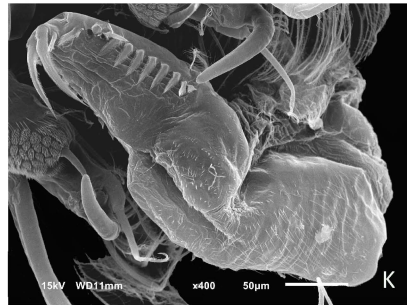
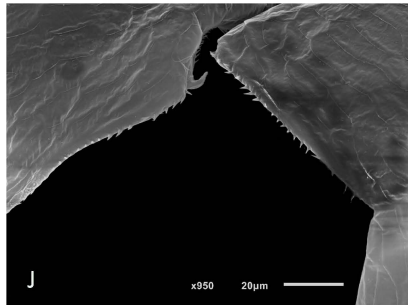
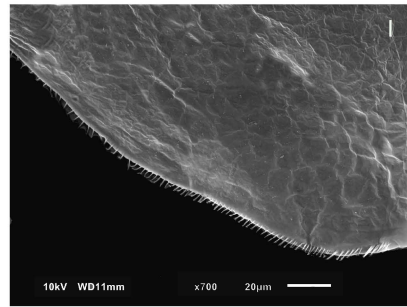
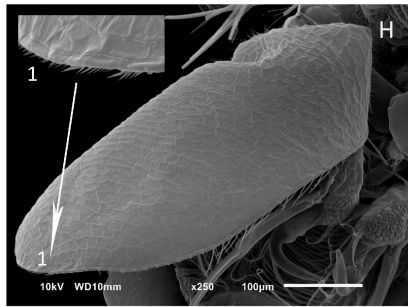
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845 Fig. 3

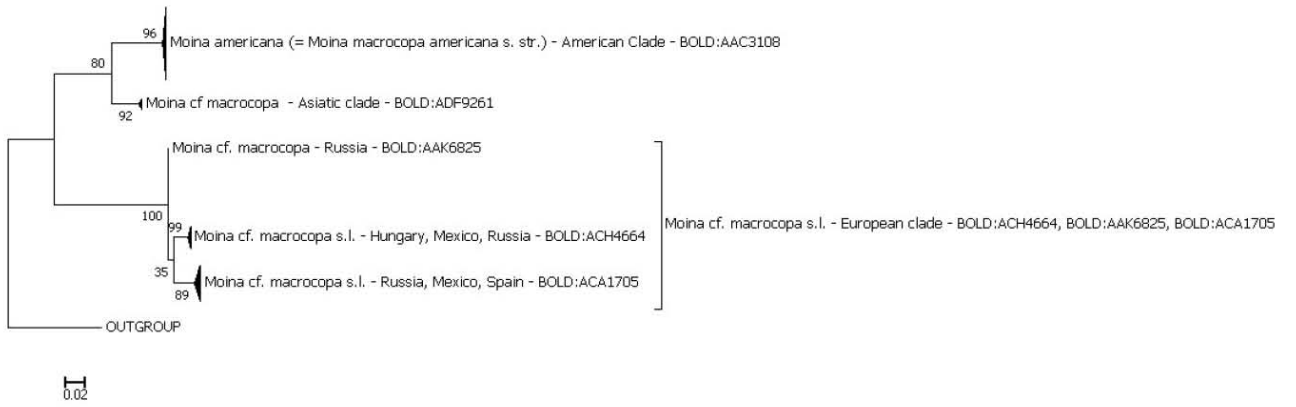


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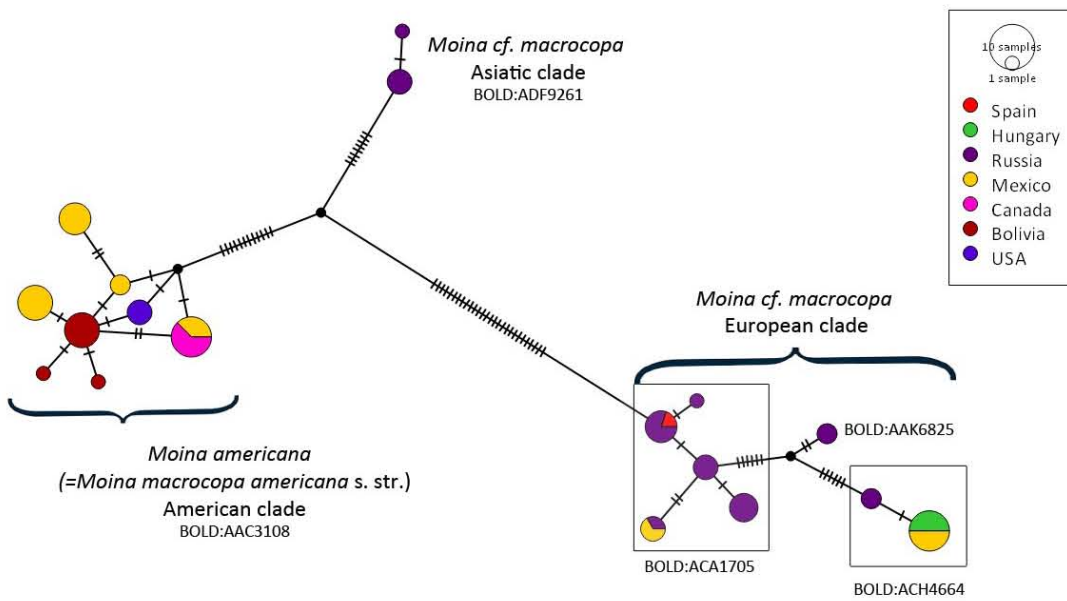
852 Fig. 4



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855 Fig. 5



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CAPÍTULO IV. *Moina micrura*, Kurz 1874

Montoliu-Elena, L., Elías-Gutiérrez, M., Miracle Sole, M. R., & Korinek, V. 2015. Who is *Moina micrura*? An example of how barcodes can help to clarify highly confused species. GENOME Vol. 58, No. 5, pp. 215-215

Elías-Gutiérrez, M., Juračka, P.J., Montoliu - Elena, L., Miracle, M.R. and Korinek, V. 2018. Who is *Moina micrura*? Redescription of one of the most confusing cladocerans from terra typica, based on integrative taxonomy. *Limnética* (Aceptado)

Montoliu-Elena, L., Almeyda-Osorio, J.K. and Elías-Gutiérrez, M. 2018. Seven species in one: solving *Moina Micrura* complex in Mexico and Spain, with morphological and biogeographical insights. (In revision)

Montoliu-Elena, L., Elias-Gutierrez, M., Miracle Sole, M. R., & Korinek, V. 2015. Who is *Moina micrura*? An example of how barcodes can help to clarify highly confused species. GENOME Vol. 58, No. 5, pp. 215-215

Testing primer bias and biomass – sequence relationships in metabarcoding: implications for monitoring of freshwater invertebrate communities

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Background: Metabarcoding combines DNA barcoding with next-generation sequencing to reliably identify hundreds of specimens from an environmental sample at once. However, detection rates for species-rich stream invertebrate samples, as well as the capability to quantify biomass or species abundances, have not been systematically tested. We developed a cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) metabarcoding protocol that uses the Illumina MiSeq platform and performed two controlled experiments (with 10 replicates each) using stream invertebrate samples. **Results:** In the first experiment we used 31 specimens of a single stonefly species that differed by up to four orders of magnitude in biomass. We found a clear biomass – sequence abundance relationship, but even the smallest specimens were reliably detected. In the second experiment, recovery of 52 different freshwater invertebrate taxa was tested using similar amounts of biomass per specimen as template. With a single universal primer pair we could recover 83% of the taxa. However, sequence abundance varied by four orders of magnitude between taxa. **Significance:** Our experiments show that although biomass can be estimated if only a single species is present in a sample, reliable species biomass or abundance estimates from environmental samples are impossible due to primer bias. Thus, DNA-based ecosystem assessments should rely on presence-absence rather than abundance data.

PrimerMiner: An R package for the development of universal barcoding primers and mini barcodes using partial COI sequences

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Background: DNA barcoding for species identification is increasingly applied in ecological research and biodiversity monitoring. Conserved “universal” primers are used to PCR-amplify a specific gene region of the mitochondrial cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) in animals. Unfortunately, the universal primers do not amplify all taxa equally well and may even fail. Therefore, many more group-specific, degenerate primers have been developed. While many COI barcode sequences are readily available in online databases such as the Barcode of Life Data Systems (BOLD), sequence information about the primer-binding region is often limited or even contains errors. Until now, mitochondrial genomes have mostly been used to design improved universal barcoding primers for animals. However, mitochondrial genomes are still not available for many groups, which limits the applicability. **Results:** Here we developed improved degenerate COI primers for freshwater invertebrates targeting the traditional “Folmer region”, using a novel approach that also utilizes the full potential of partial COI sequences. COI sequences for important freshwater taxa were obtained from online databases, clustered, and mapped against the COI consensus from available mitochondrial genomes. Many partial COI sequences overlapped with the Folmer region and could thus be used for designing degenerate primers. The alignments created are also useful for the development of mini-barcodes that lie within the Folmer region. **Significance:** With this novel approach, we were able to design reliable barcoding primers despite the few mitochondrial genomes available for freshwater invertebrate taxa. Our approach of including partial barcode sequences can be used to design and verify optimized degenerate primers for all taxonomic groups with unprecedented coverage. An R package for downloading and processing sequences is available on GitHub: <https://github.com/VascoElbrecht/PrimerMiner>.

Who is *Moina micrura*? An example of how barcodes can help to clarify highly confused species

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Background: *Moina micrura* seems to be one of the most ubiquitous cladocerans, with many studies on ecology, ecotoxicology, cultures, distribution, etc. It is really one of the most confused species of freshwater cladocerans. As a result, all studies on this taxon cannot be compared or repeated between different laboratories. With this study, based on morphology, molecular data, and distribution we try to establish the identity of the real *Moina micrura*. **Results:** *Moina micrura* was one common species recorded in Albufera de Valencia (Spain). Detailed analyses and a comparison with specimens from the type locality demonstrated the presence of two taxa there, neither one of them belonging to this species. *M. micrura* presents specific morphological traits at Limb II, the large lobe, the arrangement of the seta and sensilla between the large lobe and the gnathobase, the ornamentation of the basal corner of the gnathobase, the exopodite and the accessory setae of Limb V. All these traits are not included at the original description, and they are of great taxonomic importance to delineate species. Molecular data, namely COI and 12S sequences, clearly allow us to differentiate it from its congeners. **Significance:** The significance of this study is to establish a baseline to identify this species and discriminate it from all other similar taxa. This study opens a new field to understand the taxonomy and general relationships within the anomopods.

After 10 years of DNA barcoding in Mexico – where are we?

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Background: The 2 000 000 km² of territory occupied by the Mexican Republic is the fourth most biodiverse country in the world. Regardless of this outstanding “natural capital”, as the National Commission for Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO) has called it, support for research in this area has been quite limited by the federal agencies such as the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT), compared to other countries. **Results:** In spite of this resourcing challenge, several strategies were developed by Mexican researchers when they realized that DNA barcoding became an important tool to overcome the taxonomic impediment: the Mexican Barcode Network (MEXBOL) was established, including a National Laboratory focused on reducing the costs of DNA analyses; alliances between interested institutions were built; and main biorepositories got involved. The confidence of the academicians allowed this country to rank among the top 10 nations in terms of DNA barcoding of the national biota, with results in almost all important groups of animals, fungi, and plants. New species of fish, echinoderms, crustaceans, insects, polychaetes, leeches, platyhelminths, and acanthocephalans highlighted by the barcodes have been described. New insights into the diversity of rotifers, molluscs, and the above-mentioned groups have been discovered, with a much higher diversity than expected. Diverse applications of barcoding, such as analyses of seafood, exotic species, disease vectors, and a database of endangered species to help in the control of trafficking, have been developed. With a group of well-trained taxonomists, we are adopting new strategies, considering next-generation sequencing, and looking to integrative taxonomy in response to new questions. Finally, we started an educational program with a mobile PCR laboratory in schools. **Significance:** In summary, Mexican researchers have developed creativity and efficiency in order to use to maximal effect the limited support provided by national science policies and funders. These advances are particularly important

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1 Who is *Moina micrura*? Redescription of one of the most confusing cladocerans from
2 *terra typica*, based on integrative taxonomy

3

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18 Short title: Who is *Moina micrura*?

19

20 RESUMEN

21 *Moina micrura* Kurz, 1875 pertenece a una de las especies de cladoceros menos
22 definidas en el mundo. Esta especie ha sido considerada cosmopolita y se usa
23 ampliamente para experimentos de laboratorio, ecotoxicología o estudios de ecología.
24 Sin embargo, análisis moleculares recientes corroboraron la idea de que es un complejo
25 diverso de especies estrechamente relacionadas. Los persistentes problemas sistemáticos
26 con *M. micrura* se derivan del hecho de que no se ha redescrito en detalle, y además
27 están perdidos tanto su material tipo así como la localidad tipo. Con este estudio,
28 tratamos de proporcionar una redescipción de *M. micrura* s. str, utilizando la
29 morfología de hembras partenogénicas y efipiales y machos, así como caracteres
30 modernos como los códigos de barras de ADN. El material procede de un estanque
31 situado no lejos de su localidad tipo original en la República Checa. En primer lugar,
32 secuenciamos genes mitocondriales para la citocromo c oxidasa subunidad I (COI o
33 códigos de barras) y 12S rDNA para establecer la identidad de *M. micrura* s. str.
34 Después de este análisis, comparamos los datos genéticos con todas las secuencias
35 disponibles en bancos de datos del mundo. La especie parece restringida al Paleártico
36 occidental, con los registros confirmados genéticamente localizados más al este
37 provenientes de Kazajstán e Israel. El linaje más próximo a *M. micrura* s. str. se
38 encontró en España y necesita un análisis exhaustivo para establecer su identidad. *M.*
39 *micrura* s. str. tiene características únicas en la espinulación posterior de las valvas de la
40 hembra partenogénica, y la ornamentación del efipio. En el macho, las espinulas en la
41 punta de la antena y el gancho del primer toracópodo también son únicos. Con esta
42 descripción, esperamos que los especialistas tengan una referencia clara para descubrir
43 la diversidad de este complejo, así como comprender su biogeografía y diversidad.

44 **ABSTRACT**

45 *Moina micrura* Kurz, 1875 belongs among the most poorly defined cladoceran species
46 in the world. This species has been considered cosmopolitan and is widely used for
47 laboratory experiments, ecotoxicology, or ecology studies. Nevertheless, recent
48 molecular analyses corroborated the idea that it is a diverse complex of closely related
49 species. Persisting systematic problems with *M. micrura* stem from the fact that it has
50 not been redescribed in detail, and its type material as well as the type locality are lost.
51 With this study, we try to provide a redescription, using morphology of females, males
52 and ephippial females and the DNA barcodes for *M. micrura* s. str. from the pond
53 situated not far from its original type locality in the Czech Republic. Firstly, we
54 sequenced mitochondrial genes for cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) and 12S
55 rDNA to establish the identity of *M. micrura* s. str. After this analysis, we compared the
56 genetic data with all available sequences across the world. The species seems restricted
57 to Western Palearctic, with the most easterly located genetically confirmed records
58 originating from Kazakhstan and Israel. The closest related lineage to *M. micrura* s. str.
59 was found in Spain and needs a thorough analysis to establish its systematic status. *M.*
60 *micrura* s. str. has unique features in the posterior spinulation of the valves of the
61 parthenogenic female, and the ornamentation of the ephippium. In the male, spinules on
62 the tip of the antennule and the hook on the first thoracopod are also unique. With this
63 description, we hope to inspire specialists to start uncovering the diversity of this
64 complex, to understand its biogeography and diversity, as well as the real range of *M.*
65 *micrura* s. str.

66

67 INTRODUCTION

68 *Moina micrura*, seemingly one of the most ubiquitous cladocerans with apparently
69 worldwide distribution, has been also one of the most taxonomically confused species.
70 It was described by Kurz (1875) from Bohemia (the present-day Czech Republic), in
71 short paragraphs, where no presently relevant taxonomic characters were used.
72 Although the description and accompanying drawings (Fig. 1) were exceptionally good
73 for those times, they lacked fundamental diagnostic characters, and no characters of
74 males or ephippial females were mentioned. Furthermore, the type material is lost and
75 the original *locus typicus*, a fish pond Mlýnský (Muehlteich) at Malešov village, has
76 been dried out decades ago and the surrounding area forested (Petrušek 2002). The first
77 attempt to review contemporary knowledge on *M. micrura* in Bohemia, its *terra typica*,
78 was published by Šrámek-Hušek (1940), as the validity of Kurz' species was doubted
79 (Wagler, 1937). Šrámek-Hušek (1940) presented a substantial amount of evidence to
80 support the distinct status of the species, based on the ample material collected in the
81 vicinity of the original type locality.

82 Later, due to the apparent intraspecific variability within *M. micrura*, at least three
83 subspecies were described and accepted by specialists. Goulden (1968) in his classic
84 monograph included seven formerly separate species as younger synonyms of *M.*
85 *micrura*, and later, two more were synonymized by Smirnov (1976). Since then, a great
86 confusion has been apparent, and regional faunal books display *M. micrura* descriptions
87 and drawings that do not match each other. For example, Alonso (1996) used Spanish
88 material to illustrate *M. micrura*, but it differs in details, mainly in the thoracopods
89 (second and fifth limb) when compared with the descriptions by Goulden (1968), who
90 studied 28 different populations across the globe, but only one European (from an

91 Italian rice field), or with the recently published cladoceran fauna of Slovakia by Hudec
92 (2010). The latter publication contains a very good morphological description and
93 figures of *M. micrura* s. str. based on Central European material from the Danube basin,
94 and also provides diagnostic characters to distinguish it from a superficially similar
95 species also found in the region, *Moina weismanni* Ishikawa, 1896. Unfortunately,
96 Hudec's description of *M. micrura* does not include all thoracopods and other important
97 details of the shell.

98 *M. micrura*, presumably widely distributed in Europe, has been also recorded from all
99 other continents except Antarctica. In Asia, it has been reported for example in Turkey
100 (Bekleyen *et al.*, 2008), southern China (Li *et al.*, 2012), Malaysia (Idris, 1983) and
101 India (Chatterjee *et al.*, 2013). The last-mentioned authors regarded *Moina dubia*
102 Guerne & Richard, 1892 as a valid species distinct from *M. micrura*. In the American
103 continent, Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.* (2008) compiled the records related to this taxon in
104 Mexico and regarded *M. micrura* as a complex of species even within that single
105 country. Particularly in Brazil, presumed *M. micrura* has been recorded in diverse
106 environments, from freshwaters to a brackish hyper-eutrophic estuary (Paranhos *et al.*,
107 2013; Paranaguá *et al.*, 2005). It has also been reported from Australia (Smirnov *et al.*,
108 1983; but see Petrusek *et al.*, 2004) and from the whole African continent (Dumont *et*
109 *al.*, 1981).

110 As detailed morphology of most branchiopods remains not satisfactory described, it is
111 considered that molecular data could help to understand diversity and phylogeny of this
112 group (DeWaard *et al.*, 2006). In the case of *M. micrura*, as far as we know, at least
113 three studies involved some molecular analyses, but they are partial and do not clarify
114 the taxonomy of this species sufficiently. Petrusek *et al.* (2004) questioned the apparent

115 cosmopolitanism of *M. micrura*, demonstrating by crossing experiments and molecular
116 characters (sequence divergence of the mitochondrial gene for 12S rRNA) a distinctness
117 of *M. micrura* from the Czech Republic (sampled about 90 km from the original type
118 locality) from Australian *M. micrura*-like specimens. However, the genetic comparisons
119 were based only on one clone of both species, and their morphology was not described.
120 Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.* (2008) found in Mexican populations morphologically similar to
121 *M. micrura* three related but distinct lineages based on the DNA barcodes, i.e.,
122 fragments of the cytochrome c oxidase subunit I gene, COI (Hebert *et al.*, 2003a, b).
123 However, they could not compare these lineages with the European populations,
124 because there were no sequences of *M. micrura* from *terra typica* available for this
125 gene, which has become the standard marker for identification of animal species,
126 including crustaceans (Eisched *et al.*, 2016). A recent DNA barcoding-based study
127 uncovered 21 phylogenetic groups of *Moina* within the Palearctic, with at least three
128 clades of *micrura*-like taxa from this region (Bekker *et al.*, 2016).

129 Despite the taxonomical problems, many papers dealing with culture, ecotoxicology,
130 ecology and other topics related to *M. micrura* have been published recently (58 papers
131 are recorded in the Web of Knowledge (Thomson Reuters) between 2010 and 2017),
132 obviously due to a wide range and ubiquity of this taxon. However, many – possibly
133 most – of these studies probably do not deal with *M. micrura* in a strict sense, and
134 consequently results of such studies are not fully comparable.

135 The aim of our study is therefore to establish the identity of *Moina micrura* from its
136 type locality, and to provide a good reference for future comparison and identification
137 of this species. To achieve this, we used an integrative taxonomy approach (Dayrat,
138 2005), combining detailed morphological analyses and additional DNA sequencing. We

139 also provide a short description of differential characters of *Moina weismanni* Ishikawa,
140 1896, as it often co-occurs in ponds with *M. micrura* within its *terra typica* (Petrušek,
141 2002), and their parthenogenetic females are superficially similar. Furthermore, we
142 explored variation in ultrastructure of ephippia, as a potentially highly relevant
143 taxonomic trait (Goulden, 1968; Juračka *et al.*, 2016) in populations of the *Moina*
144 *micrura* complex across the globe, and compared them with several other species of the
145 genus.

146 MATERIAL AND METHODS

147 Field Sampling

148 Material of *Moina micrura* was collected with a plankton (45 µm) and a hand net (90
149 µm) from a small fish pond named Sádka (49.963 N, 15.329 E; area 0.85 ha) situated
150 between Ovčáry and Nové Dvory villages, 4.6 km east from Kutná Hora, in the Czech
151 Republic, very close to the original (now dried up) type locality (Supplementary
152 information Table S1).

153 Material examined

154 All material (see Supplementary information Tables S1 and S2) was preserved with
155 non-denatured ethanol and since 2012, the procedure suggested by Prosser *et al.* (2013)
156 was followed. Samples for intercontinental comparison are from V. Kořínek's collection
157 of Cladocera (www.cladocera-collection.cz) and were originally preserved in 4%
158 formaldehyde solution and stored in 70% ethanol.

159 As *Moina micrura* s. l. is widely distributed, we examined ephippial ultrastructure by
160 scanning electron micrography on the material sampled from various continents,
161 including Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, and Australia (see Supplementary

162 information Table S2) to evaluate morphological variation among populations isolated
163 by large inter-continental distances. However, this variability within the species
164 complex has to be compared also with the material from other well-defined species of
165 the genus to evaluate the extent of interspecific variation. Therefore, we also included in
166 the comparison *M. belli*, *M. brachiata*, *M. macrocopa*, *M. mongolica*, *M. reticulata*, *M.*
167 *tenuicornis*, as well as morphologically clearly distinct but apparently undescribed
168 lineage from Australia (Supplementary information Table S2).

169 **Analyses of the material**

170 *Morphological observations*

171 Specimens were sorted from the ethanol-preserved samples under a stereomicroscope
172 and placed in a drop of a glycerol. Several females were dissected. Whole animals and
173 dissected sections were examined and measured under a differential interference
174 contrast microscope and/or phase contrast microscope. They were morphologically
175 identified following descriptions by several authors (Goulden, 1968; Alonso, 1996;
176 Hudec, 2010).

177 Selected individuals were prepared for scanning electron microscopy (SEM). To
178 remove unwanted biofilm covering surface of studied individuals, examined material
179 was cleaned for 10 minutes with hot 10% potassium hydroxide prior to its dehydration.
180 Dehydration series followed standard graded series of acetone solutions in alcohol 30,
181 50, 70, 80, 90, 95 and 97%, followed by two immersions in 100% acetone. Afterwards,
182 we replaced acetone with the hexamethyldisilazane for 20 minutes and left the material
183 overnight in the desiccator. The dried samples were gold-coated and then observed with
184 JEOL JSM-6380 LV scanning electron microscope at 15 kV. Further details of the

185 methods are described in Juračka *et al.* (2016). Ephippial ultrastructure was always
186 studied above the center of the egg chamber.

187 *Selected molecular markers*

188 As mentioned above, two mitochondrial genes (12S and COI) were selected as
189 molecular markers for this study. A fragment of the gene for 12S rRNA (343 bp) was
190 selected to allow comparison with the previously published sequence of *M. micrura* s.
191 str. by Petrusek *et al.* (2004), and the gene for COI (620 bp) due to its status as a
192 standard barcoding gene in animal kingdom (Hebert *et al.*, 2003; Eischeid *et al.*, 2016),
193 its frequent use to discriminate cladoceran species (Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2008), and its
194 availability for various *Moina* lineages (Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2008; Bekker *et al.*,
195 2016).

196 *DNA isolation, PCR amplification and sequencing*

197 DNA was extracted from whole body homogenates using a mix of Proteinase K with
198 invertebrate lysis buffer and digested overnight at 56°C for material processed before
199 2011. Genomic DNA was subsequently extracted using a membrane-based approach.
200 After 2011, we used the HotShot extraction protocol (Montero-Pau *et al.*, 2008).
201 Approximately 600-658 bp were amplified for the COI using LCO1490 and HCO2198
202 primers (Folmer *et al.*, 1994) and/or ZPLK primers suggested by Prosser *et al.* (2013).
203 The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) reagents used were as follows: 12.5 µL of PCR
204 reaction mix included 6.25 µl of 10% trehalose, 2 µl of distilled deionized water and
205 1.25 µl of 10× PCR buffer for the enzyme Taq Platinum, 0.625 µl of MgCl₂ (50 mM),
206 0.125 µl of each primer, forward and reverse (0.01 mM), 0.0625 µl (10 mM) dNTP mix,
207 0.06 µl Platinum Taq polymerase (5 U/µl), and 2.0 µL of template DNA.

208 The thermocycler program included initial denaturation at 94°C for 1 minute, 5 cycles
209 of 94°C for 40 seconds, 45°C for 40 seconds, 72°C for 1 minute, 35 cycles of 94°C for
210 40 seconds, 51°C for 40 seconds, 72°C for 1 minute, and a final extension at 72°C for 5
211 minutes.

212 For 12S, the PCR reaction mix was identical to that of COI but primers L13337-12S
213 and H13842-12S were used (Machida *et al.*, 2004). The PCR was performed under
214 following conditions: 95°C at 4 min, followed by 40 cycles of 94°C for 45 seconds,
215 60°C for 45 seconds, 72°C for 90 seconds, and the final extension step at 72°C for 6
216 minutes. PCR products were visualized on pre-cast agarose gels (E-Gels©, Invitrogen).
217 They were then sequenced bidirectionally using an ABI 3730 (Applied Biosystems)
218 capillary sequencer using the BigDye® Terminator v.3.1 Cycle Sequencing Kit (Applied
219 Biosystems), as described in Hajibabaei *et al.* (2005).

220 *Sequence analysis*

221 COI sequences obtained in this study (Supplementary information Table S1) were
222 combined with those for *M. micrura* and other members of this genus available in
223 GenBank and Barcode of Life Database (BOLD, boldsystems.org) (Supplementary
224 information Table S1), to examine clade diversity.

225 Alignments and calculations were made with the tools provided by BOLD
226 (Ratnasingham *et al.*, 2007). COI sequences were aligned with BOLD aligner (Amino
227 Acid based HMM) and 12S sequences were aligned with Kalign algorithm (Lassmann
228 *et al.*, 2005). Nucleotide divergence was calculated using the Kimura two-parameter
229 (K2P) algorithm (Kimura, 1980) with complete deletion of gaps and missing data.
230 Neighbour-joining (NJ) trees (Saitou *et al.*, 1987) based on K2P distances (ID Tree)

231 were created to provide a graphic representation of divergence patterns among species
232 and lineages. For COI-based analyses, a sequence of *Moina macrocopa* from Texcoco
233 Lake (Mexico) was used as outgroup; a sequence of *Moina macrocopa* from Kostelec
234 (Czech Republic) was used for the same purpose when analysing 12S sequences (see
235 Supplementary information Table S1).

236 We also performed a maximum likelihood analysis with the MEGA6 software (Tamura
237 *et al.*, 2013). A maximum likelihood tree was constructed using the General Time
238 Reversible model with Gamma distributed and invariant sites (GTR G+I) as the best
239 fitting model of substitution. Gamma distribution was approximated using five rate
240 categories and nearest-neighbour interchange was used as heuristic method for tree
241 inference. Nodal support for the resulting branches was estimated with 1000 bootstrap
242 replications. The subtrees for terminal clades were collapsed for visualization in
243 MEGA6.

244 **Delimitation of groups within the *M. micrura* complex**

245 Molecular operational taxonomic units (OTU's) have frequently been used to infer
246 putative species boundaries where morphological identifications are difficult (Ashfaq *et*
247 *al.*, 2015). We used two approaches to assign the 12S and COI sequences presumably
248 belonging to the *M. micrura* species complex to OTU's: Barcode Index Number (BIN)
249 system (Ratnasingham *et al.*, 2013) and Automatic Barcode Gap Discovery (ABGD;
250 Puillandre *et al.*, 2012). The BIN system uses the Refined Single Linkage (RESL)
251 algorithm to reach decisions on the number of OTU's in a sequence dataset through a
252 three-phased analysis. ABGD employs a multi-phase system which initially divides
253 sequences into OTUs based on a statistically inferred barcode gap (i.e., initial
254 partitioning), and subsequently conducts additional rounds of splitting (i.e., recursive

255 partitioning). The COI and 12S sequences were analyzed with an online version of
256 ABGD (<http://wwwabi.snv.jussieu.fr/public/abgd/abgdweb.html>) using K2P as the
257 distance metric, employing a relative gap (X) of 1.5, a minimal intraspecific distance
258 (Pmin) of 0.001, and a maximal intraspecific distance (Pmax) ranging from 0.02 to 0.1 .

259 **RESULTS**

260 **Sequence analysis**

261 Kimura-2-parameter (K2P) distances among the 12S and COI sequences of putative *M.*
262 *micrura* from various regions ranged from 0 to 11.3% and from 0.27 to 18.09%,
263 respectively (Table 1, A and B). COI gene is less conservative than 12S, hence
264 divergences are bigger. COI sequences with divergences exceeding 3% were considered
265 to belong to different groups (Hebert *et al.*, 2003).

266 Analyzing the results of both genes and using the above-mentioned divergence
267 threshold of 3%, *Moina micrura* s. str. has been confirmed in the Czech Republic, Israel
268 (in this case using the 12S fragment, with 0% divergence) and Kazakhstan (near
269 Ushkempir). The other groups represent nine divergent lineages, potentially cryptic
270 species, of the *M. micrura* complex, the most closely related one originating from
271 Spain.

272

273 **Comparison of 12S and COI sequence variation**

274 The results of the ID tree analysis in BOLD (Fig. S3) and the maximum likelihood
275 method (Figs. 2a, b and S4) were similar for both genes.

276 In the 12S tree (Figs 2a, S4), the first group belongs to the species *M. micrura* s. str., it
277 includes specimens from *terra typica* (Nové Dvory, CZ). The specimen sequenced by
278 Petrussek *et al.* (2004) from a sandpit near Dobříň (CZ) (Supplementary information
279 Table S1) was grouped together with these, as well as specimens from Slovakia and
280 Israel, in the same way as in the BOLD Id tree (Fig. S3). The closest relative to this
281 clade is *M. cf. micrura* 1 ES from Spain. The second group forms a consistent cluster
282 and is apparently restricted to Spain (ES). The two next groups which include sequences
283 from Ethiopia (ET) and Australia (AU) are singletons, so further sequencing is needed
284 to assess the distribution and variation within these groups. The fourth group is another
285 species of the *micrura*-complex, occurring in sympatry with *M. cf. micrura* 1 ES in the
286 Albufera of Valencia lake (Spain). Next cluster groups together a sequence from
287 Hungary (HU) and another from Zahillo, South Spain (*M. cf. micrura* 3 ES).

288 The COI tree (Figs 2b, S4), which allowed us to compare sequences of other parts of the
289 world, included eleven groups that were recognized as distinct OTUs by both BIN and
290 ABGD approaches. This wider comparison gave related results (comparable to those of
291 Bekker *et al.*, 2016): the first group is *Moina micrura* s. str. and include sequences from
292 the Czech Republic and Kazakhstan. The nearest group, as in 12S tree, is the cluster
293 represented by the Spanish *Moina cf. micrura* 1 ES. The remaining nine groups are
294 possibly distinct species, each with a geographically restricted distribution. The
295 localities where *Moina micrura* s. str. can be found according to our results are shown
296 in figure 3.

297 Molecular analyses thus confirm that *Moina micrura* s. l. is a diverse group of species,
298 with *M. micrura* s. str. apparently restricted only to a limited region of the Old World,
299 probably western part of the Palearctic region only. However, before any nomenclatural

300 act is taken to describe all these presumably new cryptic species or resurrect old names
301 at present considered synonymous to *M. micrura*, it is necessary a complete and adequate
302 morphological description of *Moina micrura* s. str. Because of this reason, we provide
303 in the next part a detailed description of *M. micrura* s. str. from *terra typica*

304 **Redescription of *Moina micrura* Kurz, 1875**

305 Synonymy uncertain

306 Neotype: adult parthenogenetic female from Sádka pond stained with lignin pink and
307 chlorazol black E; mounted in Canada balsam.

308 Type locality: Czech Republic, fish pond Sádka, at Nové Dvory village, NE of Kutná
309 Hora, 49.963 N, 15.329 E. Repeated sampling from 2002 to 2015 & laboratory culture
310 of specimens collected in the same pond (A. Petrušek & M. Miracle lgt.).

311 - Distribution of specimens from “*terra typica*” (watershed of the Elbe River in
312 Central Europe) among museums:

313 - National museum, Natural history collections, Prague:

- 314 1. One permanent mount of a *Moina micrura* Kurz, 1875 female – *neotype*
315 specimen. Stained with a mixture of lignin pink & chlorazol black E and
316 mounted in Canada balsam. Sádka Pond, Kutná Hora, Nové Dvory. 27.6.2002.
317 A. Petrušek legit. Cat. Nr. P6E 4160
- 318 2. Four permanent mounts stained and mounted as above, specimens collected in
319 the same locality. Cat. Nr. P6E 4161 & P6E 4162 (zooplankton sample) and cat.
320 Nr. P6E 4163 (females) & P6E 4164 (males). Laboratory culture.
- 321 3. One permanent mount of *Moina micrura* from Upper Školní Pond, near
322 Chabařovice. 8.8.2004. K. Pilařová legit; stained as above, mounted in Hydro-
323 Matrix synthetic water miscible resin. P6E 4165.

324 4. One permanent mount of *Moina micrura* from a sand pit at Dobříň, Roudnice
325 nad Labem. 19.9.1999. A. Petrusek legit. Specimens cleared in hot lactic acid,
326 stained as above, mounted in Canada balsam. P6E 4166.

327 5. One vial with zooplankton sample from the neotype locality, 27.6.2002, A.
328 Petrusek legit. Preserved in 70% ethanol. The species *Moina micrura*
329 predominant, *Moina weismanni* Ishikawa, 1896 accessory. P6E 4169.

330 - Natural History Museum UK, London

331 1. One vial with zooplankton sample from the neotype locality, 27.6.2002. A.
332 Petrusek legit. Preserved in 70% ethanol Cat. Nr. NHMUK 2017.38-47

333

334 **Diagnosis**

335 *Parthenogenetic female*

336 With round body, dorsum of valves elevated behind head when embryos present,
337 convex or slightly straight in posterior part, no hairs on head and valves. Head with
338 marked supraocular depression, no rostrum; ocellus without pigment. Denticles at
339 posterior margin of valves organized in groups, each group with 7-10 elements
340 increasing in size posteriorly. Postabdomen with row of 4-5 scale-like teeth fringed with
341 row of marginal setae, and bident tooth with distal branch always significantly longer
342 than proximal branch. Row of fine setae at the base of bident. Three groups of denticles
343 and setules (pectens) on outer face of postabdominal claw; basal and middle pectens
344 consisting of 4-5 and 8-12 strong thick spines, respectively, arranged fan-like; distal
345 pecten with fine spinules. Basal and middle pectens often fused in continuous row.
346 Antennule rod-like, with line of long setules on posterior face and sensory seta in
347 middle, groups of minute spines with variable arrangements. Antenna with two coxal
348 sensory setae, one short and other long reaching nearly to top of basal segment. Basal

349 segment with minute distal spine on dorsal face, and remarkably long distal sensory seta
350 on ventral face. Thoracopod I (Th1) with inner distal lobe (IDL) bearing a single strong
351 anterior seta and 2 posterior soft setae. Endite 3 (= "penultimate segment") with anterior
352 seta, endite 1 with three posterior setae and two ejector hooks, one large and other
353 small.

354 *Ehippial female*

355 Ehippium with one egg. Free ehippium from lateral aspect broadly rounded
356 anteriorly, posteriorly slightly tapering. Ehippium with robust dorsal ridge, its surface
357 covered with hexagonal pattern.

358 *Male*

359 Body elongated. Dorsal margin nearly straight or feebly convex. Head small, wedge-
360 like; filled up by optic vesicle. Ocellus without pigmentation. Ventral face slightly
361 convex with antennule inserted laterally. Antennule long, apical sensory setae relatively
362 long, two more setae (male seta and a sensillum) near first third of antennule. Four
363 apical hook-like spines of different sizes. Trunk thoracopod I with a long, curved
364 copulatory hook, its tip with two small claw-like projections and wart-like outgrow near
365 inner base of its curvature. Large basal part of hook rounded and covered with dense
366 mat of short bristles. Postabdomen with row of 4 plumose teeth and bident tooth, length
367 of both branches of bident as in female. Row of fine setae at base of bident. Pectens on
368 outer face of postabdominal claw as in female. Group of three oblique denticles near
369 base of claw on the ventral side. Lateral gonopores situated on each side of
370 postabdomen close to respective proximal-most plumose teeth.

371

372 **Detailed description**

373 *Adult parthenogenetic female* (Fig. 4A)

374 Length: 0.44-0.76 mm (n=25). Body nearly rounded in lateral aspect, high (body height
375 to length ratio 0.54-0.68), maximum height in middle-posterior portion, depending on
376 number of embryos. Dorsum of valves strongly convex, projected much higher than
377 head, almost straight in posterior part, dorsal depression between head and rest of body
378 present. Postero-dorsal angle well-marked, rounded. Posterior margin more or less
379 straight, continuing into widely convex ventral margin. No sculpture on surface of
380 valves. No cuticular hairs on head and valves, without dorsal keel. Live animals are
381 whitish in colour.

382 Head – relatively large, rounded, without any rostral projection; with marked supra-
383 ocular depression and large compound eye. Optical vesicle contiguous with prominent
384 top of head. Ventral margin depressed under compound eye and bulging at level of
385 antennules. Ocellus without visible pigmentation or with few grains of pigment (Fig.
386 4A, B).

387 Labrum – with fleshy main body, its ventral margin slightly convex.

388 1st maxilla – with three long strongly curved setae and one short stump-like outgrow, all
389 with secondary setules.

390 Mandible – with asymmetrical, bifurcated anchoring projection.

391 Antennule (A1) – rod-like, about four times longer than wide, almost cylindrical, with
392 transverse rows of scattered denticles on anterior face and row of long setules on
393 posterior face (Fig. 4P). Antennular sensory seta conical, elongated, arising

394 approximately in middle of lateral face. Distal tip bordered with small thick spinules.
395 Nine short aesthetascs, two of them slightly longer. Tip of each aesthetasc with small
396 projections giving an aspect of crown.
397 Antenna (A2) – coxal part with two setulated sensory setae, one long reaching up to $\frac{3}{4}$
398 of basal segment length, the other short and thin (Fig. 4N). Basal segment robust, with
399 distal spine at dorsal face as long as first segment of 4-segmented antennal branch; long
400 distal sensory seta on ventral face (Fig. 4O). Transverse rows of numerous, minute
401 spinules on surface. Antennal branches elongated, 4-segmented exopodite slightly
402 shorter than 3-segmented endopodite, all segments cylindrical, with rows of minute
403 spinules and rows of long and thin setae. Antennal formula: setae 0-0-1-3/1-1-3, spines
404 0-1-0-1/1-0-1. Three long, apical swimming setae on both antennal branches, all with
405 basal and distal segments bilaterally armed with fine, long setules. Lateral seta on third
406 segment of dorsal branch with similar armature. Basal and distal lateral setae of ventral
407 branch armed in another manner: basal segments unilaterally setulated and distal ones
408 asymmetrically setulated. Spine on first endopodite segment short, like apical spines.
409 Valves – large, sub-ovoid, with row of 14 to 16 setae along anterior ventral margin (Fig.
410 4A). Posterior part with row of marginal denticles, organized in groups of 7-10,
411 increasing in size distally within each group. Denticles in posterior most margin form
412 uniform row. Two posterior hooks supporting postabdominal setae (*setae natatoriae*)
413 present.

414 Thoracopods (Th)

415 Th1 (Fig. 5A) – distal lobe or endite 4 with single anterior thicker seta, bearing short
416 setules and two soft setae. Endite 3 with short, strong, single anterior seta, bearing
417 noticeable lateral spinule-like projections in both sides, and single long and strong

418 posterior seta. Endite 2 with two posterior setae. Endite 1 with three posterior setae.
419 Two ejector hooks of remarkably different sizes. No maxillary process on limb base.

420 Th2 (Figs 4T-V, 5B-D) – with large cylindrical lobe bearing long apical seta, its distal
421 part regularly setulated. Distal endite with two setulated setae, other two endites with
422 only one setulated seta each. One small seta near gnathobase plate (Fig. 5B, D),
423 followed anteriorly by small hook-like outgrow (Fig. 5I). Rest of gnathobase margin
424 with row of setae arranged fan-like. Posterior-most long single seta and neighboring
425 more anteriorly located, long seta separated by large gap. Both unilaterally setulated
426 with long peg-like setules facing proximally; posterior-most seta setulated along its
427 whole length, neighbouring seta on distal portion only. Above-mentioned two long setae
428 followed by row of 10 to 12 gradually shortening and curved setae. Fan-like
429 arrangement of setae is closed by group of three anterior brush-like setae, curved
430 proximally with unilateral setulation facing distally, posterior one strongly reduced.
431 Two shorter and thick setae with apical setulation inserted parallel to group of three
432 anterior-most setae (Fig. 4T, V and a-I in Fig. 5B). Fan-like setation is arranged in two
433 planes. Two long posterior setae plus two thick anterior *sensilla* and anterior brush-like
434 seta in ventral plane, remaining setae in dorsal plane (Fig. 4V and Fig. 5B, C).

435 Th3 – exopodite large, flat, with four distal setae (c-f in Fig. 5E) and two short proximal
436 setae, one short and one long (a and b in Fig. 5E), all of them bilaterally setulated. Inner
437 distal portion with three endites. Endite 3 with single anterior seta (3 in Fig. 5E); endite
438 2 with one anterior and one posterior seta (2, and arrow in Fig. 5E). Endite 1, with one
439 anterior seta (1, in Fig. 5E). Rest of endopodite with 28-29 soft setae (Fig. 5E).

440 Th4 (Figs 5G) – exopodite like Th3, but more elongated (Fig. 5F), with four long setae
441 (c-f in Fig. 5F) in distal part and two setae in proximal part, one short and other long (a-

442 b in Fig. 5F). Inner distal portion of thoracopod with two endites: endite 1 with long
443 articulated and bisetulated seta. Endite 2 with two long setulated setae (Fig. 5G). Filter
444 plate with 20-22 setae (Fig. 5G).

445 Th5 – with large ovoid lobe, with setulated margin, large distal seta and small proximal
446 seta, both bi-setulated (Fig. 4S and 5H). Inner thoracopod portion with elongated lobe
447 with long setulae followed by two setae (1-2 in Fig. 5H).

448 Postabdomen – elongated, conically narrowing distally. Ventral margin almost straight,
449 with numerous rows of minute setules in transversal rows (Fig. 4Q). Large anus located
450 closer to base of postabdomen than to its distal extremity, preanal margin long, straight.
451 Post-anal part tapering to claws. Preanal angle not well expressed. Laterally, row of 4-5
452 large, triangular teeth, fringed with marginal setules. Rows of setules on distal portion
453 continue along base of bident tooth; distal branch of bident tooth significantly longer
454 than proximal branch.

455 *Setae natatoriae* longer than postabdomen; basal part naked, distal part with two rows
456 of fine setules (Fig. 1).

457 Postabdominal claw slightly curved, with sharp, pointed tip (Fig. 4Q, R). Two
458 successive pectens along dorsal margin: basal pecten consisting of 5 to 8 slender spines
459 huddled together, followed by middle pecten of 8-12 strong, thick spines diverging to
460 both sides in fan-like arrangement; distal pecten consisting of smaller spines forming
461 row from mid-claw to naked tip. Basal and middle pectens fused in some individuals.
462 Uniform row of setules along inner face of claw. 4-7 large denticles on ventral margin,
463 near base of claw.

464

465 *Ephippial female* (Figs 4B, D-G):

466 Ephippium broadly rounded, tapering only slightly in posterior part. Central part over
467 egg chamber embossed. Dorsal ridge strongly sclerotized. Lateral surface with marked
468 hexagonal reticulated pattern (Fig.4F). Ultrastructure of ephippial surface
469 (magnification up to 1000x – 2000x) formed by complex structure of polygons
470 interlocked with many thin tentacle-like projections of various length. Some projections
471 cover also inner surface of polygons (Fig. 4G).

472 *Male*

473 Body – smaller than female, body length 0.45-0.54 mm (n=10), more elongated as
474 compared to female (Fig. 4C). Dorsal margin of valves almost straight, postero-dorsal
475 angle clearly distinct. Antero-ventral portion of valves fringed with long, thin setules.
476 Denticles along posterior margin more distinct than in female, arranged in groups
477 similarly.

478 Head – more elongated than in female, rostrum absent, labrum less fleshy than that of
479 female. Optical vesicle fills top of head. No trace of pigment in ocellus.

480 Antennule – long, antennular sensory seta relatively long, male seta and sensillum
481 inserted in first third of antennule. Nine aesthetascs and three to four hooks of distinct
482 size and orientation, with bifurcated tips, present distally (Figs 4H, I).

483 Antenna – similar in armature to female. Distal margin of all segments with row of
484 thick, short spinules.

485 Carapace surface without any hairs or setules (Fig. 4J).

486 Th1 – with thick copulatory hook, its tip with two spinules, endite 4 (IDL) with four
487 setae, endite 3 with one seta. Basal part short and rounded (width:length ratio about
488 1:1), with row of stout bristles on ventral face. Small wart-like outgrow at inner base of
489 hook (Figs 4K,L).

490 Postabdomen – as in female, shorter, with about 4-5 setulated teeth, distalmost tooth
491 thin and with sharp tip. Distal bident tooth as in female. About 4-5 teeth in basal pecten
492 of postabdominal claw, up to 10 in middle pecten (arranged fan-like) and 5-7 on dorsal
493 side at basal part of claw (Fig. 4R). Gonopores in lateral position situated close to
494 proximal triangular tooth (Fig. 4M).

495 **Differential diagnosis**

496 Within *terra typica*, the species *Moina micrura* may be confused probably with only
497 one other species: *Moina weismanni* Ishikawa, 1896 (Figs 6A, B). Both species
498 frequently co-occur in the same habitats and their parthenogenetic females look
499 superficially similar. The list of easily recognized individual characters which
500 differentiate *M. weismanni* from *M. micrura* are listed in Tab. 2. Full differential
501 diagnosis from other members of the *micrura*-like species complex requires detailed
502 systematic revision of populations from other biogeographic regions and the lineages
503 detected by molecular methods.

504

505 **Intercontinental and interspecific comparison of *Moina* ehippial ultrastructure**

506 Specific ultrastructure on the ehippial surface from the *terra typica* (Fig. 4G), irregular
507 hexagonal pillow-like cells, observed on the material from the Sádka pond, is
508 morphologically similar to the structure observed on the material from other European

509 localities (see Supplementary information Table S2). However, we did not observe such
510 structure on any of the *M. micrura* s. l. material from Africa, Asia, South America or
511 Australia (Fig. 7A-H), whose ephippial structures vary from very flat hexagonal porous
512 patterns (e.g., Figs 7C, H) to well delineated polygonal shapes (Fig. 7G). Ephippial
513 ultrastructure of other *Moina* species (Fig. 8A-H) was even more variable, ranging from
514 almost smooth surfaces (Figs 8A, B) to rounded cells (Figs 8G, H) or even prominent
515 protuberances (Fig. 6E).

516 **DISCUSSION**

517 *Moina micrura* has been one of the most poorly defined cladoceran species, recorded
518 under that name in almost any part of the world from the temperate regions to the
519 tropics. Even worse, animals identified as *M. micrura* have been widely used as models
520 for culturing or as ecotoxicology biomarkers. Results of studies employing this taxon,
521 however, cannot be directly compared or replicated, as mentioned in the introduction.
522 There was thus an urgent need to establish the correct assignment for *M. micrura* as a
523 valid species, including the neotype, genetic analyses and detailed morphological
524 description of all forms within the life cycle.

525 According to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) (2000),
526 designation of a neotype is justified when there is an exceptional need to clarify the
527 taxonomy of a species (as is the case when several poorly defined sibling species exist),
528 or when there is a reasonable certainty that the original type material does not exist. In
529 case of *M. micrura*, both these conditions are met. Our search for the type material of
530 *M. micrura* was unsuccessful. Kurz's original samples or specimens are not available
531 either in the National Museum in Prague (curator's personal communication, P. Dolejš,
532 2014) or in Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien (curator P. Dworschak, 2015), which

533 would be most likely institutions for depositing types of animal species described in the
534 19th century from Bohemia.

535 Considering the documented existence of several genetically well-defined lineages, so
536 far labelled as *Moina micrura*, it is necessary to establish the neotype and the new type
537 locality as a reference for future studies. We chose the new type locality as close as
538 possible from the original one studied by Kurz (1875). However, typical *M. micrura*
539 localities in *terra typica*, the watersheds of the Elbe and Danube rivers, are fish ponds
540 and other relatively small water bodies with rapidly changing environments. Therefore,
541 it is highly probable that many present-day *Moina* populations will disappear or re-
542 occur in the near future. Hence, we added some more localities from *terra typica* as a
543 comparative material.

544 Despite rapidly changing natural environments of Europe, we managed to collect *M.*
545 *micrura* no more than 10 km from the Kurz's original type locality. Petrussek *et al.*
546 (2004) used material located about 90 km from the *locus typicus*; to confirm the
547 conspecificity of our population, we sequenced the gene for 12S rRNA originally studied
548 by Petrussek *et al.* (2004). Both studied Czech populations indeed belonged to the same
549 species, and thus provide a solid base for future comparisons.

550 The geographical distribution of *M. micrura* s. str. remains unclear, but the available
551 data (base on both genetic analyses and morphological comparisons) suggest that this
552 species is restricted to Europe and the western part of the Palearctic. Apart from Central
553 Europe, genetic data confirmed the presence of the same lineage also in the Middle East
554 (Israel) and Central Asia (Kazakhstan). Molecular analyses nevertheless showed that
555 within Eurasia, numerous other lineages, presumably species, of the *M. micrura*
556 complex reside (Bekker *et al.*, 2016; this study), this is also true for Europe alone where

557 distinct lineages were detected in Hungary or Spain. Sequenced American (Elías-
558 Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2008; Prosser *et al.*, 2013) and Australian populations (Petrušek *et al.*,
559 2004) compared with all Eurasian sequences indicate that they are all distinct species as
560 well, with K2P divergences at COI or 12S exceeding 13% and 8%, respectively. The
561 distinctness of divergent clades of the complex are also supported by a hybridization
562 experiment that demonstrated an apparent reproductive isolation between European and
563 Australian clones (Petrušek *et al.*, 2004).

564 A detailed redescription of morphology of *M. micrura* s.str. presented here provides a
565 necessary step for detangling of this rich species complex. Furthermore, we highlight a
566 potential importance of ephippial ultrastructure for *Moina* taxonomy. This feature that
567 was for long suspected as taxonomically relevant: Goulden (1966) suggested the
568 possibility that the structure of the ephippial surface in *Moina* is crucial in the male
569 selection of the partner during mating, and is thus species specific. As available
570 identification keys cover only partially up to date known members of the family
571 Moinidae, we have selected 15 gamogenetic populations of *Moina micrura* s.l. from
572 available samples collected on different continents, in which ephippia were present. To
573 assess further the diversity of ephippial ultrastructures within the genus *Moina*, we
574 added SEM pictures of nine additional species distinct from *micrura*-like populations
575 (Figs. 7 and 8). Comparison of the ephippial surfaces revealed several distinct patterns
576 of ornamentation. None of them resembles that of *Moina micrura* Kurz, 1875 and the
577 feature seems to be a good differential character in species identification. Such
578 substantial variation in the ephippial ultrastructure seems to support the Goulden's
579 original hypothesis, although the potential role of this morphological character feature
580 in establishing or maintenance of reproductive barriers between *Moina* species needs
581 testing. In any case, these apparently species-specific characteristics of *Moina* ephippia

582 open a possibility to develop keys for their routine identification in various limnological
583 projects.

584 Most of above-mentioned morphological traits have not been described before, at least
585 for the *micrura* complex. Future analysis of them is recommendable, to understand the
586 evolution, adaptation and success of these organisms in different regions of the world.

587 Any detailed study of these complexes also requires a detailed knowledge of the males
588 and ephippial female morphology, because these often present more relevant species-
589 specific traits to recognize the species than parthenogenetic females (as also shown for,
590 e.g., *Daphnia*; Juračka *et al.*, 2010; Popova *et al.*, 2016). Although gamogenetic
591 populations may occur only sporadically in the field, there is a possibility to induce
592 sexual individuals in a laboratory culture, including hormonal stimulation to obtain
593 males (Kim *et al.*, 2006).

594 Combining detailed studies of morphology, with distribution data and molecular
595 markers have been very useful to detangle complex groups of sibling species (Popova *et*
596 *al.*, 2016). The *M. micrura* complex would deserve a similar treatment in the future,
597 redescription of *M. micrura* s. str. should only be the beginning.

598 Sequences from the COI gene will likely play a useful role in future identifications, as
599 molecular techniques are becoming widespread even in routine biodiversity surveys and
600 limnological projects. Unfortunately, in most cases when possible hidden taxa of
601 cladocerans are uncovered by molecular tools, no nomenclatural act is realized, often
602 due to the lack of reference material to compare (e.g., Elías-Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2008), or
603 due the focus of the study different to taxonomy (e.g., Xu *et al.*, 2016). However, to
604 foster further research and appropriately recognize the diversity of groups in question in
605 other biological fields (e.g., ecotoxicology), formally naming well-defined lineages,
606 even cryptic species, should be considered (Fišer *et al.*, 2018).

607

608 **CONCLUSIONS**

609 We can conclude that *Moina micrura s. str.* is distributed at least from Central Europe
610 (with *terra typica* in the Czech Republic) to Central Asia (Kazakhstan) but it seems to
611 overlap in distribution with other related species (as a genetically distinct lineage has
612 been detected in Hungary). *Moina cf. micrura* from Albufera Lake in Spain and Sobrón
613 reservoir possibly is another, not yet described species that requires further attention. Is
614 clear that European *Moina micrura s. str.* is distinct from analyzed populations from
615 North and South America, Australia, Africa, Korea or Russia. The *M. micrura*-like
616 populations from American continent are a complex of species, consisting of at least
617 five distinct lineages that also require further, more detailed analyses. We hope this
618 work, based on integrative taxonomy, establishes a baseline for future comparisons of
619 *M. micrura s. str.* with other members of this complex, in order to facilitate its critical
620 revision and the delimitation of species within.

621

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638

639

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- 779

780 **Table 1. Genetic divergences (K2P) among the 12S (A) and COI (B) sequences for**
781 ***M. micrura* s.l.** All divergences are calculated as comparisons to *M. micrura* s. str. from
782 the fishpond Sádka at Nové Dvory, i.e., a locality from which a neotype was selected.
783 *Needs a revision to evaluate its distinctness or conspecificity with *M. micrura* s. str.
784 **Only one sequence is available.

785 (A)

| Country | Locality (clade) | 12S divergence |
|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Czech Republic | Sádka | 0 |
| | Dobříň | 0.19 |
| | Ovčáry | 0 |
| Spain | Albufera lake (1 ES) | 1.32* |
| | Sobron reservoir (1 ES) | 1.32* |
| | Albufera lake (2 ES) | 8.96 |
| | Zahillo (3 ES) | 11.31 |
| Israel | Kinneret | 0 |
| Ethiopia | Dibdibo | 6.46 |
| Slovakia | Hrhov | 0.19 |
| Hungary | Czista Puszta | 10.22 |
| Australia | Albury | 8.95 |

786 (B)

| Country (lineage) | COI Divergence | |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | Min Dist (%) | Max Dist (%) |
| Czech Republic | 0** | 0** |
| Kazakhstan | 0.46 | 0.46 |
| Spain (1 ES) | 4.64 | 4.64 |
| India | 11.58 | 11.58 |
| Spain (2 ES) | 15.34 | 15.34 |
| Russia | 17.68 | 18.09 |
| South Korea, Russia, Hungary | 15.99 | 15.99 |
| Mexico (MX 1) | 15.24 | 16.37 |
| Mexico (MX 2) | 15.11 | 15.46 |
| Mexico (MX 3) | 13.28 | 14.30 |
| Mexico (MX 4) | 14.70 | 14.70 |
| Mexico (MX 5) | 13.52 | 13.52 |

787 **Table 2.** Differential diagnosis between *Moina micrura* Kurz and *Moina weismanni*

788 Ishikawa

| Character | <i>Moina micrura</i> | Fig. | <i>Moina weismanni</i> | Fig. |
|---|--|-------------|---|-------------|
| <i>Female</i> | | | | |
| Shape of antenna I. | straight | 4P | curved | 6M |
| Spines in middle pecten on postabdominal claw | short, robust; 1:4 *) | 4R | long, slender; 1:11-12*) | 6L |
| Ephippial surface | reticulated | 4F | distinctly raised knobs | 6C,D |
| Ephippial ultrastructure (SEM) | polygons interlocked with many tentacle-like projections | 4G | distinct knobs without projections | 6E |
| <i>Male</i> | | | | |
| Anterior surface of carapace | Naked | 4J | covered with dense “fur” of short hairs | 6J |
| Length of basal part of antennule | about 1/3 of its length | 4H | About 1/5 of its length | 6F |
| Setae along anterior ventral margin | about same length | 4J | growing in length distally | 6K |
| 1 st thoracopod | short basal part (without hook); 1:1 *) | 4K,L | long basal part; 1:2 *) | 6H,I |
| | hook robust | 4K | hook feebly developed | 6H |
| | small outgrow at base of hook | 4K | broad scale-like seta at base of hook | 6H |

789 *) Ratio width:length (width of spines in pecten measured at their base)

790 **Figure 1.** *Moina micrura* drawn by Kurz (1875) in the original species description.

791 **Figure 2. Maximum Likelihood trees of the *M. micrura* complex.** Bootstrap values
792 (1000 replicates) are shown above the branches. The scale bar shows K2P distances.

793 The node for each clade with multiple specimens is collapsed, expanded tree is found as
794 supplementary material S4. Bracketed numbers next to each group name indicate the
795 number of individuals analyzed. A. Represents 29 sequences of 12S gene. *M.*
796 *macrocopa* from the Czech Republic was used as an outgroup. B. Represents 148 COI
797 sequences from the *M. micrura* complex. In this case *M. macrocopa* from Mexico was
798 used as an outgroup.

799 **Figure 3.** Distribution of *Moina micrura* s. str. based on the genetic analyses of the
800 genes for 12S rRNA and COI.

801 **Figure 4. Morphological features of *Moina micrura* s.str.** Specimens were sampled at
802 three localities in the Czech Republic: fishpond Sádka at Nové Dvory (27th June 2002,
803 images A, B, C, F, G, I, Q, R, S, T, U & V), fishpond Školní at Chabařovice (2nd
804 August 2004, images D, E, H, J, K, M & N), and flooded sandpit near Dobříň (5th
805 October 1999, image P). A-C: light microscope, focus stacked images. A) Adult
806 parthenogenetic female. B) Adult ephippial female. C) Adult male. D-R: SEM. D) Adult
807 ephippial female in the dorsal view. E) Adult ephippial female in lateral view. F) Free
808 ephippium in the lateral view. G) Free ephippium ultrastructure detail. H) Adult male,
809 head in the ventral view. I) Adult male, tips of first antennae (detail). J) Adult male,
810 ventral carapace margin. K) Adult male, 1st thoracopod, arrow indicates small outgrow
811 at base of the hook. L) Adult male, first thoracopod. M) Adult male, postabdomen,
812 arrow indicates gonopore. N) Ephippial female, basipodite of second antenna. O)
813 Ephippial female, second antenna. P) Adult female, first antenna. Q) Adult female,
814 postabdomen. R) Adult female, base of postabdominal claw with pectens. S) Adult

815 female, 5th thoracopode. T) Adult female, 2nd thoracopode. U) Adult female, 2nd
816 thoracopode. V) Adult female, 2nd thoracopode gnathobase.

817 **Figure 5. Thoracic limbs of female of *Moina micrura* s.str.** (drawings based on
818 individuals from Sádka pond at Nové Dvory). A: Th1 general view; B: Th2 general
819 view; C: Th2 – anterior setae; D: Th2 – detail of the seta; E: Th3 general view; F: Th4,
820 gnathobase; G: Th4, exopod; H: Th5, general view; I: Th2, detail of the sensilia.

821 **Figure 6. Morphological features of *Moina weismanni*.** Specimens sampled at
822 Radíkovice, Czech Republic (3rd July 1957, images A & B) and at Krasnodar, Russia
823 (21st July 1952, all other images). A-B: light microscope, focus stacked images. A)
824 Adult female in the lateral view. B) Adult male in the lateral view. C-M: SEM. C)
825 Adult ephippial female in the lateral view. D) Ephippial female in the dorsal view. E)
826 Ephippium ultrastructure of the ephippial female. F) Adult male, first antennae (detail of
827 tips in inset). G) Adult male, basipodite of first antenna. H) Adult male, 5th thoracopode
828 in ventral aspect. I) Adult male, 5th thoracopode in dorsal aspect. J) Adult male, ventral
829 carapace margin and postabdomen. K) Adult female, carapace ventral margin. L) Adult
830 female, claw. M) Adult female, first antennae.

831 **Figure 7. Intercontinental comparison of ephippial ultrastructure of *Moina micrura* s.l.**
832 *Ephippia* were mostly positioned in the ephippial female (with the exception a free
833 ephippium in M), all images are of the same magnification. A) Costa Rica (18th May
834 1981). B) Bordo ala Colorado, Aguascalientes, Mexico (18th January 1989). C) Lima,
835 Lima Campos, Ceara, Brazil (23rd May 1989). D) Relfs, NSW, Australia (25th January
836 1968). E) Lake Albufera, Valencia, Spain (2015). F) Mwanza, Tanzania (7th April
837 1985). G) Borena, Oromia, Ethiopia (1st October 1983). H) Jabaddi Ludhiana, Punjab,
838 India (13th September 1977).

839 **Figure 8.** Variation of ephippial ultrastructure among different *Moina* species images
840 are from the same magnification. A) Bač, Slovakia (27 July 1954). B) North Victoria
841 highways, Australia (5th February 1982). C) Avis Dam, Namibia (27th April 1972). D)
842 Yihe Modoto, Mongolia (6th September 1988). E) Schantrapay, Russia (26th July
843 1974). F) Lago Jecateringa, Brazil (2nd 1980). G) Alexandria, Australia (26th
844 September 1973). H) Komárno, Slovakia (27th July 1954).

845 **Supporting Information**

846 S1 Table. Localities, GPS Coordinates, BOLD Sample ID, GenBank accession numbers
847 and sequenced gen for *Moina micrura* complex in this study

848 S2 Table. Material examined

849 S4 Figure. 12S and COI ID Tree

850 S6 Figure. 12S and COI ML expanded Tree

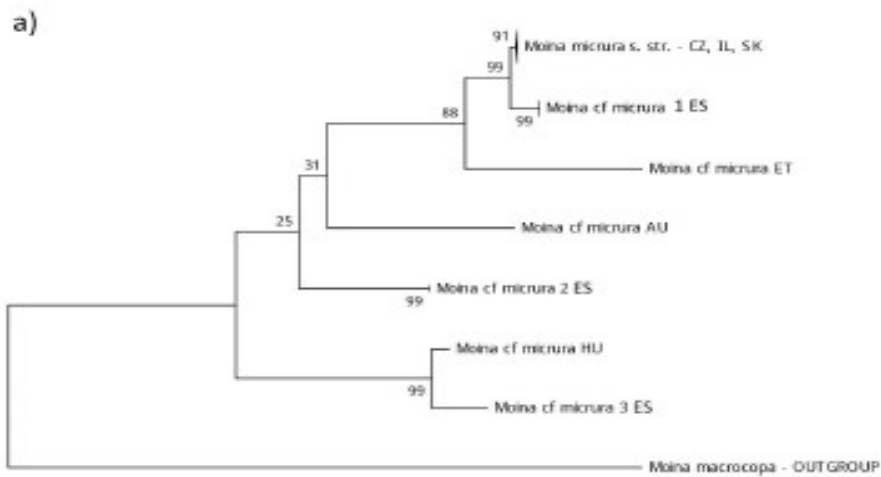
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852 Fig. 1

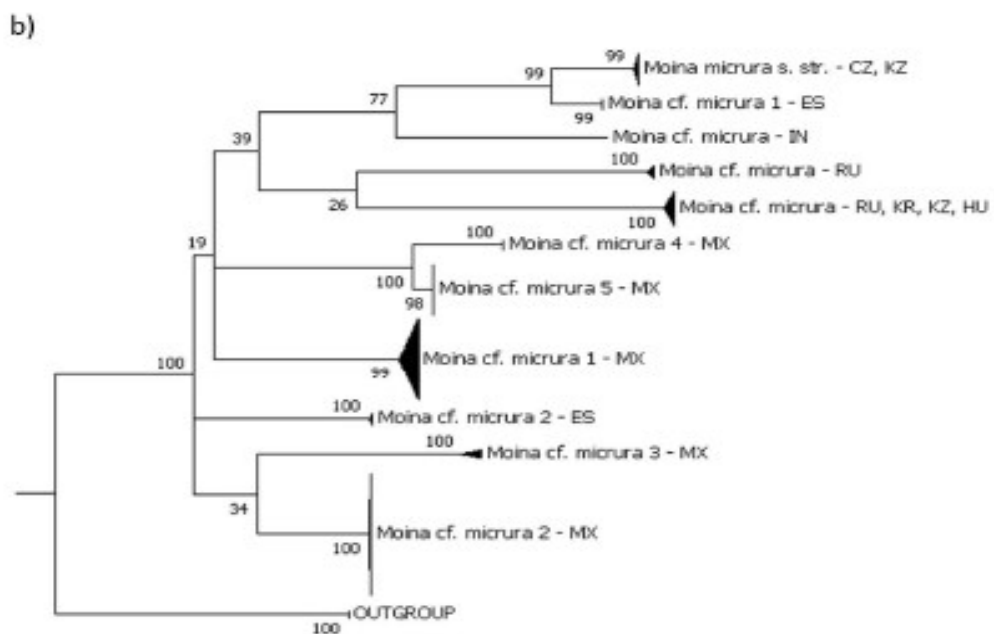


853

854 Fig. 2

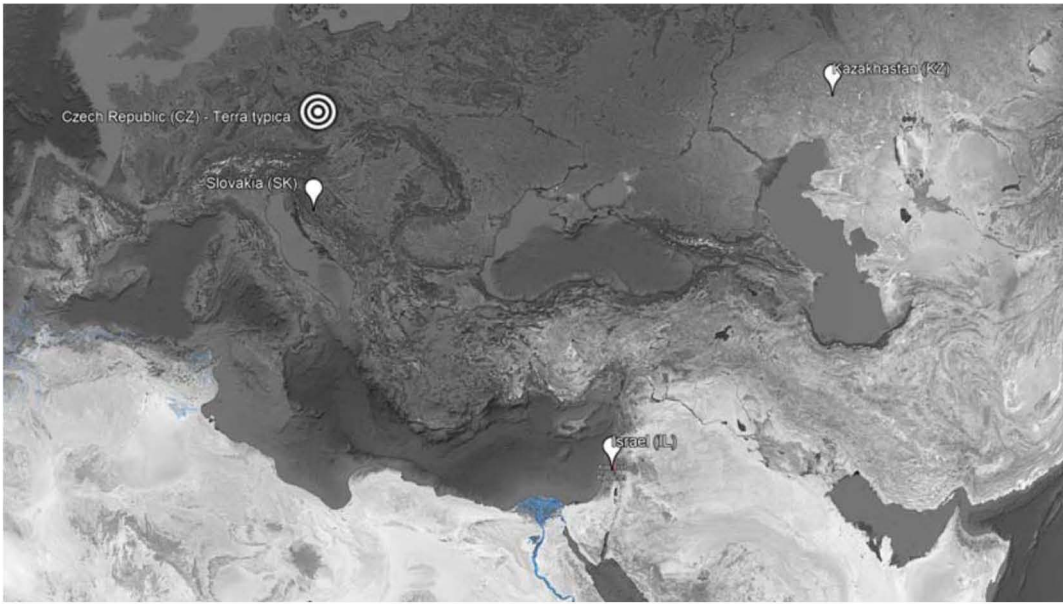


0.05



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868 Fig. 3



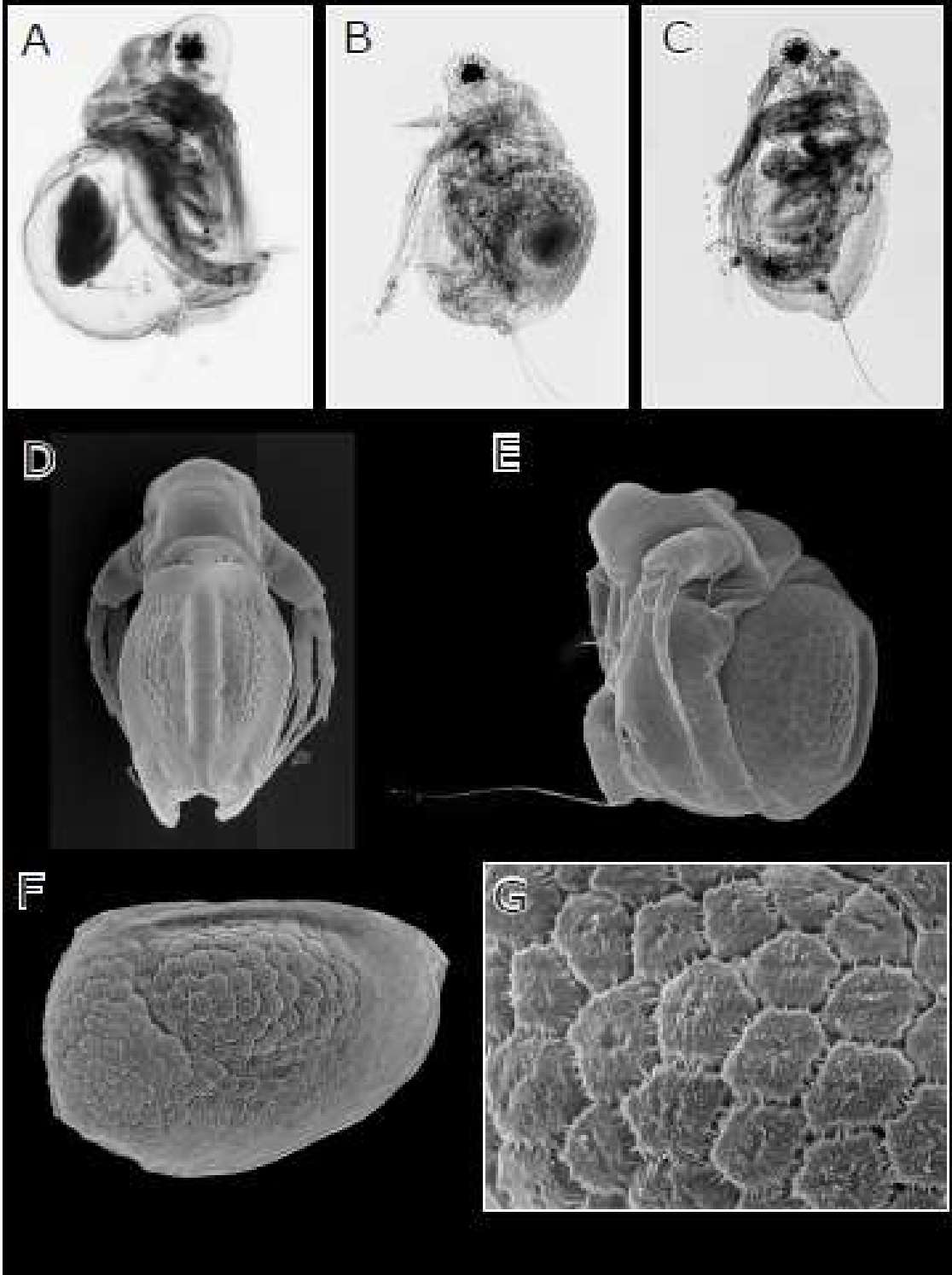
869

870

871

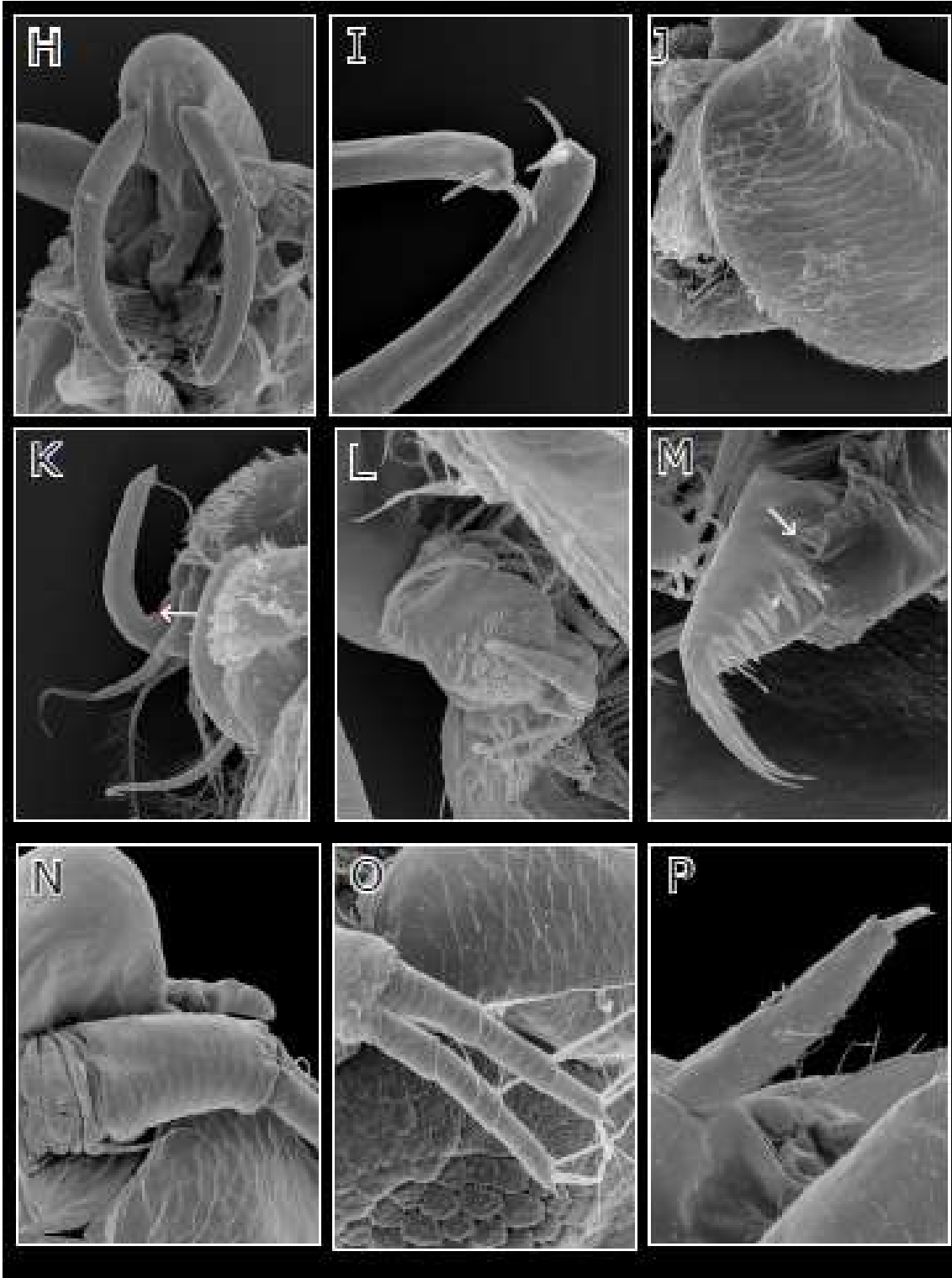
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Fig. 4



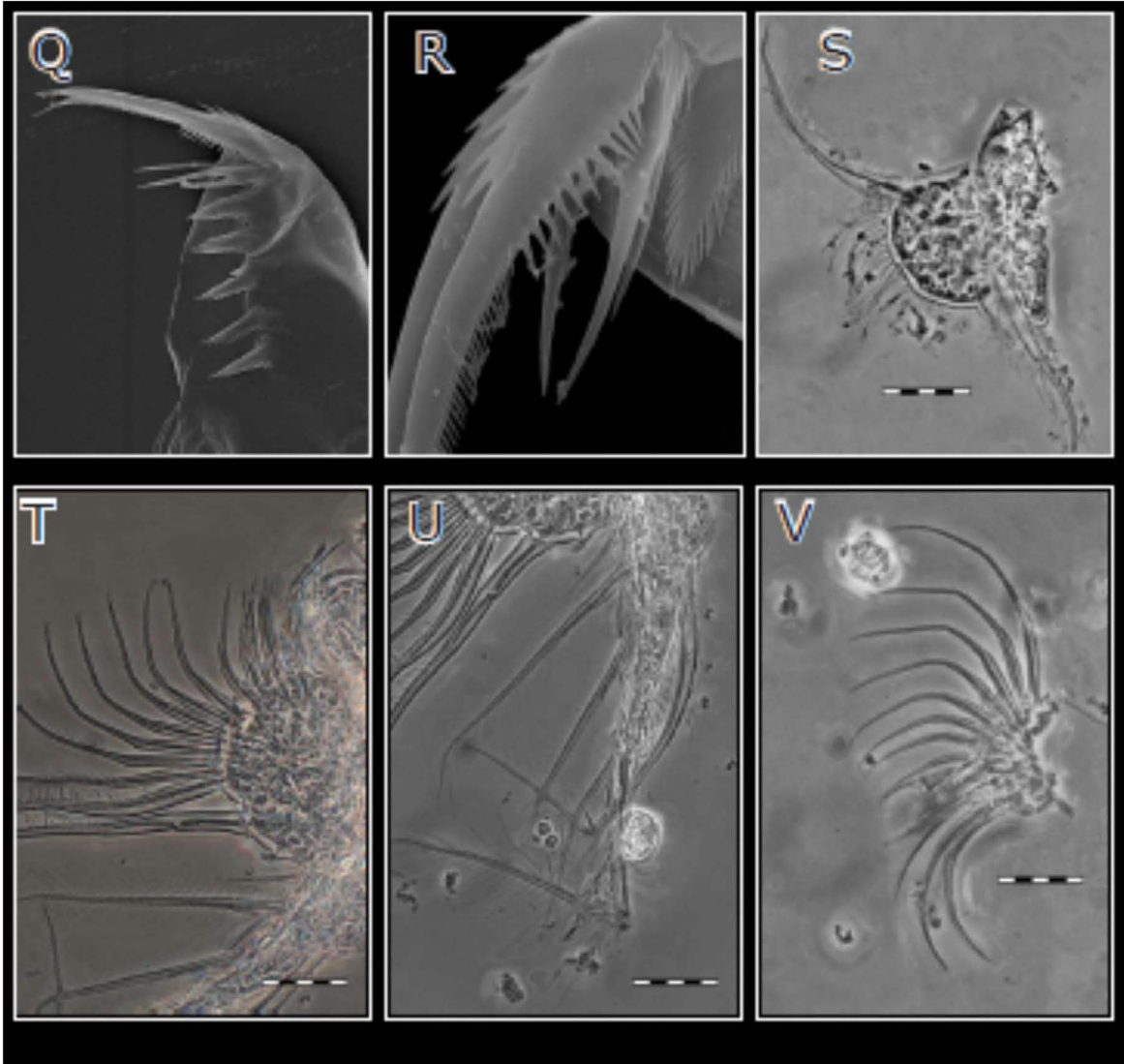
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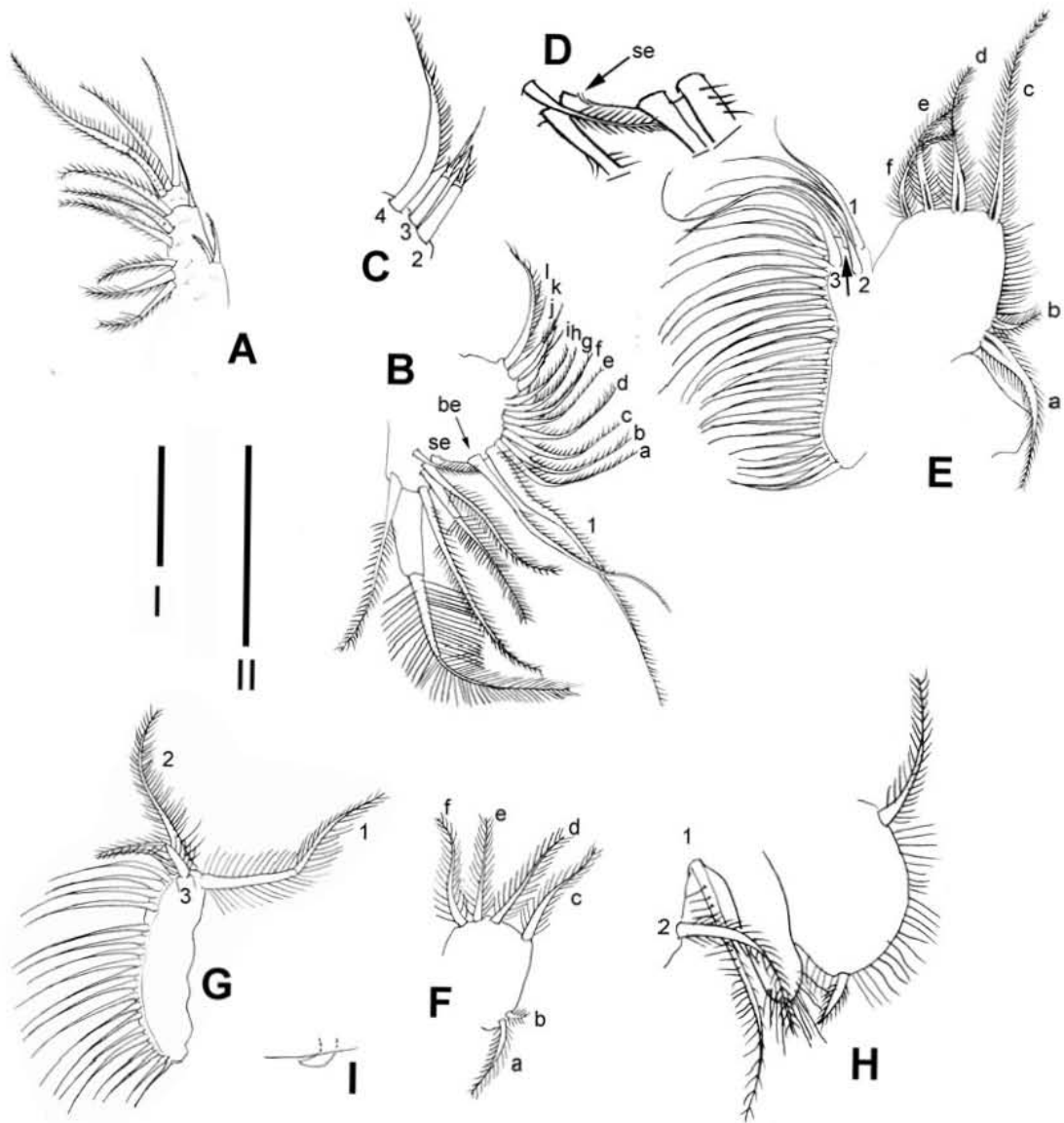
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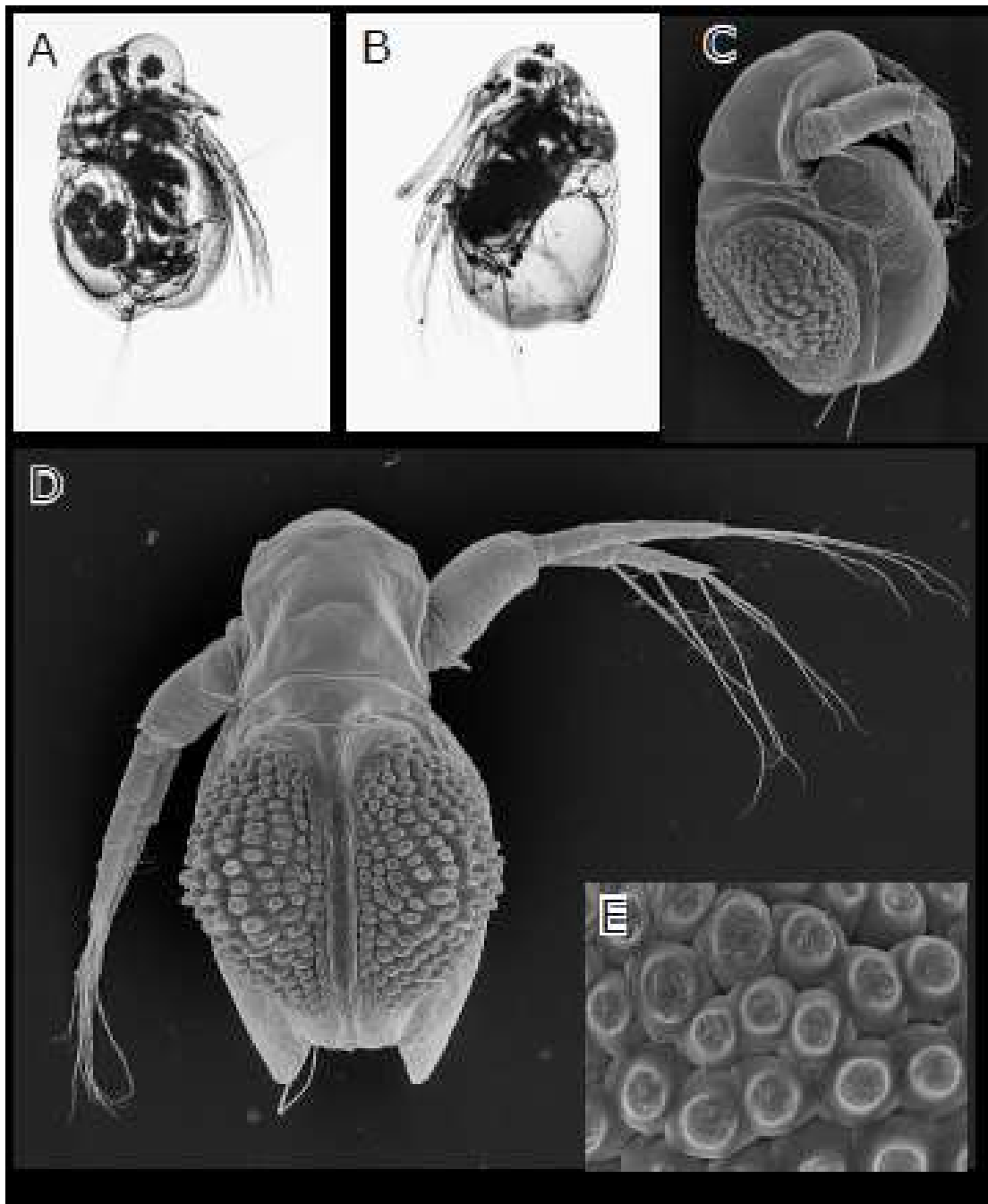
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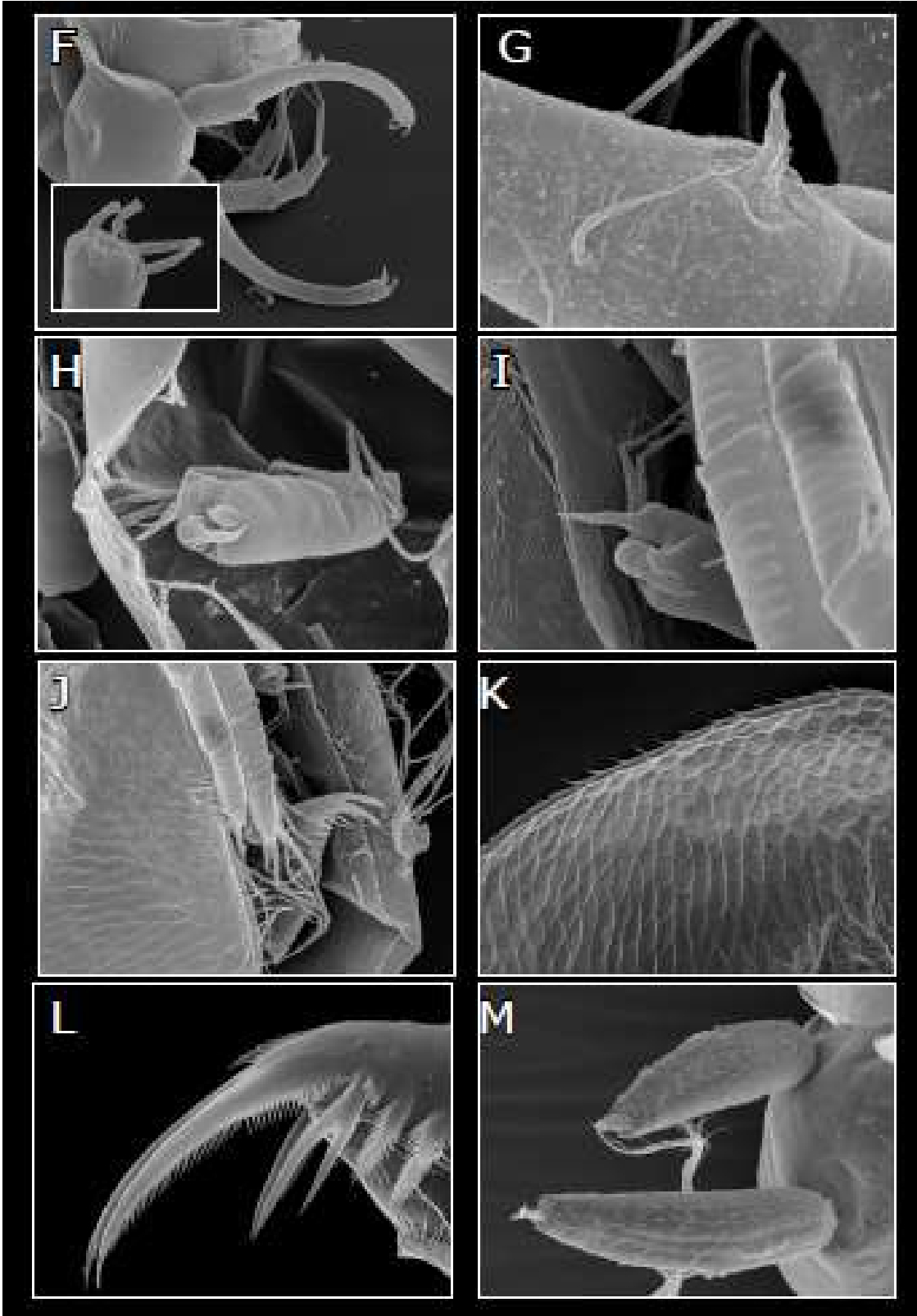
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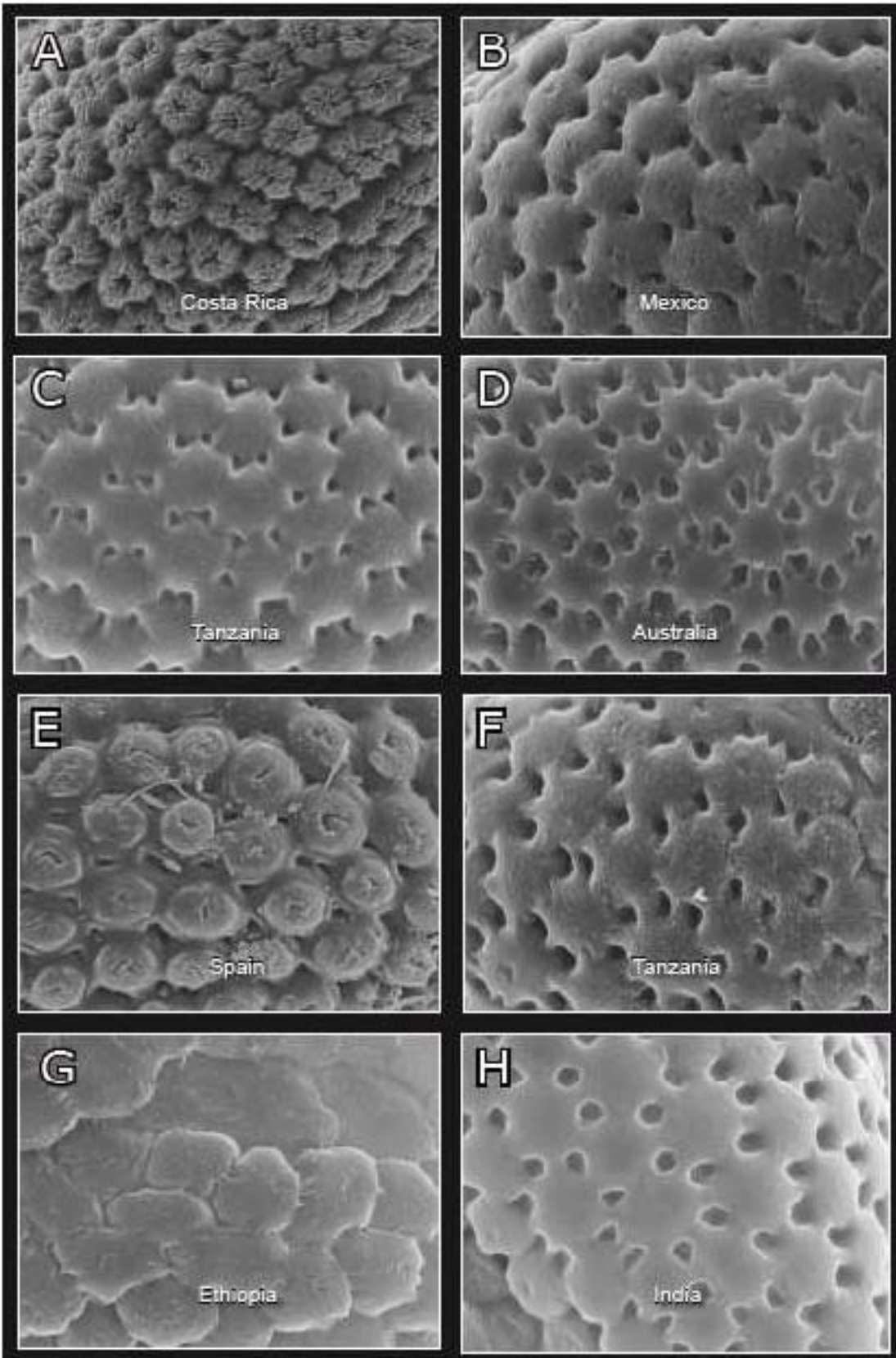
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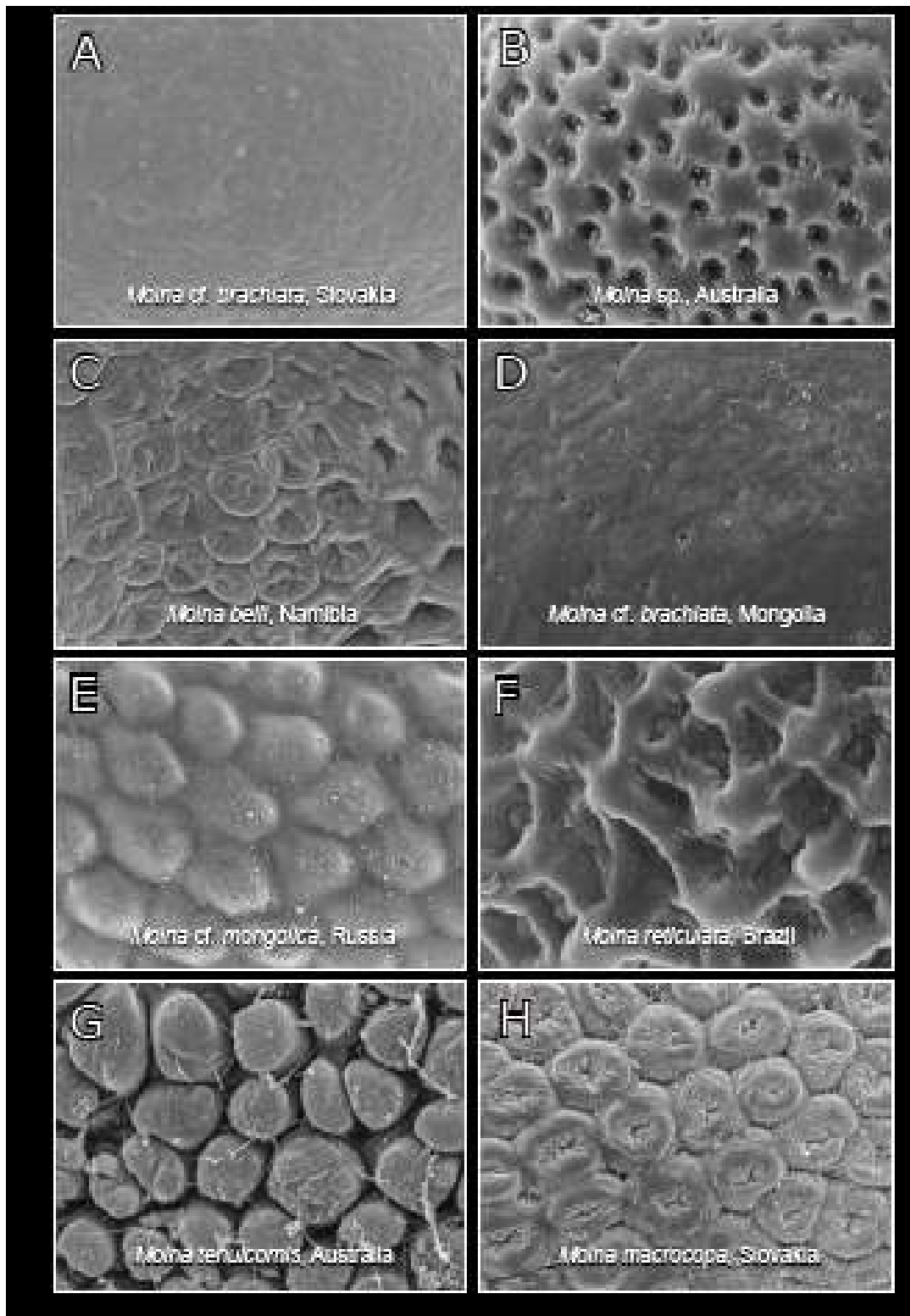
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| Observations | Phylogroup name | Sequence unique ID | Country | GenBank accession numbers | Reference |
|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---|
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES614 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES615 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES620 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES622 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES623 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES624 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES625 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES626 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES627 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES628 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | EES629 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES056 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES069 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES093 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES094 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES054 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES089 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES518 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES519 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura 2</i> | ZPLKA028 | Mexico | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura 2</i> | ZPLKA123 | Mexico | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES646 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES647 | Spain | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | EES648 | Spain | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | CZ001 | Czech Republic | | This study |
| | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | CZ002 | Slovakia | | This study |
| | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | CZ003 | Israel | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | CZ004 | Ethiopia | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | CZ005 | Hungary | | This study |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | CZ006 | Spain | | This study |
| Terra typica | <i>Moina micrura</i> s. str. | AF339093 | Czech Republic | AF339093 | Petrusek <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | CZ007 | Australia | AF339092 | Petrusek <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | KC479042 | India | KC479042 | Dumont <i>et al.</i> , direct submission |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | HQ336797.1 | Russia | HQ336797.1 | Frolova <i>et al.</i> , direct submission |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | HE-643.1 | South Korea | KC617390.1 | Prosser <i>et al.</i> , 2013 |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | HE-647.1 | South Korea | KC617391.1 | Prosser <i>et al.</i> , 2013 |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | HE-645.1 | South Korea | KC617392.1 | Prosser <i>et al.</i> , 2013 |
| | <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | HE-646.1 | South Korea | KC617393.1 | Prosser <i>et al.</i> , 2013 |

| Name | Collection date | Country | Locality | Habitat | Latitude, °N | Longitude, °E | Collector |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 27/07/2002 | Czech Republic | Sádka pond (Nové Dvory) | Fishpond | 49.97 | 15.33 | A. Petrussek |
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 13/8/2013 | Czech Republic | Sádka pond (Nové Dvory) | Fishpond | 49.97 | 15.33 | M. Miracle |
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 10/2015 | Czech Republic | Sádka pond (Nové Dvory) | Fishpond | 50.06 | 15.24 | A. Petrussek |
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 19/09/1999 5/10/1999 | Czech Republic | Dobříř near Roudnice nad Labem | Sand pit | 50.44 | 14.31 | A. Petrussek |
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 02/08/2004 | Czech Republic | Školní pond at Chabařovice | Fishpond | 50.67 | 13.937 | K. Pilařová |
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 09/09/1960 | Slovakia | Michalovce, Vinianské Lake | Lake | 48.818 | 21.987 | V. Kořínek |
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 02/07/1957 | Slovakia | Štúrovo | Pool at Danube River | 47.81 | 18.73 | M. Legner |
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 06/2002 | Slovakia | Hrhovske ponds | Fishpond | 48.595 | 20.757 | A. Petrussek |
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 11/10/1987 | Bulgaria | S. of Blagoevgrad | Fishpond | 41.98 | 23.08 | V. Korinek |
| <i>Moina micrura</i> Kurz, 1875 | 2002 | Israel | Lake Kinneret | Lake | 32.8 | 35.6 | K.D. Hambright |
| <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | 25/07/2012 | Spain | Sobrón reservoir | River reservoir | 42.77 | -3.10 | M.R. Miracle |
| <i>Moina cf. micrura</i> | 21/07/2012 | Spain | Albufera de Valencia | Coastal lagoon | 39.33 | -0.37 | M.R. Miracle |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 25/01/1968 | Australia | NSW, Relfs via Gloucester | Irrigation Dam | -31.98 | 151.95 | B. Timms |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 09/07/1973 | Australia | Weering (Victoria) | Pond | -38.12 | 143.63 | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 05/1981 | Costa Rica | Pond #18 at Nunez | Pond | | | M. Dickman |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 28/03/1966 | Cuba | Laguna Sabanilla (Habana) | Lake | | | J. Fott |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 18/01/1989 | Mexico | La colorada pond (Aguascalientes) | Pond | 21.985 | 101.986 | M. Silva-Briano |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 23/05/1989 | Brazil | Ceara, Pond at reservoir Lima Campos | Pond | -5.54 | 38.82 | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 03/04/1972 | Brazil | Pindamonhangaba | Fish tank | -22.939 | 45.462 | C.H. |

| Name | Collection date | Country | Locality | Habitat | Latitude, °N | Longitude, °E | Collector |
|---|-----------------|----------------|--|------------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| | | | (Sao Paulo) | | | | Fernando |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 01/10/1983 | Ethiopia | Borkena swamp (Oromia) | Swamp | | | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 07/03/1985 | Tanzania | Mwanza | Small lake | -2.74 | 32.52 | Mr. Kovarik |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 07/08/1987 | India | Raani Taal Pond (Madhya Pradesh) | Pond | 23.173 | 79.918 | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 13/09/1977 | India | Jabadi Ludhiana (Punjab) | Ditch | 30.90 | 75.81 | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 22/06/1977 | Indonesia | Sindang Barang, Bogor | Fish pond | -6.58 | 106.76 | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 18/09/1973 | Malaysia | Experimental station, Sayopal | | | | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>micrura</i> -like | 09/04/1968 | Philippines | Lake Lanao (Mindanao) | Lake | | | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>Moina weismanni</i> Ishikawa, 1896 | | Czech Republic | Fishpond Radíkovický (Benešov) | Fish pond | 49.771 | 14.708 | Z. Brandl |
| <i>Moina weismanni</i> Ishikawa, 1896 | 19/08/1943 | Czech Republic | Village pond in Ohrobec | Pond | 49.942 | 14.432 | R. Šrámek-Husek |
| <i>Moina weismanni</i> Ishikawa, 1896 | 14/08/1931 | Czech Republic | Bohumileč, village pond | Pond | 50.10 | 15.859 | R. Šrámek-Husek |
| <i>Moina weismanni</i> Ishikawa, 1896 | 19/08/2013 | Czech Republic | Strakonice, Fish Pond Pýcha | Fish pond | 49.434 | 13.910 | V. Kořínek |
| <i>Moina weismanni</i> Ishikawa, 1896 | 21/07/1952 | Russia | Goryachiy Klyuch, experimental pond #5 | Fish farm | 44.64 | 39.14 | Hydrobiol. Expedition Zool. Inst. R. Acad. Sc |
| <i>Moina weismanni</i> Ishikawa, 1896 | 16/07/1938 | China | Hulun Lake (=Dalai nuur lake) | Outflow to Argun River | 49.30 | 117.67 | T. Kawamura & D. Miyadi |
| <i>Moina cf. australiensis</i> Sars, 1896 | 29/09/1973 | Australia | Weering (Victoria) | Roadside pond | | | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>Moina belli</i> Gurney, 1904 | 27/04/1972 | Namibia | Avis Dam (Windhoek region) | Dam | - 22.573 | 17.131 | S. Bethune |
| <i>Moina brachiata</i> Jurine, 1820 | 6/09/1988 | Mongolia | Yihe Modoto | Ditch | 48.189 | 111.192 | J. Sed'a |
| <i>Moina macrocopa</i> Straus, | 27/07/1954 | Slovakia | Komárno town | Flooded fields | | | E. Balon |

| Name | Collection date | Country | Locality | Habitat | Latitude, °N | Longitude, °E | Collector |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1820 | | | | | | | |
| <i>Moina reticulata</i> Daday, 1905 | 02/09.1980 | Brazil | Lake Jacaretinga (Amazonas) | Lake | -5.412 | 60.419 | A. Duncan |
| <i>Moina mongolica</i> Daday, 1901 | 26/07/1974 | Russia | Lake Bol'schoy Schantrapay | Lake | 54.796 | 61.970 | E. Makartseva |
| <i>Moina cf flexuosa</i> Sars, 1897 | 05/07/1982 | Australia | 75km S. of the junction - Great Northern Hwy x Victoria Hwy | Roadside pond | -21.195 | 118.722 | P.E. Tyler |
| <i>Moina tenuicornis</i> Sars, 1896 | 26/09/1973 | Australia | Alexandria (Victoria) | Small puddle | | | C.H. Fernando |
| <i>Moina</i> sp. | 14/05/1974 | Mongolia | Bulgan | River | | | Dash Dorzh |

BOLD TaxonID Tree

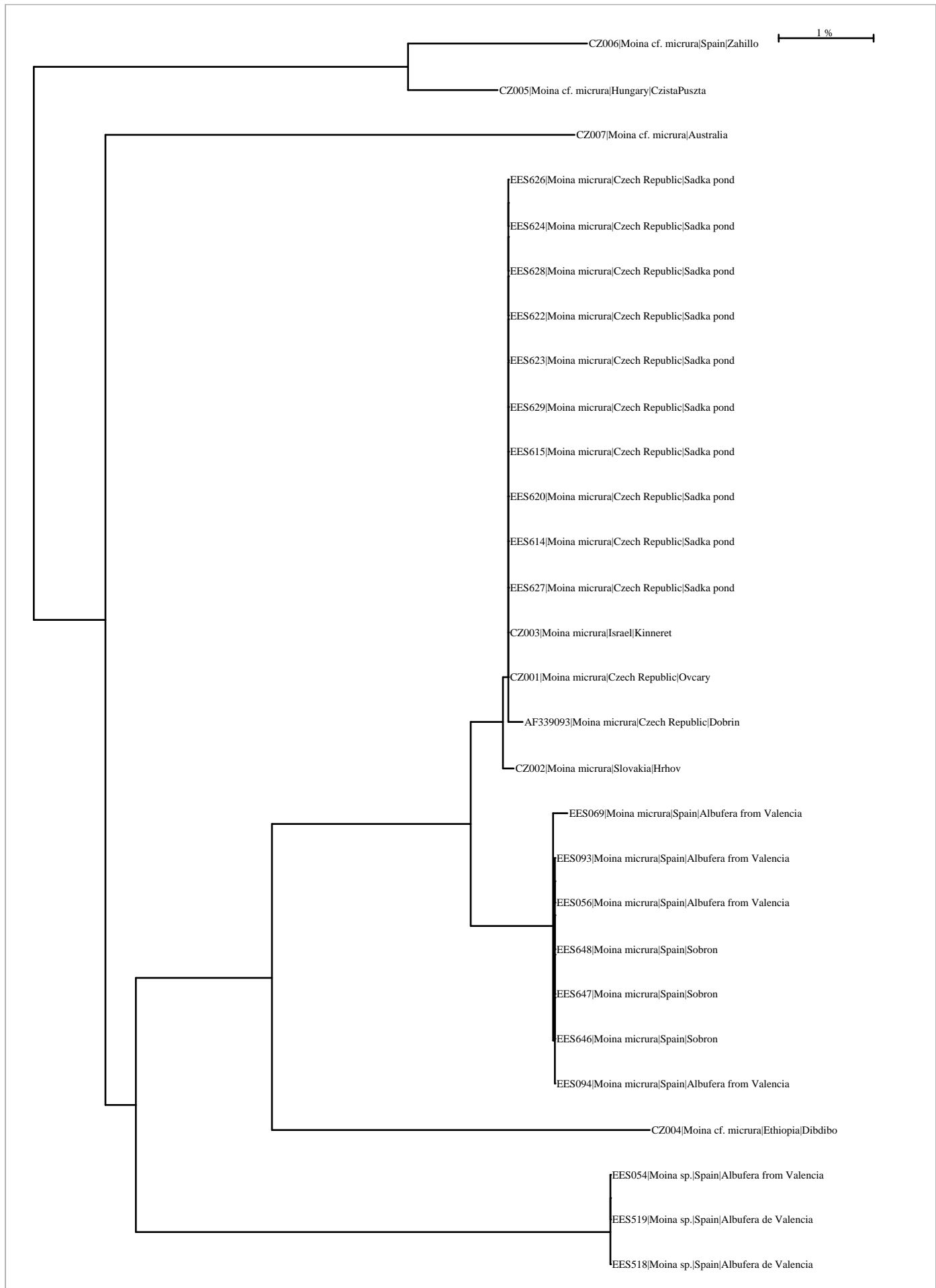
Title : Tree Result - DS-MICRURA1 (28 records selected)
Date : 15-May-2017
Data Type : Nucleotide
Distance Model : Kimura 2 Parameter
Marker : 12S
Colourization : [blue]=Stop Codons [red]=Contamination or misidentification

Label : Sample ID
Label : Species
Label : Country
Label : Exact Site

Filter : length > 200bp only
Filter : exclude records flagged as misidentifications
Filter : exclude records with stop codons
Filter : exclude contaminants
Filter : composed of <1% N

Sequence Count : 28
Species count : 3
Genus count : 1
Family count : 1
Unidentified : 0

BIN Count : 3



BOLD TaxonID Tree

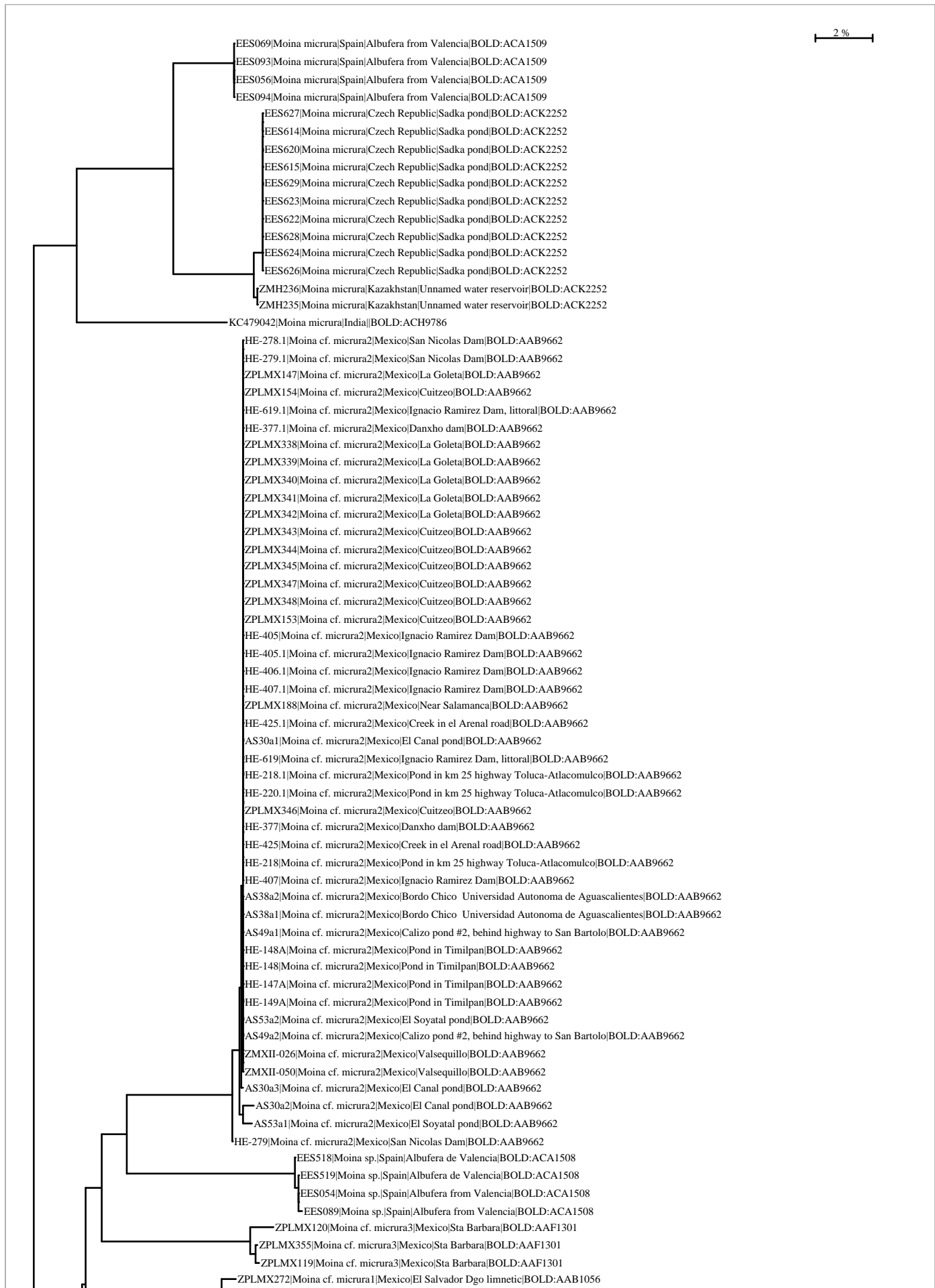
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Marker : COI-5P
Colourization : [blue]=Stop Codons [red]=Contamination or misidentification

Label : Sample ID
Label : Species
Label : Country
Label : Exact Site
Label : Barcode Cluster (BIN)

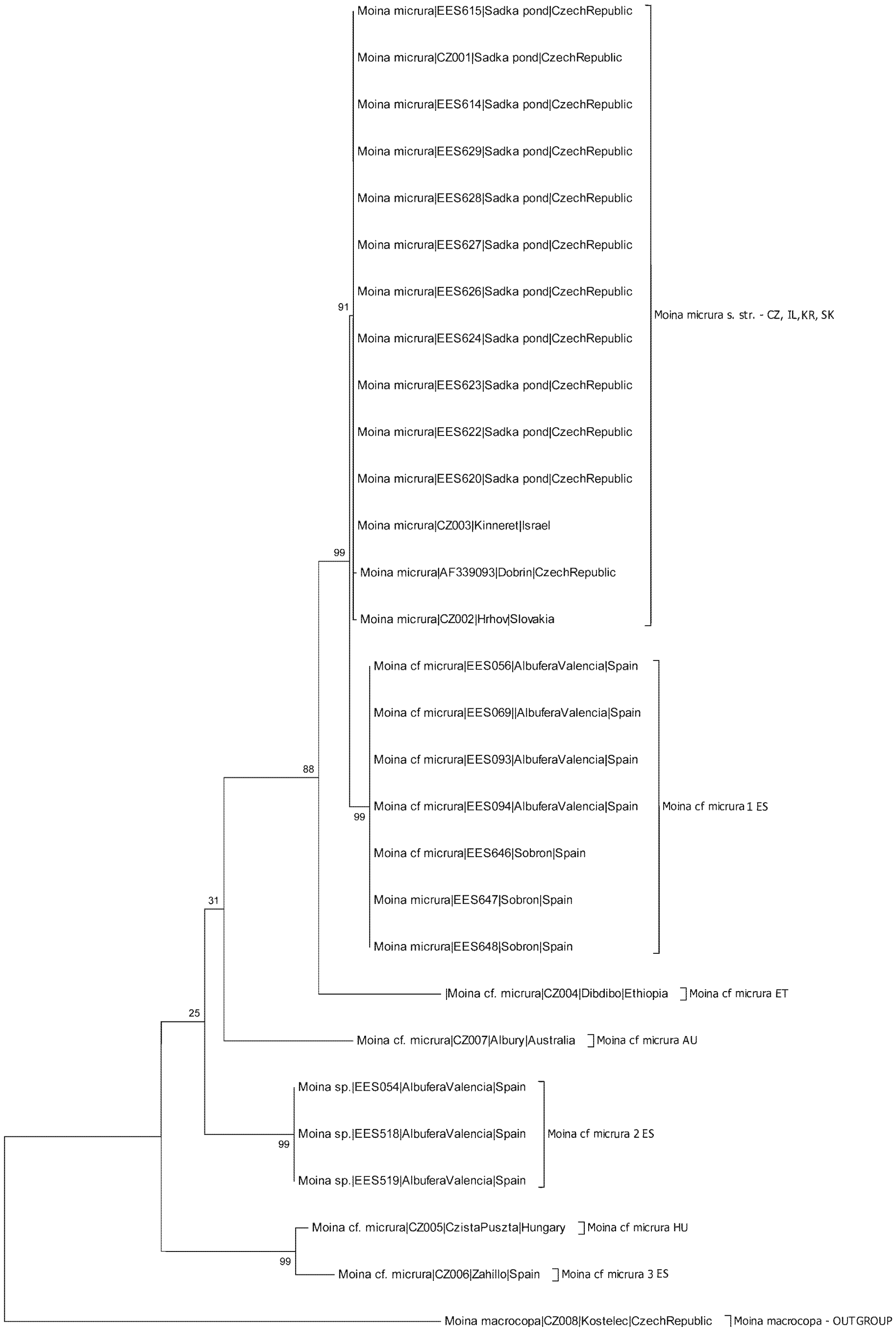
Filter : length > 200bp only
Filter : exclude records flagged as misidentifications
Filter : composed of <1% N
Filter : exclude records with stop codons
Filter : exclude contaminants

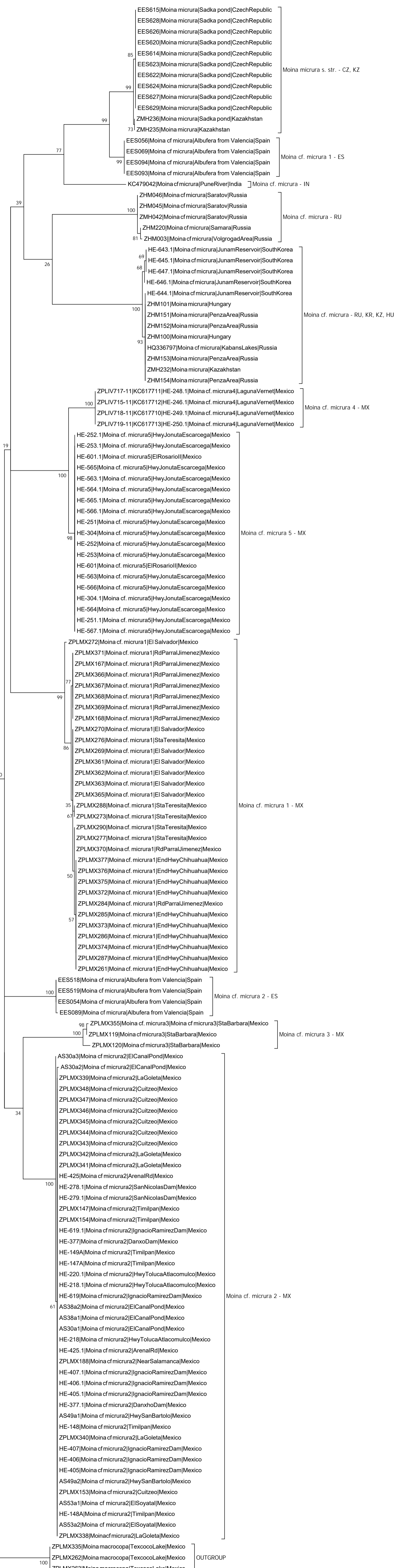
Sequence Count : 143
Species count : 7
Genus count : 1
Family count : 1
Unidentified : 5

BIN Count : 11



ZPLMX119|Moina cf. micrura3|Mexico|Sta Barbara|BOLD:AAF1301
 ZPLMX272|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|El Salvador Dgo limnetic|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX270|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|El Salvador Dgo limnetic|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX363|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|El Salvador Dgo limnetic|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX365|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|El Salvador Dgo limnetic|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX361|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|El Salvador Dgo limnetic|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX269|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|El Salvador Dgo limnetic|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX362|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|El Salvador Dgo limnetic|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX276|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Sta Teresita III A|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX273|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Sta Teresita III A|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX288|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Sta Teresita III A|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX290|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Sta Teresita III A|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX370|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Km 44 Parral-Jimenez|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX277|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Sta Teresita III A|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX284|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Fin Carretera Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX261|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|End hwy. Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX377|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Fin Carretera Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX376|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|End hwy. Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX375|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|End hwy. Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX372|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|End hwy. Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX287|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|End hwy. Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX286|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|End hwy. Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX285|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|End hwy. Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX374|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|End hwy. Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX373|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|End hwy. Chihuahua B|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX369|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Km 44 Parral-Jimenez|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX368|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Km 44 Parral-Jimenez|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX367|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Km 44 Parral-Jimenez|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX366|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Km 44 Parral-Jimenez|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX168|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Km 44 Parral-Jimenez|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX167|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Km 44 Parral-Jimenez|BOLD:AAB1056
 ZPLMX371|Moina cf. micrura1|Mexico|Km 44 Parral-Jimenez|BOLD:AAB1056
 HE-246.1|Moina cf. micrura4|Mexico|Laguna Vernet, 2a Seccion|BOLD:ABA3797
 HE-249.1|Moina cf. micrura4|Mexico|Laguna Vernet, 2a Seccion|BOLD:ABA3797
 HE-250.1|Moina cf. micrura4|Mexico|Laguna Vernet, 2a Seccion|BOLD:ABA3797
 HE-248.1|Moina cf. micrura4|Mexico|Laguna Vernet, 2a Seccion|BOLD:ABA3797
 HE-601|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|El Rosario II|BOLD:ABA0662
 HE-563|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 2 highway Jonuta-Escarcega, Santa Lucia bridge|BOLD:A...
 HE-564|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 2 highway Jonuta-Escarcega, Santa Lucia bridge|BOLD:A...
 HE-566|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 2 highway Jonuta-Escarcega, Santa Lucia bridge|BOLD:A...
 HE-252|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 1 Highway Jonuta-Escarcega|BOLD:ABA0662
 HE-304|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 3, Highway Jonuta-Escarcega|BOLD:ABA0662
 HE-251|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 1 Highway Jonuta-Escarcega|BOLD:ABA0662
 HE-567.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 2 highway Jonuta-Escarcega, Santa Lucia bridge|BOLD ...
 HE-565|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 2 highway Jonuta-Escarcega, Santa Lucia bridge|BOLD:A...
 HE-253|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 1 Highway Jonuta-Escarcega|BOLD:ABA0662
 HE-304.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 3, Highway Jonuta-Escarcega|BOLD:ABA0662
 HE-566.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 2 highway Jonuta-Escarcega, Santa Lucia bridge|BOLD ...
 HE-565.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 2 highway Jonuta-Escarcega, Santa Lucia bridge|BOLD ...
 HE-564.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 2 highway Jonuta-Escarcega, Santa Lucia bridge|BOLD ...
 HE-563.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 2 highway Jonuta-Escarcega, Santa Lucia bridge|BOLD ...
 HE-601.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|El Rosario II|BOLD:ABA0662
 HE-253.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 1 Highway Jonuta-Escarcega|BOLD:ABA0662
 HE-252.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 1 Highway Jonuta-Escarcega|BOLD:ABA0662
 HE-251.1|Moina cf. micrura5|Mexico|Pond 1 Highway Jonuta-Escarcega|BOLD:ABA0662
 ZHM046|Moina micrura|Russia|Peet lake near Diakovka|BOLD:ADF4310
 ZHM045|Moina micrura|Russia|Peet lake near Diakovka|BOLD:ADF4310
 ZMH042|Moina micrura|Russia|Peet lake near Diakovka|BOLD:ADF4310
 ZHM220|Moina micrura|Russia|Unnamed pond|BOLD:ADF4310
 ZHM003|Moina micrura|Russia|A pond at border of Saratov and Volgograd Areas|BOLD:ADF4310
 HE-646.1||South Korea|Junam Reservoir|BOLD:ABW7759
 HE-645.1||South Korea|Junam Reservoir|BOLD:ABW7759
 HE-647.1||South Korea|Junam Reservoir|BOLD:ABW7759
 HE-643.1||South Korea|Junam Reservoir|BOLD:ABW7759
 HE-644.1||South Korea|Junam Reservoir|BOLD:ABW7759
 ZMH232|Moina micrura|Kazakhstan|Unnamed channel|BOLD:ABW7759
 ZHM152|Moina micrura|Russia|A pond in Ramzay village|BOLD:ABW7759
 ZHM151|Moina micrura|Russia|A pond in Ramzay village|BOLD:ABW7759
 ZHM100|Moina micrura|Hungary|Fueloepszallas, Kelemenszek (Kiskunsag National Park)|BOLD...
 ZHM154|Moina micrura|Russia|A pond in Ramzay village|BOLD:ABW7759
 ZHM153|Moina micrura|Russia|A pond in Ramzay village|BOLD:ABW7759
 ZHM101|Moina micrura|Hungary|Fueloepszallas, Kelemenszek (Kiskunsag National Park)|BOLD...
 HQ336797|Moina micrura|Russia||BOLD:ABW7759





0.050

Montoliu-Elena, L. Almeyda-Osorio, J.K. and Elías-Gutiérrez, M. 2018. Seven species in one: *solving Moina micrura* complex in Mexico and Spain, with morphological and biogeographical insights. (En revisión)

SEVEN SPECIES IN ONE: SOLVING *Moina Micrura* COMPLEX IN MEXICO AND SPAIN, WITH MORPHOLOGICAL AND BIOGEOGRAPHICAL INSIGHTS.

INTRODUCTION

The most part of the cladocerans species were described in the Old World mainly, during XIX-XX centuries (Goulden, 1968). The first author who described a *Moina* was Jurine in 1820 under the names Monocle à bec droit (straight beak) or *Monoculus rectorostris*, Monocle à gros brás (big arms) or *Monoculus brachiatus* and Monocle à long cou (long neck) or *Monoculus longicollis* (Fig. 1) (Jurine, 1820). His drawings are impressive for his time.

Goulden (1968) in his revision of the genera verified 17 species of *Moina* from a total of 50 species described until this time. He considered *Moina micrura* as the most ubiquitous, the most variable morphologically and the most widely distributed of all species of genus *Moina*. He cited that it is distributed anywhere, in the semiarid and arid regions of the world (Old and New world) (Fig. 2).

In the Iberian Peninsula, the first list of crustaceans was published by Bolívar in 1892 but in it, any *Moina* was mentioned (Bolívar y Urrutia, 1892). Arévalo (1916) in his work about the plankton in the Albufera de Valencia Lake reviewed the Branchiopods registered in the Iberian Peninsula and the Balearic Islands, and listed only 20 species. It was 4 years later, in 1920, when he cited for the first time the genus *Moina* in the Iberian Peninsula, exactly in Gandia (Community of Valencia, Spain). He called it *Moina rectorostris* var. *casañi* in honor of teacher Casañi, who collected the samples (Arévalo, 1920), actually known as *Moina macrocopa* s. l. (Montoliu-Elena et al., submitted). Armengol (1978), registered *Moina micrura* in seven different dams from 103 sampled all around Spain (Fig.3) (Armengol, 1978).

Finally, in 1996, Alonso published his work where cited and describes with detail the morphology, biology, and distribution of the Branchiopods from the Iberian Peninsula and Balearic Islands (Alonso, 1996). In the case of the genus *Moina*, he described four species: *Moina brachiata*, *Moina salina*, *Moina macrocopus* and *Moina micrura*. He illustrated specimens of *Moina micrura*, our species of interest, from a pond next to Villerin (Zamora, Spain) and he assigned them to the subspecies *Moina micrura dubia* proposed by Goulden (1968) for specimens collected from Guatemala, due to the size of the claw's proximal pecten and the sensory setae of the basipodite

31 of the second antennae, both structures were more developed than in *Moina micrura* s. str. and
32 mentioned the presence of this species widely distributed in Spain and also, in Mallorca (Balearic
33 Islands) (Fig. 4). Goulden in his revision cited this subspecies from Guatemala, but he didn't say it is
34 valid or not (Goulden, 1968).

35 In the case of Mexico, the study of Cladocera started at the beginning of the last century, when
36 some foreign scientific expeditions were done (see Elías-Gutiérrez et al., 2008 for the history).
37 Juday (1915) was the first who recorded 14 species from three localities near the City of Mexico.
38 By the second half of the XX century, Van de Velde et al (1978) recorded the Genus *Moina* by the
39 first time in Mexico. They cited three species: *Moina reticulata*, *Moina micrura*, and *Moinodaphnia*
40 *macleayi*. *Moina micrura* was registered in two different sites of the six that were sampled by
41 them, in San José near Tulancingo (in several large but shallow water basins) and in a tributary at
42 the Usumacinta river in the road Villahermosa - Palenque (around this site, samples were collected
43 in the river and in some surrounding swamps) (Van de Velde et al., 1978). Finally, the first *Moina*
44 described from Mexico was *Moina dumonti*, distributed from the Yucatán Peninsula to Cuba and
45 Tabasco (Kotov et al., 2005). Nowadays, Elías-Gutiérrez et al (submitted) re-described *Moina*
46 *micrura* s. s.tr. from a pond near the original type locality due that original material was lost. They
47 used molecular, morphological and biogeographical tools in their work.

48 The use of molecular tools, concretely DNA Barcoding, evidenced the huge possible cryptic
49 diversity of *Moina micrura*, comprising 11 different clades (Elías-Gutiérrez et al., submitted).

50 Next step is to test the hypothesis (at least in part) if the clades found are real true full species,
51 with the use of integrative taxonomy (sensu Dayrat, 2005) as it was done for other cladocerans
52 (Elías-Gutiérrez & Valdez-Moreno, 2008; Quiroz-Vázquez & Elías-Gutiérrez, 2009).

53 *Moina micrura* s. l. is commonly associated with small, temporary water bodies but may also be
54 found, in the plankton of large freshwater lakes (Goulden, 1968). It is more frequent in permanent
55 or semi-permanent environments than in temporal ponds; it prefers turbid water (muddy or
56 eutrophic). In Spain it was found in dams with less of 1 m of Secchi and it is considered
57 thermophile, with an optimum of temperature between 22-33°C, although it has even been found
58 at more of 37°C (Alonso, 1996).

59 The goal of this work is to elucidate about the identity of the *M. micrura* group found in Mexico
60 (Elías-Gutiérrez, 2008; Elías-Gutiérrez, submitted) and establish if they are different from the

61 specimens found in Spain. For all comparisons, we will use *M. micrura* s. str., collected from Sadka
62 pond in Czech Republic (Elías-Gutiérrez et al., submitted).

63 MATERIAL AND METHODS

64 Specimens were collected in several places in Mexico, Spain and Czech Republic (S1, Fig. 6). In this
65 study we analyzed seven, different species from Mexico and Spain from *Moina micrura* complex
66 called *Moina cf micrura* 1-5MX for Mexican populations and *Moina cf micrura* 1-2ES for Spanish
67 ones.

68 Morphological observations

69 Specimens were sorted from the ethanol samples under a stereomicroscope and placed in a drop
70 of a glycerol. Several females and males were dissected from various places of Mexico and Spain
71 (S1 supplementary material).

72 Whole animals and dissected sections were examined and measured under a differential
73 interference contrast microscope and/or phase contrast microscope. The organisms were
74 morphologically identified following descriptions by several authors i.e. Goulden (1968), Alonso
75 (1996), Elías-Gutiérrez, et al. (2008), Elías-Gutiérrez et al. (submitted). Structures of taxonomic
76 interest were illustrated with a camera lucida attached to a compound microscope Olympus BX51.
77 Some specimens were prepared for SEM (Scanning Electron Microscopy) for the observation of
78 microcharacters. The microscope used was the JEOL Model JSM6010 Plus at Chetumal Unit of
79 ECOSUR.

80 In this article we used the terminology proposed by Kotov et al., (2005). Abbreviations used in the
81 descriptions are: A1, antennula; A2, antenna; L I-V, limbs I-V; E1-3, endites.

82 Statistical studies

83 Two Principal Components Analysis (PCA) were performed in RStudio (Team, 2015), one
84 morphometrical and other, environmental to characterize each species and its habitat and to
85 determinate the correlation with the other species.

86 In females, 13 morphological ratios were considered in the PCA: ratio Habitus (length
87 (L)/Width(W)); ratio A1 (L/W) ; ratio Length of basipodite A2 /Length Long Proximal Seta (A2); ratio
88 Length of basipodite A2/ length of Small Proximal Seta A2; ratio Length of basipodite A2/ length
89 Distal Seta A2; ratio A2 setae (Long/Small); ratio LIII exopod (L/W); ratio length Long seta LIII /

90 length Small Setae LIII; ratio LIV exopod (L/W); ratio length Long seta LIV/ length Small Seta LIV;
91 ratio length exopodite LIV/ length Small seta LIV; length exopodite LIV/ length Long seta LIV; ratio
92 setae length Small seta LIV/ length long seta LIV. Abbreviations used for analysis are respectively:
93 RatioHabito, RatioA1, ratioA2L/LPS, ratioA2L/SPS, ratioA2L/LDS, ratioA2Setae, RatioL3,
94 ratioSetasL3, ratioL4, ratioSetasL4, ratioL5/SS, ratioL5/LS and ratioL5Ss.

95 The environmental parameters used were seven (in parenthesis abbreviations used in the analysis
96 and units): mean latitude, mean altitude, depth (cm), Secchi disk (cm) (Secchi) and water
97 temperature (°C) (Temp).

98 **Haplotype network, intraspecific divergences and Barcode Index Number (BIN number)**

99 A nexus file with a dataset including sequences of all over the world compiled from the Barcode of
100 Life Database (BOLD, www.boldsystems.org), and published by Elías-Gutiérrez et al., 2018
101 (submitted) was used to calculate a TCS network (Clement et al., 2002) in PopART
102 (<http://popart.otago.ac.nz>) (Leigh and Bryant, 2015). TCS applies the statistical parsimony method
103 to construct haplotype networks. It has been shown that the count of Linnaean species present in
104 a COI alignment greatly matches that of independent statistical parsimony networks inferred by
105 the software. This network allows to visualize graphically the network of relationships between
106 the haplotypes and geographical distributions.

107 To establish a global comparison of the Intraspecific divergences of Mexican and Spanish
108 populations with the remaining *micrura* group, we used the MEGA Software (Tamura et al., 2013)
109 using the public dataset named DS-MMICRO available in BOLD, using the Kimura two-parameter
110 (K2P) algorithm (Kimura, 1980) with complete deletion of gaps and missing data.

111 Barcode Index number (BIN) (Ratnasingham and Hebert, 2013) published by Elías-Gutiérrez et al.,
112 (2018), and available in BOLD systems database (Ratnasingham and Hebert, 2007) were included
113 in our study to compare with groups delimited by the haplotype network.

114 **RESULTS**

115 **Morphological observations (Fig, 6)**

116 Figures of *Moina micrura* s. str. from Sadka pond, Czech Republic, near the original type locality
117 (Elías-Gutiérrez et al., submitted). The figures are for comparisons proposes, and to show the
118 different parts of the structures. Only taxonomical differences not mentioned before for this
119 species group are going to be described.

120 *Moina micrura s. str. sensu Elías-Gutiérrez et al., (accepted)*

121 Habit: Fig. 7K-L

122 Antennulas: Fig. 9I-J. Male Fig. 9M.

123 Antenna: Fig. 11F-G

124 Valves: Fig. 12M-N

125 Limb I: Fig. 13H

126 Limb II: Fig. 14H

127 Limb III: Fig. 15H. At the base of the filter plate at the gnathobase there is a row of big spinules and
128 some hairs, not illustrated before for other taxonomist (Fig. 15cont K remarked box, it is show limb
129 IV but limb III has the same pattern). This spinules are the biggest in all the species studied and for
130 the variability showed, they should be used to differentiate the species of the complex.

131 Limb IV: Fig. 16H. As in limb III, there are big spinules and hairs at the base of the filter plate at the
132 gnathobase (Fig. 15cont.K). Other difference found in this limb not illustrated either described
133 before, is the hairy seta at endite 2 there are two setae: one bitesulated soft seta and one hairy
134 seta, only present in *Moina cf micrura* 1ES, genetically, the closest species (Fig. 16F in black).

135 Limb V: Fig. 17H

136 Postabdomen and claw: Fig. 19N

137 Ephippia: Figs. 20H-J

138 *Moina cf micrura* 1MX (Fig. 7A)

139 **Material examined:** Chihuahua: El Salvador (26.067°N, 104.974°W), End highway Chihuahua B
140 (26.907°N, 104.559°W), Km 44 Parral - Jimenez road (27.047°N, 105.218°W), and Sta. Teresita IIIA
141 (26.351°N, 105.265°W).

142 **Detailed description**

143 Adult parthenogenetic female (Fig. 7A): Length: 0.65-0.85 mm (n=40). Body nearly rounded in
144 lateral aspect, high (ratio: 1.73), maximum height in middle-posterior portion, depending on
145 number of embryos (Fig. 7A). Dorsum of valves strongly convex, projected much higher than head,
146 almost straight in posterior part, dorsal depression between head and rest of body present.
147 Postero-dorsal angle well-marked, rounded. Posterior margin straight, continuing into widely

148 convex ventral margin. No slight sculptures on surface of valves. No cuticular hairs on head and
149 valves, without dorsal keel. Live animals are whitish in color.

150 Head – Relatively large, rounded, without any rostral projection; with marked supra-ocular
151 depression and large compound eye. Optical vesicle contiguous with prominent top of head.
152 Ventral margin depressed under compound eye and bulging at level of antennules.

153 Antennule (A1) (Fig. 8A, 9A) – Rod-like, with the base wider than the tip, with transverse rows of
154 scattered and highly sclerotized denticles of different size on anterior face (only visible with SEM)
155 and row of long setules on posterior face. Antennular sensory seta elongated, arising
156 approximately in middle of lateral face. Distal tip bordered with small thick spinules (arrow in Fig.
157 9A). Nine short aesthetascs (1 in Fig. 9A).

158 Antenna (A2) (Fig. 10A-B) – Coxal part with two setulated sensory setae, one long, the other short
159 and thin (ratio between setae: 2.5) (see c in Fig.10A, B). Basal segment robust, with distal spine at
160 dorsal (see b in Fig.10A), and a long distal sensory seta on ventral face (see a in Fig.10A).
161 Transverse rows of numerous, big and highly sclerotized spinules on surface of similar size and fine
162 hairs. Antennal branches elongated, 4-segmented exopodite slightly shorter than 3-segmented
163 endopodite, all segments cylindrical, with rows of minute spinules and rows of long and thin setae.
164 Antennal formula: setae 0-0-1-3/1-1-3, spines 0-1-0-1/0-0-1. Three long, apical swimming setae on
165 both antennal branches, all with basal and distal segments bilaterally armed with fine, long setules
166 and small denticles visible at SEM. Lateral seta on third segment of dorsal branch with similar
167 armature. peg

168 Valves (Fig. 12A) – Large, sub-ovoid, with row of 13 to 17 setae along anterior ventral margin.
169 Posterior part with row of marginal denticles, organized in groups of 8-13, increasing in size
170 distally within each group. Denticles in posterior most margin form uniform row. Two posterior
171 hooks supporting postabdominal setae (setae natatoriae) present.

172 Limb I (Fig. 13A) – Distal lobe or endite 4 with single anterior thicker seta, bearing short setules
173 and two soft setae. Endite 3 with short, strong, single anterior seta, bearing noticeable lateral
174 spinule-like projections in both sides, and single long and strong posterior seta. Endite 2 with two
175 posterior setae. Endite 1 with three posterior setae. Two ejector hooks of different size.

176 Limb II (Fig. 14A) – Exopodite with large cylindrical lobe bearing long apical seta, its distal part
177 regularly setulated, and with a thick lateral seta not visible at the illustration. Distal endite with

178 two setulated setae, other two endites with only one setulated seta each. One small seta near
179 gnathobase plate, followed anteriorly by small hook-like outgrowth. Rest of gnathobase margin with
180 row of setae arranged fan-like. Above-mentioned two long setae followed by row of 13 to 16
181 gradually shortening and curved setae. Fan-like arrangement of setae is closed by group of three
182 anterior brush-like setae, curved proximally with unilateral setulation facing distally, posterior one
183 strongly reduced. Two shorter and thick setae with apical setulation inserted parallel to group of
184 three anterior-most setae one of them with a very long prolongation. Fan-like setation is arranged
185 in two planes.

186 Limb III (Fig. 15A) – Exopodite large, flat, with four distal setae and two short proximal setae, one
187 short and one long and thick, all of them bilaterally setulated. Inner distal portion with three
188 endites. Endite 3 with single anterior seta; endite 2 with one anterior and one posterior seta
189 Endite 1, with one anterior seta and seta “unica” (arrow in Fig. 15 A). Rest of endopodite with 40-
190 45 soft setae. At the base of the filter plate there are some rows of medium denticles and long
191 hairs

192 Limb IV (Fig. 16A) – Exopodite like III, but more elongated, with four long setae in distal part and
193 two setae in proximal part, one short and another long. Inner distal portion of limb with two
194 endites: endite 1 with long articulated and bisetulated seta. Endite 2 with two long setulated
195 setae. Filter plate with 30-35 setae. At the base of the filter plate there is a dense row of big
196 denticles and long hairs, bigger than in the other species of the complex (arrow in Fig 16A).

197 Limb V (Fig. 17A) – With a large ovoid lobe, with setulated margin, large distal seta and small
198 proximal seta, both bi-setulated. Inner thoracopod portion with elongated lobe with long setulae
199 followed by two setae.

200 Postabdomen (Fig. 18A, 19A-B) –Elongated, conically narrowing distally, more than in *Moina*
201 *micrura* s. str. Ventral margin almost straight, with numerous rows of minute setules in transversal
202 rows. Ventral margin long, straight. Laterally, row of 7 – 9 large, triangular teeth, fringed with
203 marginal setules. Rows of setules on distal portion continue along base of bident tooth; distal
204 branch of bident tooth significantly longer than proximal branch.

205 Natatory setae – Articulated, longer than the postabdomen, with the proximal part shorter and
206 without setae. Distal part longer, bilaterally setulated with few and fine setae.

207 Postabdominal claw (Fig. 19B) slightly curved, with sharp, pointed tip. Two successive pectens
208 along dorsal margin: basal pecten consisting of 6 to 10 slender spines huddled together, followed
209 by a middle pecten of 8-12 strong spines. Basal and middle pectens seem to be only one in some
210 individuals. Uniform row of setules along inner face of claw.

211 **Ephippium**

212 Ephippium ovoid with only one egg (Fig.20A-C). Dorsal ridge strongly sclerotized. Lateral surface
213 with marked semi-circular reticulated pattern. Ultrastructure of ephippial surface formed by
214 complex structure of semi- circles interlocked with many thin tentacle-like projections of various
215 length. Some projections cover also inner surface of polygons.

216 **Male**

217 Body – Smaller than female but more elongated. Dorsal margin of valves almost straight, postero-
218 dorsal angle clearly distinct. Antero-ventral portion of valves fringed with long, thin setules.
219 Denticles along posterior margin more distinct than in female, arranged in groups similarly.
220 Carapace surface without any hairs or setules.

221 Head – More elongated than in female, rostrum absent, labrum less fleshy than that of female.
222 Optical vesicle fills top of head. No trace of pigment in ocellus.

223 Antennule (Fig. 8H) – Long, male seta and sensillum inserted in first third of antennule, at the exit
224 of the sensilia there is a group of about five aesthetascs forming like a star. Nine aesthetascs and
225 three hooks of distinct size and orientation, with bifurcated tips, present distally.

226 Antenna – similar in armature to female (Fig. 10A-B). Distal margin of all segments with row of
227 thick, short spinules.

228 Trunk limb I (Fig. 21A) – With thick copulatory hook, its tip with two spinules (1 in figure 21A),
229 endite 4 (IDL) with three bisetulated setae, endite 3 with two bisetulated setae. Endite 2 with one
230 bisetulated seta, one stiff seta with denticles on the tip, and one little plumose seta (3 in figure
231 21A). Endite 1 has three setae, one long unsetulated seta with fine denticle on its tip (3 in figure
232 21A) and two bisetulated setae of same length (4 in figure 21A). Basal part short and rounded with
233 marked groups of stout bristles on ventral face and two ejector hooks of different size.

234 Limb II (Fig. 22A) – Same morphology as in female (Fig. 14A).

235 Limb III (Fig. 23A) – Same morphology as in female, but with less number of setae at the filter plate,
236 34-36 instead of 40-45 and less denticles at the base of the filter plate.

237 Limb IV (Fig. 24A)– as in limb III, there is a row of the denticles at the base of the filter plate clearly
238 remarkable in both sexes with too many hairs.

239 Limb V (Fig. 25A)– as in females.

240 Postabdomen (Fig. 26A)– as females.

241 *Moina cf micrura 2 MX (Fig. 7B, C)*

242

243 **Material:** In Mexico, Bordo Chico - UAA (Aguascalientes) (21.912°N,-102.317°W), Creek in Arenal
244 road (Chiapas) (16.107°N, 90.99°W), Cuitzeo Lake (Michoacan) (19.925°N, 101.141°W), Danxho
245 dam (State of Mexico) (19.879°N, -99.559°W), El Canal pond (Aguascalientes) (22.148°N,
246 102.346°W), El Soyatal pond (Aguascalientes) (21.909°N, 102.166°W), Ignacio Ramirez dam (State
247 of Mexico) (19.461°N, 99.797°W), La Goleta (State of Mexico) (20.07°N, 99.556°W), °Near
248 Salamanca city (Querétaro) (20.542°N, 101.162°W), San °Nicolas dam (State of Mexico) (19.924°N,
249 -99.788°W), and Valsequillo dam (Puebla) (18.909°N, -98.16°W).

250 **Detailed description**

251 **Adult parthenogenetic female** (Fig. 7B-C): Length: 0.57-0.9 mm (n=20). Body nearly rounded in
252 lateral aspect, high (ratio: 1.65), maximum height in middle-posterior portion, depending on
253 number of embryos. Dorsum of valves strongly convex, projected much higher than head, almost
254 straight in posterior part, dorsal depression between head and rest of body present. Postero-
255 dorsal angle well-marked, rounded. Posterior margin straight, continuing into widely convex
256 ventral margin. No slight sculptures on surface of valves. No cuticular hairs on head and valves,
257 without dorsal keel. Live animals are whitish in color.

258 Head – Relatively large, rounded, without any rostral projection; with marked supra-ocular
259 depression and large compound eye. Optical vesicle contiguous with prominent top of head.
260 Ventral margin depressed under compound eye and bulging at level of antennules.

261 Antennule (A1) (Fig. 8B, 9B) – Cylindrical, with scattered denticles of different size on anterior face
262 (only visible with SEM) and row of long setules on posterior face. Antennular sensory seta

263 elongated, arising approximately in middle of lateral face. Distal tip bordered with small thick
264 spinules. Nine short aesthetascs.

265 Antenna (A2) (Fig. 10C-D) – coxal part with two setulated sensory setae, one long, the other short
266 and thin (ratio between setae: 2.1) (Fig. 10D). Basal segment robust, with distal spine at dorsal,
267 and a long distal sensory seta on ventral face setulated with long hairs on the tip (Fig. 10D).
268 Transverse rows of numerous spinules on surface less sclerotized than in *Moina cf micrura* 1MX,
269 with different size and rows of long fine dense hairs. Antennal branches elongated, 4-segmented
270 exopodite slightly shorter than 3-segmented endopodite, all segments cylindrical, with rows of
271 minute spinules and rows of long and thin setae. Antennal formula: setae 0-0-1-3/1-1-3, spines 0-
272 1-0-1/1-1-1, different to the other species of the complex. Three long, apical swimming setae on
273 both antennal branches, all with basal and distal segments bilaterally armed with fine, long setules
274 and diminutes denticles visible at SEM (Fig.12D-1). Lateral seta on third segment of dorsal branch
275 with similar armature.

276 Valves (Fig. 12D) – large, sub-ovoid, with row of 10 to 20 setae along anterior ventral margin.
277 Posterior part with row of marginal denticles, organized in groups of 8-15, each group of the same
278 size (see 2 in Fig. 12D). Denticles in posterior most margin form uniform row (see 1 in Fig. 12D).
279 Two posterior hooks supporting postabdominal setae (seta natatoria).

280 Limb I (Fig. 13B) – distal lobe or endite 4 with single anterior thicker seta, bearing short setules and
281 two setae (one of them not visible at the illustration). Endite 3 with short, strong, single anterior
282 seta, bearing noticeable lateral spinule-like projections in both sides, and one bisetulated seta.
283 Endite 2 with two posterior setae. Endite 1 with three posterior setae. Two ejector hooks of
284 different sizes. The surface of the limb is not ornamented.

285 Limb II (Fig. 14B) – with large cylindrical lobe bearing long apical seta, its distal part regularly
286 setulated, and with a thick lateral seta (in black on fig 14B). Distal endite with two setulated setae,
287 other two endites with only one setulated seta each. One small seta near gnathobase plate,
288 followed anteriorly by small hook-like outgrow. Rest of gnathobase margin with row of setae
289 arranged fan-like. Posterior-most long single seta and neighboring more anteriorly located, long
290 seta separated by large gap. Both unilaterally setulated with long peg-like setules facing
291 proximally; posterior-most seta setulated along its whole length, neighbouring seta on distal
292 portion only. Above-mentioned two long setae followed by row of 10 - 13 gradually shortening
293 and curved setae. Fan-like arrangement of setae is closed by group of three anterior brush-like

294 setae, curved proximally with unilateral setulation (setulation as in *Moina micrura* s.str. Fig. 14H,4)
295 facing distally, posterior one strongly reduced. Two shorter and thick setae with apical setulation
296 inserted parallel to group of three anterior-most setae one of them with a very long prolongation.
297 Fan-like setation is arranged in two planes. Two long posterior setae plus two thick anterior
298 sensilla and anterior brush-like seta in ventral plane, remaining setae in dorsal plane.

299 Limb III (Fig. 15B) – Exopodite large, flat, with four distal setae and two short proximal setae, one
300 short and one long, all of them bilaterally setulated. Inner distal portion with three endites. Endite
301 3 with single anterior seta; endite 2 with one anterior and one posterior seta. Endite 1, with one
302 anterior seta. Rest of endopodite with 40-45 soft setae. At the base of the filter plate there are
303 some rows of medium denticles and long hairs.

304 Limb IV (Fig. 16B) – Exopodite like III, but more elongated, with four long setae in distal part and
305 two setae in proximal part, one short and another long. Inner distal portion of limb with two
306 endites: endite 1 with long articulated and bisetulated seta. Endite 2 with two long setulated
307 setae. Filter plate with 14-30 setae. At the base of the filter plate there are some long hairs but
308 there is not any denticle as in *Moina cf micrura* 1MX.

309 Limb V (Fig. 17B) – With large ovoid lobe, with setulated margin, large distal seta and small
310 proximal seta, both bi-setulated. Inner thoracopod portion with elongated lobe with long setulae
311 followed by two setae.

312 Postabdomen (Fig. 18B, 19D) – Elongated, conically narrowing distally. Ventral margin almost
313 straight, with numerous rows of minute setules in transversal rows. Ventral margin long, straight.
314 Laterally, row of 5-6 large, triangular teeth, fringed with marginal setules. Distal branch of bident
315 tooth significantly longer than proximal branch.

316 Natatory setae - Articulated, longer than the postabdomen, with the proximal part shorter and
317 without setae. Distal part longer, bilaterally setulated with few and fine setae.

318 Postabdominal claw (Fig. 19E) slightly curved, with sharp, pointed tip. Ventral pecten consisting of
319 6 to 9 slender spines huddled together. Basal and middle pectens fused, but spines of basal pecten
320 are considerably bigger than the middle ones.

321 **Ehippial female** (Fig.20D)

322 Ehippium ovoid with only one egg (Fig. 20D-E). Dorsal ridge strongly sclerotized. Lateral surface
323 with marked semi-circular reticulated pattern grapes-like. Ultrastructure of ehippial surface
324 formed by complex structure of semi- circles interlocked with many thin tentacle-like projections
325 of various length. Some projections cover also inner surface of polygons.

326 **Male**

327 Body – Smaller than female but more elongated. Dorsal margin of valves almost straight, postero-
328 dorsal angle clearly distinct. Antero-ventral portion of valves fringed with long, thin setules.
329 Denticles along posterior margin more distinct than in female, arranged in groups similarly.

330 Head – More elongated than in female, rostrum absent, labrum less fleshy than that of female.
331 Optical vesicle fills top of head. No trace of pigment in ocellus.

332 Antennule (Fig. 8I) – long, ornamentated with big and stout denticles with one setae on the first
333 third and one spine on the last third of the antennule (see arrows in Fig.8I) not present in the
334 other species of the complex. Nine aesthetascs and three hooks of distinct size and orientation,
335 with bifurcated tips, present distally.

336 Antenna– similar in armature to female (Fig. 10C-D). Distal margin of all segments with row of
337 thick, short spinules.

338 Carapace surface without any hairs or setules.

339 Trunk limb I (Fig. 21B) – with thick copulatory hook, its tip with two spinules, endite 4 (IDL) with
340 four setae (not visible at the figure), endite 3 with one stout spine, and one long bisetulated seta,
341 instead of two setae. Endite 3 with one bisetulated seta and one stiff seta. Endite 2 has three
342 setae, one long unsetulated seta (in black in Fig. 21B) and two bisetulated setae of same length.
343 Basal part short and rounded with covered with big denticles with different arrangement on
344 ventral face.

345 Limb II (Fig. 21B) – same morphology as in female.

346 Limb III (Fig. 23B) – same morphology as in female, with no denticles at the base of the filter plate.

347 Limb IV (Fig. 24B) – as in limb III, there are some big denticles at the base of the filter plate and a
348 dense row of hairs.

349 Limb V (Fig. 25B) – as in females.

350 Postabdomen (Fig. 26B) as in females.

351 *Moina cf micrura* 3 MX (Fig. 7D)

352

353 **Material revised:** Santa Bárbara (Durango, Mexico) (23.917°N, 104.952°W).

354 **Detailed description**

355 Adult parthenogenetic female (Fig. 7D): Length: 0.77-0.98 mm (n=20). Body nearly rounded in
356 lateral aspect, high (ratio: 1.58), maximum height in middle-posterior portion, depending on
357 number of embryos. Dorsum of valves strongly convex, projected much higher than head, almost
358 straight in posterior part, dorsal depression between head and rest of body present. Postero-
359 dorsal angle well-marked, rounded. Posterior margin straight, continuing into widely convex
360 ventral margin. No slight sculptures on surface of valves (Fig.12E). No cuticular hairs on head and
361 valves, without dorsal keel. Live animals are whitish in color.

362 Head – Relatively large, rounded, without any rostral projection; with marked supra-ocular
363 depression and large compound eye. Optical vesicle contiguous with prominent top of head.
364 Ventral margin depressed under compound eye and bulging at level of antennules.

365 Antennule (A1) (Fig. 8C, 9C) – Cylindrical, with scattered denticles of different size on anterior face
366 and rows of long setules on posterior face. Antennular sensory seta elongated, arising
367 approximately in middle of lateral face. Distal tip bordered with small thick spinules. Nine short
368 aesthetascs.

369 Antenna (A2) (Fig. 10E) – coxal part with two setulated sensory setae, one long, the other shorter
370 and thinner (ratio between setae: 1.8). Basal segment robust, with distal spine at dorsal, and a
371 long distal sensory seta on ventral face. Antennal branches elongated, 4-segmented exopodite
372 slightly shorter than 3-segmented endopodite, all segments cylindrical, with rows of minute
373 spinules and rows of long and thin setae. Antennal formula: setae 0-0-1-3/1-1-3, spines 0-1-0-1/0-
374 0-1. Three long, apical swimming setae on both antennal branches, all with basal and distal
375 segments bilaterally armed with fine and long setules.

376 Valves (Fig.12E) – large, sub-ovoid, with row of 20-23 setae along anterior ventral margin.
377 Posterior part with row of marginal denticles, organized in groups of 5-10, each group with one big
378 spine followed by denticles decreasing in size (see 2 in Fig.12E). Denticles in posterior most margin

379 form uniform row (see 3 in Fig.12E). Two posterior hooks supporting postabdominal seta (setae
380 natatoria).

381 Limb I (Fig. 13C) – distal lobe or endite 4 with single anterior thicker seta, bearing short setules and
382 two soft setae. Endite 3 with short, strong, single anterior seta, bearing noticeable lateral spinule-
383 like projections in both sides, and single long and strong posterior seta. Endite 2 with two
384 posterior setae. Endite 1 with three posterior setae. Two ejector hooks of different sizes. The
385 surface of the limb is slightly ornamentated.

386 Limb II (Fig. 14C) – with large cylindrical lobe bearing long apical seta, its distal part regularly
387 setulated, and with a thick lateral seta. Distal endite with two setulated setae, other two endites
388 with only one setulated seta each. One small seta near gnathobase plate, followed anteriorly by
389 small hook-like outgrow. Rest of gnathobase margin with row of setae arranged fan-like. Posterior-
390 most long single seta and neighboring more anteriorly located, long seta separated by large gap.
391 Both unilaterally setulated; posterior-most seta setulated along its whole length, neighbouring
392 seta on distal portion only. Above-mentioned two long setae followed by row of 10 - 15 gradually
393 shortening and curved setae. Fan-like arrangement of setae is closed by group of three anterior
394 brush-like setae, curved proximally with unilateral setulation facing distally, posterior one strongly
395 reduced. Two shorter and thick setae with apical setulation inserted parallel to group of three
396 anterior-most setae one of them with a very long prolongation. Fan-like setation is arranged in
397 two planes. Two long posterior setae plus two thick anterior sensilla and anterior brush-like seta in
398 ventral plane, remaining setae in dorsal plane.

399 Limb III (Fig. 15C) – Exopodite large, flat, with four distal setae and two short proximal setae, one
400 short and one long, all of them bilaterally setulated. Inner distal portion with three endites. Endite
401 3 with single anterior seta; endite 2 with one anterior and one posterior seta. Endite 1, with one
402 anterior seta and the seta “unica”. Rest of endopodite with 53 soft setae. At the base of the filter
403 plate there are some rows of medium denticles and some long hairs (Fig.15cont. I, J).

404 Limb IV (Fig. 16C) – Exopodite like III, but more elongated, with four long setae in distal part and
405 two setae in proximal part, one short and other long. Inner distal portion of limb with two endites:
406 endite 1 with long articulated and bisetulated seta, and endite 2 with two long setulated setae.
407 Filter plate with 37-44 setae. At the base of the filter plate there is a dense row of long hairs and a
408 row of big denticles.

409 Limb V (Fig. 17C) – With large ovoid lobe, with setulated margin, large distal seta and small
410 proximal seta, both bi-setulated. Inner thoracopod portion with elongated lobe with long setulae
411 followed by two setae.

412 Postabdomen (Fig. 18C, 19C) – Elongated, conically narrowing distally. Ventral margin almost
413 straight, with numerous rows of minute setules in transversal rows. Ventral margin long, straight.
414 Laterally, a row of 6-11 large, triangular teeth, fringed with marginal setules. Rows of denticles on
415 distal portion continue along base of bident tooth; distal branch of bident tooth significantly
416 longer than proximal branch.

417 Postabdominal claw (Fig. 18C, 19C) slightly curved, with sharp, pointed tip. Ventral pecten
418 consisting of 4 slender spines huddled together. Basal, middle and distal pectens fused.

419 Natatory seta – Articulated, longer than the postabdomen, with the proximal part shorter and
420 without setae. Distal part longer, bilaterally setulated with few and fine setae.

421 **Ehippium**

422 Ehippium ovoid with only one egg (Fig. 20F-G). Dorsal ridge strongly sclerotized. Lateral surface
423 with marked polygonal reticulated pattern. Ultrastructure of ehippial surface formed by complex
424 structure of polygons interlocked with many thin tentacle-like projections of various length. Some
425 projections cover also inner surface of polygons.

426 **Male**

427 Body – smaller than female but more elongated. Dorsal margin of valves almost straight, postero-
428 dorsal angle clearly distinct. Antero-ventral portion of valves fringed with long, thin setules.
429 Denticles along posterior margin more distinct than in female, arranged in groups similarly.
430 Carapace surface without any hairs or setules.

431 Head – more elongated than in female, rostrum absent, labrum less fleshy than that of female.
432 Optical vesicle fills top of head. No trace of pigment in ocellus.

433 Antennule (Fig. 8J) – long with two setae on the first third. Nine aesthetascs and four hooks of
434 distinct size and orientation, with bifurcated tips, present distally.

435 Antenna – similar in armature to female (Fig. 10E).

436 Trunk limb I (Fig. 21C) – With thick copulatory hook, its tip with two spinules, endite 4 (IDL) with
437 three setulated setae, endite 3 with two bisetulated setae, endite 2 with one long bisetulated seta,
438 one stiff seta with denticles on the tip, and endite 1 has three setae, one long unsetulated seta
439 and two bisetulated setae of same length. Basal part short and rounded with covered with big
440 denticles with different arrangement on ventral face.

441 Limb II (Fig. 22C) – same morphology as in female.

442 Limb III (Fig. 23C) – same morphology as in female, with less denticles and hairs at the base of the
443 filter plate.

444 Limb IV (Fig. 24C) – as females.

445 Limb V (Fig. 25C) – as in females.

446 Postabdomen (Fig. 26C) – as females.

447 *Moina cf micrura* 4 MX (Fig. 7E)

448

449 **Material examined:** Lake Vernet 2nd section (Tabasco, Mexico) (17.877°N, -92.55°W).

450 **Detailed description**

451 Adult parthenogenetic female (Fig. 7E): Length: 0.47-0.60 mm (n=5). Body nearly rounded in
452 lateral aspect, high (ratio: 1.62), maximum height in middle-posterior portion, depending on
453 number of embryos. Dorsum of valves strongly convex, projected much higher than head, almost
454 straight in posterior part, dorsal depression between head and rest of body present. Postero-
455 dorsal angle well-marked, rounded. Posterior margin straight, continuing into widely convex
456 ventral margin. No slight sculptures on surface of valves. No cuticular hairs on head and valves,
457 without dorsal keel. Live animals are brownish in color.

458 Head – relatively large, rounded, without any rostral projection; with marked supra-ocular
459 depression and large compound eye. Optical vesicle contiguous with prominent top of head.
460 Ventral margin depressed under compound eye and bulging at level of antennules.

461 Antennule (A1) (Fig. 8D, 9D) – Rod-like, with scattered denticles of different size on anterior and a
462 row of long setules on posterior face. Antennular sensory seta elongated, arising approximately in
463 middle of lateral face. Distal tip bordered with small thick spinules. Nine short aesthetascs.

464 Antenna (A2) (Fig. 10F) – Coxal part with two setulated sensory setae, one long, the other short
465 and thin (ratio between setae: 1.8). Basal segment robust, with distal spine at dorsal, and a long
466 distal sensory seta on ventral face. Antennal branches elongated, 4-segmented exopodite slightly
467 shorter than 3-segmented endopodite with no spinulation visible with optical microscopy.
468 Antennal formula: setae 0-0-1-3/1-1-3, spines 0-0-0-1/0-0-1. Three long, apical swimming setae on
469 both antennal branches, all with basal and distal segments bilaterally armed with fine and long
470 setules.

471 Valves (Fig. 12B-C) – Large, sub-ovoid, with row of 12-13 setae along anterior ventral margin.
472 Posterior part with row of marginal denticles, organized in groups of 5-8, each group of distinct
473 size. Denticles in posterior most margin form uniform row. Two posterior hooks supporting
474 postabdominal setae (setae natatoriae).

475 Limb I (Fig. 13D) – Distal lobe or endite 4 with single anterior thicker seta, bearing short setules
476 and two soft setae. Endite 3 with short, strong, single anterior seta, bearing noticeable lateral
477 spinule-like projections in both sides, and single long and strong posterior seta. Endite 2 with two
478 posterior setae. Endite 1 with three posterior setae. Two ejector hooks of different sizes. The
479 surface of the limb is slightly ornamented.

480 Limb II (Fig. 14D) (due to the lack of material of this group, this structure is not clear at the
481 illustration but characters described were checked) – With large cylindrical lobe bearing long
482 apical seta, its distal part regularly setulated, and with a thick lateral seta (not visible at the
483 illustration). Distal endite with two setulated setae, other two endites with only one setulated seta
484 each. One small seta near gnathobase plate, followed anteriorly by small hook-like outgrowth. Rest
485 of gnathobase margin with a row of setae arranged fan-like. Posterior-most long single seta and
486 neighboring more anteriorly located, long seta separated by large gap. Both unilaterally setulated
487 with long peg-like setules facing proximally; posterior-most seta setulated along its full length,
488 neighbouring seta on distal portion only. Above-mentioned two long setae followed by row of 6-7
489 gradually shortening and curved setae. Fan-like arrangement of setae is closed by group of three
490 anterior brush-like setae, curved proximally with unilateral setulation facing distally, posterior one
491 strongly reduced. Two shorter and thick setae with apical setulation inserted parallel to group of
492 three anterior-most setae one of them with a very long prolongation. Fan-like setation is arranged
493 in two planes. Two long posterior setae plus two thick anterior sensilla and anterior brush-like seta
494 in ventral plane, remaining setae in dorsal plane.

495 Limb III (Fig. 15D) – Exopodite large, flat, with four distal setae and two short proximal setae, one
496 short and one long, all of them bilaterally setulated. Inner distal portion with three endites. Endite
497 3 with single anterior seta; endite 2 with one anterior and one posterior seta. Endite 1, with two
498 anterior setae and the seta “unica”. Rest of endopodite with 23 soft setae. At the base of the filter
499 plate there is a row of small denticles and no hairs.

500 Limb IV (Fig. 16D) – exopodite like III, but more elongated, with four long setae in distal part and
501 two setae in proximal part, one short and other long. Inner distal portion of limb with two endites:
502 endite 1 with long articulated and bisetulated seta; endite 2 with two long setulated setae. Filter
503 plate with 13-15 setae. At the distal part of the gnathobase there are some scattered big denticles
504 and some long hairs.

505 Limb V (Fig. 17D) – With large ovoid lobe, with setulated margin, large distal seta and small
506 proximal seta, both bi-setulated. Inner thoracopod portion with elongated lobe with a long setula
507 followed by two setae.

508 Postabdomen (Fig. 18D, 19F) – elongated. Ventral margin almost straight, with numerous rows of
509 minute setules in transversal rows. Ventral margin long, straight. Laterally, row of 4 large,
510 triangular teeth, fringed with marginal setules. Distal branch of bident tooth significantly longer
511 than proximal branch.

512 Natatory setae (Fig. 18D) – articulated, longer than the postabdomen, with the proximal part
513 shorter and without setae. Distal part longer, bilaterally setulated with few and fine setae.

514 Postabdominal claw (Fig. 18D, 19F) slightly curved, with sharp, pointed tip. Ventral pecten with 3
515 dorsal slender spines. Basal and middle pectens separated by a gap.

516 *Moina cf micrura* 5 MX (Fig. 7F, G)

517

518 **Material examined:** In Mexico, El Rosario II, (Baja California Sur) (23.758°N, -110.092°W), pond 1,
519 2 and 3 at Jonuta-Escárcega road (Campeche) (18.109°N, -92.079°W; 18.063°N, -92.017°W;
520 18.048°N, -91.888°W, respectively).

521 **Detailed description**

522 Adult parthenogenetic female: Length: 0.55-0.77 mm (n=5). Body nearly rounded in lateral aspect,
523 high (ratio: 1.45), being the smallest ratio of the complex, maximum height in middle-posterior

524 portion, depending on number of embryos (Fig.7F-G). Dorsum of valves strongly convex, projected
525 much higher than head, almost straight in posterior part, dorsal depression between head and the
526 rest of body present. Postero-dorsal angle well-marked, rounded. Posterior margin straight,
527 continuing into widely convex ventral margin. Sculptures on surface of valves only visible with
528 SEM. No cuticular hairs on head and valves, without dorsal keel. Live animals are whitish in color.

529 Head – Relatively large, rounded, without any rostral projection; with marked supra-ocular
530 depression and large compound eye. Optical vesicle contiguous with prominent top of head.
531 Ventral margin depressed under compound eye and bulging at level of antennules.

532 Antennule (A1) (Fig. 8E, 9E) – Cylindrical, with some tiny scattered, denticles on anterior face (only
533 visible with SEM) and row of long setules on posterior face. Antennular sensory seta elongated,
534 arising approximately in middle of lateral face. Distal tip bordered with small thick spinules. Nine
535 short aesthetascs.

536 Antenna (A2) (Fig. 11A - C) – Coxal part with two setulated sensory setae, one long, the other short
537 and thin (ratio between setae: 1.8) (see arrows 1, 2 in fig. C). Basal segment robust, with distal
538 spine at dorsal side (see arrows Fig. A and Fig. B), and a long distal sensory seta on ventral face.
539 Antennal branches elongated, 4-segmented exopodite slightly shorter than 3-segmented
540 endopodite, all segments cylindrical, with rows of minute spinules and rows of long and thin setae.
541 Antennal formula: setae 0-0-1-3/1-1-3, spines 0-0-0-1/0-0-1. Three long, apical swimming setae on
542 both antennal branches, all with basal and distal segments bilaterally armed with fine and long
543 setules.

544 Valves (Fig.7F-G) – Small, sub-ovoid, with row of 13-16 setae along anterior ventral margin.
545 Posterior part with row of marginal denticles, organized in groups of 6-7, each group of distinct
546 size. Denticles in posterior most margin form uniform row. Two posterior hooks supporting
547 postabdominal setae (setae natatoria).

548 Limb I (Fig. 13E) – Distal lobe or endite 4 with single anterior thicker seta, bearing short setules and
549 two soft setae. Endite 3 with short, strong, single anterior seta, bearing noticeable lateral spinule-
550 like projections, and single long and strong posterior seta. Endite 2 with two posterior setae.
551 Endite 1 with three posterior setae. Two ejector hooks of different sizes.

552 Limb II (Fig. 14E) – With large cylindrical lobe bearing long apical seta, its distal part regularly
553 setulated, and with a thick lateral seta. Distal endite with two setulated setae, other two endites

554 with only one setulated seta each. One small seta near gnathobase plate, followed anteriorly by
555 small hook-like outgrow. Rest of gnathobase margin with row of setae arranged fan-like. Posterior-
556 most long single seta and neighboring more anteriorly located, long seta separated by large gap.
557 Both unilaterally setulated with long peg-like setules facing proximally; posterior-most seta
558 setulated along its full length, neighbouring seta on distal portion only. Above-mentioned two long
559 setae followed by row of 10 gradually shortening and curved setae. Fan-like arrangement of setae
560 is closed by group of three anterior brush-like setae, curved proximally with unilateral setulation
561 facing distally, posterior one strongly reduced. Two shorter and thick setae with apical setulation
562 inserted parallel to group of three anterior-most setae one of them with a very long prolongation.
563 Fan-like setation is arranged in two planes. Two long posterior setae plus two thick anterior
564 sensilla and anterior brush-like seta in ventral plane, remaining setae in dorsal plane.

565 Limb III (Fig. 15E) – Exopodite large, flat, with four distal setae and two short proximal setae, one
566 short and one long, all of them bilaterally setulated. Inner distal portion with three endites. Endite
567 3 with single anterior seta; endite 2 with one anterior and one posterior seta. Endite 1, with one
568 anterior seta and the seta “unica”. Rest of endopodite with 25 soft setae. At the base of the filter
569 plate there some scattered small denticles.

570 Limb IV (Figs 16E) – Exopodite like III, but more elongated, with four long setae in distal part and
571 two setae in proximal part, one short and another long. Inner distal portion of limb with two
572 endites: endite 1 with long articulated and bisetulated seta. Endite 2 with two long setulated
573 setae. Filter plate with 13-15 setae. At the distal part of the gnathobase there is a row of scattered
574 big denticles and some long hairs.

575 Limb V (Fig. 17E) – With large ovoid lobe, with setulated margin, large distal seta and small
576 proximal seta, both bi-setulated. Inner thoracopod portion with elongated lobe with long setulae
577 followed by two setae.

578 Postabdomen (Fig. 18E, 19G) – Elongated, ventral margin almost straight, with numerous rows of
579 minute setules in transversal rows. Ventral margin long, straight. Laterally, row of 6 large,
580 triangular teeth, fringed with marginal setules. Rows of denticles on distal portion continue along
581 base of bident tooth; distal branch of bident tooth significantly longer than proximal branch.

582 Postabdominal claw (Fig. 19H) - slightly curved, with sharp, pointed tip. Ventral pecten consisting
583 of 6 slender spines huddled together. Basal, middle, and distal pectens fused.

584 Natatory setae – articulated, longer than the postabdomen, with the proximal part shorter and
585 without setae. Distal part longer, bilaterally setulated with few and fine setae.

586

587 *Moina cf micrura* 1 ES (Fig. 7I, J)

588

589 **Material revised:** In Spain: Albufera de Valencia Lake (39.33°N, 0.37°W) and Sobrón dam (42.77°N,
590 3.10°W).

591 **Detailed description**

592 Adult Parthenogenetic female: Small animals, length: 0.610-698 mm (n=10). Body roundish in
593 lateral view, convex in the dorsum and not high (body height/ length = 0.54-0.66) (Fig. 7I, J). A
594 small dorsal depression between the head and the rest of the body. Postero-dorsal angle well-
595 marked, as an angle. Posterior margin with a dorso posterior angle present. Sculpture on the
596 surface of the valves resembling scales. No integumental hairs on head and valves, with a dorsal
597 keel. Live animals are whitish in colour.

598 Valves - large, subovoid, with setae along ventral margin (Fig. 12H). Posterior to the last marginal
599 seta, a row of marginal denticles, organized in groups with 7-10 members increasing in size
600 uniformly distally. These denticles in the dorsalmost part form a uniform row that becomes
601 submarginal with thin and long elements towered to the dorsal hooks (Fig. 12I). Between the
602 hooks there are present a series of submarginal spine-like setulae (Fig. 12I). The hook is setulated
603 and works for the setae natatoria, found in the dorsal most internal part of the valves.

604 Postabdomen - elongated, conically narrowing distally, posterior view with scattered lines of
605 spinules in lateral side, smooth (Fig. 18F, 19I). Ventral margin almost straight. Preanal angle, well
606 expressed. Laterally, a row of 5-6 large, triangular, plumose teeth, and the bident tooth, with the
607 distal branch 1/3 larger than the basal branch (Fig. 18F, 19I).

608 Postabdominal claw (Figs. 18F, 19J) - curved, externally with three successive pectens along the
609 dorsal margin, basal pecten consisting of 4-5 smaller spines, middle pecten with 9 stronger spines,
610 distal pecten consisting with smaller denticles forming a row from the mid-claw. On the ventral
611 margin there are 5-6 strong denticles, near the base of the claw.

612 Seta natatorial - longer than the postabdomen; its distal segment longer than the basal one with
613 lateral setulae.

614 Antenna I (Figs. 8F, 9F) - elongated, slightly wider in the last third (length about 4 diameters), with
615 transverse rows of scattered spinules. A longitudinal row of long setules on the posterior face.
616 Antennular sensory seta conical, elongated, arising in the middle of the lateral face. Distal tip
617 bordered with a scattered line of small thick spinules. Nine aesthetascs two of them slightly larger,
618 tip of each aesthetascs with small projections, giving an aspect of a crown (Fig. 9F). This species
619 has the biggest ratio of the A1 (Mean ratio: 7.21, i.e. *Moina micrura* s. str. has a mean ratio of 2.9)
620 of all the studies groups.

621 Antenna II (Fig. 11D) - coxal part with two setulated sensory setae, one big and the other smaller
622 and thinner. Basal segment, with a short spine at anterior face in distal side, and a distal sensory
623 seta on posterior face. Spinulation of all segments similar to *M. micrura* s. str. but with denser and
624 stronger lines of spinules. Antennal branches of both, endopod and exopod with a row of long and
625 thin setae in the posterior face. Antennal formula: setae 0-0-1-3/1-1-3, spines 0-1-0-1/0-0-1.

626 Limb I (Fig. 13F) - inner distal lobe, or endite 4 with a single anterior thicker seta, bearing short
627 setules, and two soft setae. Endite 3 with a long anterior seta, bearing lateral spinule-like
628 projections in both sides, and a single long and strong posterior seta. Endite 2, with two posterior
629 setae. Endite 1 with three posterior setae. Two ejector hooks of different size. No maxillar process
630 on limb base.

631 Limb II (Fig. 14F) - A large lobe bearing a long-articulated seta, similar to *M. micrura*, with the distal
632 part regularly setulated, followed by a single endite, bearing two soft, setulated setae and two

633 endites with one setulated seta. In the opposite side a soft seta short setulated seta close to the
634 gnathobase. A small setulated sensilla follows this small seta and a long “beating seta”. A long
635 anterior seta. Gnathobase clearly defined, with nine anterior setae (and seven posterior setae in
636 two rows, four posterior and three anterior, one of them with distal part covered by setulae.

637 Limb III (Fig. 15F) - Exopodite large, flat, with four distal setae and two proximal setae all of them
638 bilaterally setulated, one short and the other long. Inner distal portion with three endites. Endite 3
639 with single anterior seta; endite 2 with one anterior and one posterior seta. Endite 1, with one
640 anterior seta and the seta “unica”. Rest of endopodite with 27-28 setae. Distal corner with one
641 long seta.

642 Limb IV (Fig. 16F) - Exopodite similar to Limb III, but more elongated, with four long setae in distal
643 part and two setae in proximal side, one short and one long, all of them bilaterally setulated. Inner
644 distal portion of the limb with two endites: endite 2 (see Fig. 16F named as 2 in *Moina micrura s.*
645 *s.tr.* fig.16H) with two setae, one of them long, soft and hairy as in *Moina micrura, s.s.tr.* no
646 described before seta (see Fig. 16F in black named as 3 in *Moina micrura s. s.tr.* fig.16H). Endite 1
647 with one anterior (see Fig. 16F named as 1 in *Moina micrura s. s.tr.* fig.16H) and one posterior
648 setae. Filter plate with 26-28 setae.

649 Limb V. (Fig.17F) - With large ovoid lobe, with setulated margin, a large distal seta and a small
650 proximal seta. Inner limb portion with a rounded lobe and two soft setae, one long and one short
651 and thin.

652 **Ephippial female:** No material available

653 **Detailed description of males**

654 Body – smaller than female, more elongated as compared to female. Dorsal margin of valves
655 almost straight, postero-dorsal angle clearly distinct. Antero-ventral portion of valves fringed with

656 long, thin setules. Denticles along posterior margin more distinct than in female, arranged in
657 groups similarly, as in *Moina micrura* s. str.

658 Head – more elongated than in female, rostrum absent, labrum less fleshy than that of female.
659 Optical vesicle fills top of head. No trace of pigment in ocellus.

660 Antennule (A1) (Fig. 8K) – long, antennular sensory not too long, male seta and sensillum inserted
661 in first third of antennule, the sensillum inserted under the sensory seta in different points. Nine
662 aesthetascs and two hooks of distinct size and orientation, with bifurcated tips, present distally.
663 The surface is full of denticles on the first half and long setulas in the second half part.

664 Antenna (A2) (Fig. 11D) – similar in armature to female. Distal margin of all segments with row of
665 thick, short spinules.

666 Carapace surface without any hairs or setules.

667 Limb I (Fig.21D) – with thick copulatory hook, its tip with two spinules, endite 4 (IDL) with three
668 setae, endite 3 with one seta and one stiff seta with little denticles on the margin, and endite 2
669 with three setae two bilaterally setulated and one long soft seta without setulation (see fig. 21D
670 remarked in black). Basal part short and rounded, with row of stout bristles on ventral face.

671 Limb II (Fig. 22D) – same morphology as in female (Fig. 14F).

672 Limb III (Fig. 23D) – same morphology as in female (Fig.15F), this species shows the biggest
673 denticles at the base of the filter plate, clearly different to the other species of the complex.

674 Limb IV (Fig. 24D) – as in limb III, the denticles at the base of the filter plate, are clearly remarkable
675 in both sexes but in males, there are no hairs over the structure.

676 Limb V – we couldn't observe this limb and there was not more material available.

677 Postabdomen (Fig. 26D) – as in female, shorter, with about 4-5 setulated teeth, distalmost tooth
678 thin and with sharp tip. Distal bident tooth as in female. About 4-5 teeth in basal pecten of
679 postabdominal claw - up to 10 in middle pecten (arranged fan-like) and 5-7 on dorsal side at basal
680 part of claw.

681 *Moina cf micrura* 2 ES (Fig. 7H)

682

683 **Material examined:** Albufera de Valencia Lake (Spain) (39.33°N, 0.37°W).

684 **Detailed description**

685 Adult Parthenogenetic female: Length bigger than *M. micrura* s. str.: mean length 0.831 mm
686 (n=11). Body more elongated in lateral view, slightly convex in the dorsum, not so high, same ratio
687 as *Moina micrura* s. s.tr. (Length/Height: 1.69) (Fig. 7H). A small dorsal depression between the
688 head and the rest of the body. Postero-dorsal angle well-marked, as an angle. Posterior margin
689 straight. Sculpture on the surface of the valves resembling scales (Fig. 12J-K). No integument hairs
690 on head and valves, with a dorsal keel. Live animals are whitish in color.

691 Valves (Figs. 12J-L) - large, subovoid, with a row of 15 setae along ventral margin (Fig. 12J, K).
692 Posterior to the last marginal seta, a row of marginal denticles, organized in groups with 7-10
693 members increasing in size uniformly distally. These denticles in the dorsalmost part form a
694 uniform row that becomes submarginal and after a curve again appear as marginal. A remarkable
695 setulated hook for the postadominal setae in the dorsalmost part of the valves (Fig. 12L).

696 Postabdomen (Figs. 18G, 19K) - elongated, conically narrowing distally, with numerous lines of
697 spinules in lateral side, and an appearance of scale-like dots, just visible in the SEM (Fig. 19K).
698 Ventral margin almost straight. Laterally, a row of 5-8 large, triangular, plumose teeth, and the
699 bident tooth, with the distal branch larger than the basal branch and with a row of fine seta on the
700 base.

701 Postabdominal claw (Fig. 19L) - curved, externally with two successive pectens along the dorsal
702 margin, basal pecten consisting of 7-11 thick spines, distal pecten consisting with smaller denticles
703 forming a row from the mid-claw. Internally, there is a uniform row of denticles. On the ventral
704 margin there are 7-8 strong denticles, near the base of the claw.

705 Seta natatorial - longer than the postabdomen; its distal segment longer than the basal one with
706 lateral setulae.

707 Antennula I (Fig. 8G, 9G-H) - elongated, rod-like (length about 5 diameters), cylindrical, with
708 transverse rows of surrounding it a longitudinal row of long setules on the posterior face. Also,
709 some long setules around the first third of the antenna. Antennular sensory seta conical,
710 elongated, arising slightly before the middle of the lateral face. Distal tip bordered with a line of
711 small thick spinules (Fig.9H1). Nine aesthetascs two of them slightly shorter, tip of each
712 aesthetascs with small projections, giving an aspect of a crown.

713 Antenna II (Fig. 11E) - coxal part with two setulated sensory setae one big and the other smaller
714 and thinner. Basal segment, with a short spine at anterior face in distal side, and a distal sensory
715 seta on posterior face. Spinulation of all segments like *M. micrura*, but with denser and stronger
716 lines of spinules. Antennal branches elongated, 3-segmented endopod with rows of long and thin
717 setae in the posterior face. Antennal formula: setae 0-0-1-3/1-1-3, spines 0-1-0-1/0-0-1.

718 Limb I (Fig. 13G) - inner distal lobe, or endite 4 with a single anterior thicker seta, bearing short
719 setules, and two soft setae. Endite 3 with a variable in length anterior seta, bearing lateral spinule-
720 like projections in both sides, and a single long and strong posterior seta. Endite 2 with two
721 posterior setae. Endite 1 with three posterior setae. Two ejector hooks of distinct size. No maxillar
722 process on limb base.

723 Limb II (Fig.14G) - A large lobe bearing a long single and thin bisetulated seta, followed by four
724 endites, each with bisetulated setae, decreasing in size. One sensilia close to the gnathobase, but
725 longer and thinner than that in *M. micrura*. A long, setulated seta-like follows this smaller seta, the
726 long "beating" seta present. Gnathobase with 7 anterior setae and five posterior setae, two of
727 them covered with strong setules in the last third.

728 Limb III (Fig. 15G) - Exopodite large, roundish, with four setae along the distal margin and two
729 proximal setae, one of them strong and long, all of them bilaterally setulated. Inner distal portion
730 with three endites. Endite 3 with a single, very strong seta; endite 2 with one anterior, articulated
731 seta. Endite 1 (very remarked), with two anterior setae, and the seta "unica". Rest of endopodite
732 with 29-37 setae. At the base of the filter plate there is a row of little denticles and hairs.

733 Limb IV (Fig. 16G) - Exopodite similar to Limb III, with four long setae decreasing in size distally,
734 and two setae in proximal side, one short and one long. Inner distal portion of the limb with two
735 endites: endite 1 with anterior setae and one posterior seta. Endite 2 with one anterior seta and
736 endite 3 with 1 anterior seta. Filter plate with 17-27 setae.

737 Limb V (Fig. 17G) - With large ovoid lobe, with setulated margin, a large, bisegmented distal seta
738 and a small proximal seta. Inner limb portion with a lobe bearing a thin seta and a long seta.

739 **Detailed description of males**

740 Body – Smaller than female, more elongated as compared to female. Dorsal margin of valves
741 almost straight, postero-dorsal angle clearly distinct. Antero-ventral portion of valves fringed with

742 long, thin setules. Denticles along posterior margin more distinct than in female, arranged in
743 groups similarly, as in *Moina micrura* s. str.

744 Head – More elongated than in female, rostrum absent, labrum less fleshy than that of female.
745 Optical vesicle fills top of head. No trace of pigment in ocellus.

746 Antennule (Fig. 8L) – Long, antennular sensory not too long, male seta and sensillum inserted in
747 first third of antennule, the sensilia is inserted under the sensory seta. Nine aesthetascs and three
748 hooks of distinct size and orientation, with bifurcated tips, present distally. There is not any
749 ornamentation on the surface.

750 Antenna (Fig. 11E) – Similar in armature to female. Distal margin of all segments with row of thick,
751 short spinules.

752 Carapace surface without any hairs or setules.

753 Limb I (Fig. 21E) – With thick copulatory hook, its tip with two spinules, endite 4 (IDL) with three
754 setae, endite 3 with one seta and one stiff seta with little denticles on the margin, and endite 2
755 with three setae two bilaterally setulated and one long soft seta without setulation. Basal part
756 short and rounded, with row of stout bristles on ventral face.

757 Limb II (Fig. 22E) – same morphology as in female (Fig.14G).

758 Limb III (Fig. 23E) – Same morphology as in female, this species presents some rows of medium
759 denticles at the base of the filter plate.

760 Limb IV (Fig. 24E) – As in limb III, there is a row of the denticles at the base of the filter plate
761 clearly remarkable in both sexes with too many hairs.

762 Limb V (Fig. 25D) – As in females, with large ovoid lobe, with setulated margin, a large,
763 bisegmented distal seta and a small proximal seta. Inner limb portion with a lobe bearing a thin
764 seta.

765 Postabdomen (Fig. 26E) – As in female, shorter, with about 6 setulated teeth, distalmost tooth thin
766 and with sharp tip. Distal bident tooth as in female. A dense row of teeth in the basal pecten of
767 postabdominal claw.

768 Morphological comparison

769

770 All species of the complex present differences in the following characters (Table 1 and table 2, in
771 other files due their size):

772 Females:

- 773 - Size (Fig. 7): *Moina cf micrura* 3MX is the biggest (Mean length: 0.86 mm) followed by
774 *Moina cf micrura* 2ES, *Moina cf micrura* 2MX, *Moina cf micrura* 1MX, *Moina cf micrura*
775 5MX, *Moina cf micrura* 1ES, *Moina cf micrura* 4MX, and the smallest one, *Moina micrura s.*
776 *s.tr.* (Mean length: 0.86 mm).
- 777 - Antennules (A1) (Fig. 8, 9): ratio A1 (L/W): *Moina cf micrura* 1ES, has the longest
778 antennule, surface's ornamentation, position of sensorial seta.
- 779 - Antennae (A2) (Fig. 10, 11): Ratio long Proximal seta / short proximal seta being *Moina*
780 *micrura s. str.* the one which presents the biggest ratio and *Moina cf micrura* 1ES the
781 smallest one, surface's ornamentation, Spanish populations present the greatest
782 spinulation, and antennal formula (variable in the number of spines).
- 783 - Valves (Fig. 13): type of spinulation and sculptures on shell (see Table 2).
- 784 - Limb II (Fig. 14): number of setae on filter plate (see table II).
- 785 - Limb III (Fig. 15): ratio setae, number of setae on filter plate, hairs and spinulation of
786 gnathobase.
- 787 - Limb IV (Fig. 16): ratio setae, number of setae on filter plate, hairs and spinulation of
788 gnathobase, seta of endite 1. In *Moina cf micrura* 4MX, it seems to have one more seta on
789 endite 1 than the others.
- 790 - Limb V (Fig. 17): ratio setae.
- 791 - Post abdomen (Fig.18, 19): basaldorn spines and feathered teeth, Basal and middle pecten
792 of postabdominal claw in *Moina cf micrura* 4MX is separated instead of fusions as in the
793 others species.
- 794 - Ehippium (Fig. 20): circular egg as in *Moina cf micrura* 3MX or an ovoid egg as in *Moina*
795 *micrura s. s.tr.*, *Moina cf micrura* 1MX, and *Moina cf micrura* 2MX. Polygonal cells or
796 circular cells.

797 The main differences in males are in:

- 798 - A1 (Fig. 8): presence of aesthetascs at the exit of the lateral seta, ornamentation of surface
799 as the, presence of spines in *Moina cf micrura* 2MX (Fig. 8I) and the number of the hooks
800 from five, like in *Moina micrura s. str.* to two in *Moina cf micrura* 1ES.

- 801 - Limb I (Fig. 21): Ornamentation of endites, the tip of seta without setulation on endite 1 of
- 802 *Moina cf micrura* 1MX presents spinulation, and also in *Moina cf micrura* 1MX, there is a
- 803 plumose seta on endite 2 not presented in the others (Fig. 21A).
- 804 - Limb II (Fig. 22): Number of setae on gnathobase.
- 805 - Limb III (Fig. 23): Number of setae on gnathobase and ornamentation
- 806 - Limb IV (Fig. 24): Number of setae on gnathobase and ornamentation
- 807 - Limb V (Fig. 25): No differences
- 808 - Post abdomen (Fig. 26): basaldorn spines and feathered teeth.

809 Taxonomical remarks

810

811 Females of *Moina cf micrura* 1MX present the most marked pattern of spinulation and hairs at the
 812 base of the Gnathobase mainly in limb IV of all Mexican species. Males of *Moina cf micrura* 1MX,
 813 can be easily distinguished by the plumose seta on endite 2 and tip of unsculptured seta of endite 1 of
 814 the trunk limb I, and in the antennule for the aesthetascs present at the exit of the sensory seta.
 815 These characters are not shared with the other species of the complex.

816 Males of *Moina cf micrura* 2MX, present a stout spine in the last third of the antennule and its
 817 trunk limb I presents one soft seta and a stout spine instead of two soft setae.

818 *Moina cf micrura* 3MX is the biggest species of the complex and *Moina cf micrura* 4MX is the
 819 smallest found in the American continent. Also, *Moina cf micrura* 3MX has a round egg instead of
 820 ovoid as in *Moina cf micrura* 1MX,2MX and *Moina micrura* s. s.tr.

821 *Moina cf micrura* 4MX, present one seta more one endite 1 of limb IV not present in the other
 822 species of the complex.

823 *Moina cf micrura* 5MX, has the biggest antennula.

824 Females of *Moina cf micrura* 1 ES can be distinguished from the other studied species of the
 825 complex by the hairy seta on endite 1 of limb IV. This character is shared with *Moina micrura* s. str.
 826 the closest, genetically, species of the complex.

827 The body of females of *Moina cf micrura* 2 ES is more elongated in lateral view, its postabdomen
 828 presents an appearance of scale-like dots, just visible in the SEM and the form of the
 829 postabdomen is straighter than the others.

830 Statistical analyses

831

832 The PCA of the environmental variables (Table 3) shows two groups (Fig. 27A): the first group
 833 represents the Old World (European) species and is composed by 1, 2, and 3, *Moina micrura s.*
 834 *s.tr.*; *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; and *Moina cf micrura* 1ES, respectively (right circle on Fig.27A). And
 835 the second group, the American one, is composed by all Mexican species (left circle on Fig.27A
 836 numbers 4-8, *Moina cf micrura* 1- 5 MX, respectively). The habitat of European group is
 837 characterized by high temperature, latitude and depth, and the habitat of the American group is
 838 characterized by altitude and Secchi (Fig.27A).

839

| Especies | AltMin | AltMax | LatMin | LatMax | Depth | Secchi | Temp |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Mmsstr | 216.00 | 216.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 | 1500.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 |
| Mcfm2ES | 0.00 | 509.00 | 39.00 | 39.00 | 1300.00 | 290.00 | 24.60 |
| Mcfm1ES | 0.00 | 509.00 | 39.00 | 42.00 | 17300.00 | 230.00 | 24.00 |
| Mcfm1MX | 1416.00 | 1823.00 | 26.00 | 27.00 | 900.00 | 470.00 | 23.70 |
| Mcfm2MX | 310.00 | 2811.00 | 16.00 | 22.00 | 2350.00 | 270.00 | 19.50 |
| Mcfm3MX | 2131.00 | 2131.00 | 23.00 | 23.00 | 150.00 | 150.00 | 26.90 |
| Mcfm4MX | 10.00 | 10.00 | 17.00 | 17.00 | 150.00 | 150.00 | 31.00 |
| Mcfm5MX | 3.00 | 60.00 | 18.00 | 23.00 | 900.00 | 200.00 | 18.00 |

840

841 Table 3. Environmental parameters used for the analysis. AltMin: Minimum Altitude; AltMax:
 842 Maximum Altitude; LatMin: Minimum Latitude; LatMax: Maximum Altitude; Depth (cm); Secchi
 843 (cm); Temp: temperature (°C).

844 The PCA of the morphological parameters of females Table 2 and Fig.27B). shows four groups
 845 correlated by their morphology. The first group (*Moina cf micrura* 1 and 4 MX) is characterized by
 846 these ratios: habit (L/W); length of basipodite A2/Length Distal Setae of A2; and Limb III Length
 847 Long seta/ Length Small seta. The second group (*Moina micrura s. s.tr.*, *Moina cf micrura* 2 and 5
 848 MX) is characterized by: length of basipodite A2/Long Proximal Setae of A2 and Exopod limb IV
 849 (length/width); Limb V Long seta/ Small seta.

850 Haplotype network and intraspecific divergence and BIN numbers

851

852 The analyses of the COI dataset detected 24 haplotypes (Fig. 28) showing restricted distribution.
853 Genetical intraspecific divergences of Mexican and Spanish populations ranged from 0 to 1.78%,
854 being the putative species *Moina cf micrura* 1MX, the species with more divergence. This greater
855 divergence in this species is due to the high number of haplotypes showed by the haplotype
856 network related with the geographical history of the Mexican Sierra Madre.

857 The clade A (BOLD:ACK2252) represents *Moina micrura s. s.tr.*, includes 2 haplotypes, one
858 haplotype in Czech Republic (Terra typica) and the other in Kazakhstan. Clade B (BOLD:ACA1509) is
859 represented only by 1 haplotype restricted to Spain (*Moina cf micrura* 1 ES) and is the closest to
860 *M. micrura s. str.* Clade C (BOLD:ACH9786), is one haplotype from India (*Moina cf micrura* IN).
861 Clade D (BOLD:ACA1508) is another Spanish haplotype (*Moina cf micrura* 2 ES) coexisting in
862 sympatry with specimens of Clade B in Albufera de Valencia Lake.

863 In Mexico, there are 14 haplotypes in 5 different clades (E, F, G, I, K), *Moina cf micrura* 1 MX, clade
864 I (BOLD:AAB1056), is the group with more haplotypes (Fig. 28).

865 Clade H (BOLD:ABW7759) include two different haplotypes, one exclusively in South Korea and the
866 others are shared between South Korea, Russia, Kazakhstan and Hungary (*Moina cf micrura* SK,
867 RUS, KZ, HU).

868 Finally, Clade J (BOLD:ADF4310) is restricted to Russia showing three different haplotypes (*Moina*
869 *cf micrura* RUS).

870 DISCUSSION

871

872 The detailed analyses of the morphology of the five-putative species of *Moina micrura* complex in
873 Mexico (*Moina cf micrura* 1-5MX) and two from Spain (*Moina cf micrura* 1-2ES) described above
874 (Figs.7-24) showed significant differences in agreement with barcoding and patterns of
875 distribution.

876 In these detailed analyses, new characters not considered before, as limbs, were included. These
877 latter characters, present many significant differences i.e. the ornamentation limbs III-IV in both
878 sexes and the ephippium and the hairy seta on limb IV present in *Moina cf micrura* 1ES and *Moina*
879 *micrura s. str.* It is also important to highlight, the importance of the first trunk limb in males as
880 one of the most taxonomical informative limbs due to its variability in each studied species of the
881 complex. The ornamentation found on the gnathobase of limbs III and IV (in males and females)

882 had not been described or illustrated before for *Moina micrura*. A similar pattern of spinulation
883 was illustrated by Kotov et al., (2005), in the description of *Moina dumonti*, but they did no
884 comment about this. The phenotypical plasticity showed by this group, allows them to adapt to
885 new habitats in response to changing abiotic and biotic pressures (Burge et al., 2018).

886 These descriptions based on morphology, molecular data, and distribution patterns, are part of
887 the integrative taxonomy (Dayrat, 2005), an approach where different types of evidence converge
888 to support the species discovery that currently is revitalizing this discipline (Agnarsson and
889 Kuntner, 2007).

890 Species of *Moina micrura* complex studied in this work, share some morphological characters with
891 other species of the genera i.e. *Moina* cf *micrura* 1MX has similar habitus to *Moina dumonti* but
892 they have differences in the claw and in the spinulation of the valves (Kotov et al., 2005), and
893 *Moina* cf *micrura* 2MX can be confused with *Moina ephemeralis* from South Slovakia (Central
894 Europe) but they can be differentiated by the spinulation of the valves, the length of the branches
895 of the bident tooth (Hudec, 1997) and clearly by its distribution.

896 Haplotypes with genetical divergences of COI gene minor of 2% (Lefébure et al., 2006) cannot be
897 distinguished morphologically. Morphological differences are consistent genetic differentiation in
898 the COI gene among species (Elías-Gutiérrez et al., submitted). Both genetic analyses and
899 morphology, have been employed to successfully discriminate sibling species of cladocerans
900 (Quiroz-Vázquez and Elías-Gutiérrez, 2009), marine and freshwater copepods (Gutiérrez-Aguirre et
901 al., 2014; Miracle et al., 2013), rotifers (Mills et al., 2016; García-Morales and Elías-Gutiérrez,
902 2013), and others.

903 Environmental PCA showed two main groups, the Old-World group, and the American group, and
904 confirmed the restricted distribution of each putative species shows by the haplotype network,
905 BIN numbers and results obtained by Elias-Gutiérrez et al., (sumitted, 2018), underlying the
906 importance of morphology and environment to delimitate the species.

907 Shared records between distant areas, as clade A and clade H, are possibly due to the dispersal
908 capacity of this group, through ephippia (this structure has 600 years of viability) (Burge et al.,
909 2018), and to a men-mediated introduction (Montoliu-Elena et al., sumitted, 2018).The huge
910 number of haplotypes showed by Mexican populations evidence the possibility of the American
911 continent as the center of speciation of the *Moina micrura* complex. As several authors had

912 mentioned before (Adamowicz and Purvis, 2005; Forró et al., 2008), biodiversity in cladocerans is
913 understudied and hides a high cryptic diversity (Bekker et al., 2016).

914 Finally, this study remarks the importance to use a universal and standard molecular marker to
915 differentiate and compare the species, as DNA barcoding is being, and the importance of study
916 genetically the type material or specimens from terra typica, when type material is not available
917 and to include the DNA barcode as an easy tool to facilitate the identification and delimitation of
918 the species. So, to finally solve this complex, further analyses must be done to compare these
919 seven new species with the ancient synonyms of *Moina micrura* and possibly with all the species
920 of the genera.

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1010 LIST OF TABLES, FIGURES, AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

1011

1012 Table 1. Morphometrical ratios. Abreviatures: Lhabito: length habito; RHabitus (length
1013 (L)/Width(W)); A1: ratio (L/W) ; A2PLS: ratio Length of basipodite A2 /Length Long
1014 Proximal Seta (A2); A2L/LPS: ratio Length of basipodite A2/ length of Small Proximal Seta
1015 A2; A2L/SPS: ratio Length of basipodite A2/ length Distal Seta A2; A2Setae: ratio A2 setae
1016 (Long/Small); L3: ratio LIII exopod (L/W); SsL3: ratio length Long seta LIII / length Small
1017 Setae LIII; L4: ratio LIV exopod (L/W); SsL4: ratio length Long seta LIV/ length Small Seta
1018 LIV; L5/LS: ratio length exopod limb V/ length long seta; L5/SS: ratio length exopod limb V/
1019 length long seta; L5Ss: ratio setae length Small seta LIV/ length long seta LIV.

1020 Table 2. Morphological differences

1021 Table 3. Environmental variables. AltMin: Minimum Altitude; AltMax: Maximum Altitude;
1022 LatMin: Minimum Latitude; LatMax: Maximum Altitude; Depth (cm); Secchi (cm); Temp:
1023 temperature (°C) (on text). Table 1. Morphometrical ratios. Abreviatures: Lhabito: length
1024 habito; RHabitus (length (L)/Width(W)); A1: ratio (L/W) ; A2PLS: ratio Length of basipodite
1025 A2 /Length Long Proximal Seta (A2); A2L/LPS: ratio Length of basipodite A2/ length of
1026 Small Proximal Seta A2; A2L/SPS: ratio Length of basipodite A2/ length Distal Seta A2;
1027 A2Setae: ratio A2 setae (Long/Small); L3: ratio LIII exopod (L/W); SsL3: ratio length Long
1028 seta LIII / length Small Setae LIII; L4: ratio LIV exopod (L/W); SsL4: ratio length Long seta
1029 LIV/ length Small Seta LIV; L5/LS: ratio length exopod limb V/ length long seta; L5/SS: ratio
1030 length exopod limb V/ length long seta; L5Ss: ratio setae length Small seta LIV/ length long
1031 seta LIV.

1032

| MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERS | SPECIES | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | <i>Moina micrura s. str.</i> | <i>Moina cf micrura 1 MX</i> | <i>Moina cf micrura 2 MX</i> | <i>Moina cf micrura 3 MX</i> | <i>Moina cf micrura 4 MX</i> | <i>Moina cf micrura 5 MX</i> | <i>Moina cf. micrura 1 ES</i> | <i>Moina cf. micrura 2 ES</i> | |
| BODY | | | | | | | | | |
| Size (Length-Width) (mm) | L: 0.44 - 0.76 / W: 0.54 - 0.68 | L: 0.65 - 0.85 / W: 0.45 - 0.55 | L: 0.57 - 0.9 / W: 0.3 - 0.55 | L: 0.77 - 0.98 / W: 0.41 - 0.61 | L: 0.47 - 0.60 / W: 0.28 - 0.36 | L: 0.57 - 0.77 / W: 0.37 - 0.58 | L: 0.64 / W: 0.39 | L: 0.81 / W: 0.48 | |
| Mean Length (micras) | 488.7 | 738 ± 71 | 781 ± 117 | 861.6±51.2 | 543.451±53.24 | 668 ± 74.6 | 642.8 | 813.3 | |
| Size Ratio (L/W) | 1.69 | 1.73 | 1.65 | 1.58 | 1.62 | 1.45 | 1.63 | 1.69 | |
| ANTENULAS (A1) | | | | | | | | | |
| Mean Length (micras) | 115.46 | 130.3 | 143.07 | 132.96 | 83.9 ± 5.14 | 147.09 ± 13.6 | 277.18 | 161.73 | |
| Ratio | 0.34 | 0.14 | 0.24 | 0.22 | 0.28 | 0.25 | 0.16 | 0.24 | |
| Anterior face with denticles (1 = few, 2 = many) | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | |
| Sensorial seta on the middle | first 1/3 | first 1/3 | middle | middle | middle | middle | middle | middle | |
| ANTENNAS (A2) | | | | | | | | | |
| Basipodite | | | | | | | | | |
| Length (micras) | 179-259 micras | 195 - 307 micras | 219 - 289 micras | 153 - 221 micras | 123.6 - 161.7 micras | 199 - 293 micras | 176.18 micras | 278 - 218 micras | |
| Mean Length (micras) and Standard deviation | 198.17 ± 26.5 | 266.8 ± 62.5 | 245 ± 38.21 | 184.174 ± 25.2 | 154.187 ± 13.95 | 233.9 ± 33.15 | 176.18 | 248.3 ± 28.5 | |
| Basal segment | | | | | | | | | |
| Long proximal seta (LPS) / Short proximal seta (SPS) | 2.5 | 1.5 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 1 | 1.7 | |
| LPS respect basipodite / SPS respect Basipodite | 1.75 / 4.3 | 1.75 / 2.7 | 1.6 / 3.5 | 1.1 / 2 | 1.5 / 3.3 | 1.36 / 3 | 1.14 / 1.13 | 1.73 / 2.9 | |
| Terminal segment | | | | | | | | | |
| Ratio: Basipodite length / Long distal seta | 1.2 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.7 | |
| Surface | | | | | | | | | |
| Denticles (1 = small, 2 = medium, 3 = big) | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| Branches | | | | | | | | | |
| Antennal formula Spines | 0-1-0-1 / 0-0-1 | 1-1-0-1 / 0-0-1 | 0-1-0-1 / 1-1-1 | 0-1-0-1 / 0-0-1 | 0-1-0-1 / 0-0-1 | 0-1-0-1 / 0-0-1 | 0-1-0-1 / 0-0-1 | 0-1-0-1 / 0-0-1 | |
| VALVES | | | | | | | | | |
| Ventral margin | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of big spines | 14 - 16 | 13 - 17 | 10 a 20 | 20 - 23 | de 12 a 13 | 13 - 16 | 17 | 15 | |
| Number of groups of little spines | 7 - 10 | 8 - 13 | 8 to 15 | 13 | 5 to 10 | 8 | 7 to 10 | 7 to 10 | |
| Increasing in size | X | X | NO | X | X | X | X | X | |
| Nº of spines in each group | | 8 to 10 | 5 to 10 | 4 to 9 | 5 to 8 | 6 to 8 | 15 | 10 to 11 | |
| Sculptures on shell (0 = no, 1 = little marked, 2 = very marked) | 0 | 1 | 2 | Not observed | Not observed | 2 | 1 | 2 | |
| LIMB II | | | | | | | | | |
| Gnathobase | | | | | | | | | |
| Uric and first long seta next to the beating seta | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | |
| Number of posterior setae (filter plate of gnathobase) | b | 13 to 15 | 10 to 13 | 12 to 15 | 6 to 7 | 10 | 10 | 12 | |
| LIMB III | | | | | | | | | |
| Exopodite big and flat | | | | | | | | | |
| Ratio | 1.19 | 1.16 | 1.24 | 1.26 | 1.14 | 1.15 | 1.22 | 1.32 | |
| Ratio setae (Long/short) | 5.78 | 5.23 | 3.91 | 3.3 | 3.07 | 2.81 | 4.41 | 2.59 | |
| Gnathobase | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of setae | 28 to 29 | 40 to 45 | 35 to 45 | 53 | 22 | 25 | 27-28 | 35 - 38 | |
| Presence of hairs (1=few, 2=medium, 3=many) | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | |
| Type of spines (Small few=1, Big few=2, Many small=3, Many medium=4, Many big=5) | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 2 | |
| LIMB IV | | | | | | | | | |
| Smaller and flat exopodite | | | | | | | | | |
| Ratio | 1.37 | 1.19 | 1.17 | 1.36 | 1.29 | 1.15 | 1.13 | 1.06 | |
| Ratio setae (Long/short) | 5.6 | 5.34 | 4.7 | 3.73 | 3.16 | 6.72 | 2.43 | 2.72 | |
| Distal infem face | | | | | | | | | |
| Endite 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of anterior setae long and articulated | 1 hairy and unarticulated seta | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 hairy and unarticulated seta | 1 | |
| Gnathobase | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of setae | 20 to 22 | 30 to 35 | 14 to 30 | 37 to 44 | 13 to 15 | 18 | 26 to 28 | 17 to 27 | |
| Spines (Small few=1, Big few=2, Many small=3, Many medium=4, Many big=5) | 5 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | |
| LIMB V | | | | | | | | | |
| Exopode | | | | | | | | | |
| Ratio long seta / Exopode | 1.94 | 2.24 | 1.56 | 1.38 | 2.5 | 1.64 | 2.6 | 2.11 | |
| Endopode | | | | | | | | | |
| Ratio Setae | 1.65 | 2.12 | 3.49 | 1.83 | 1.32 | 1.75 | 2.87 | 1.82 | |
| POSTABDOMEN | | | | | | | | | |
| Lateral view | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of teeth | 4 to 5 | 7 to 9 | 5 to 6 | 6 to 11 | 4 | 6 | 4 to 6 | 8 | |
| Postabdominal claw | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of spines | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of ventral spines (at the top of the claw) | 4-5 | 6 to 10 | 5 to 6 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 to 6 | 3 to 6 | |
| Basal - middle pectet fused | X | X | X | X | NO | X | X | X | |
| EPHIPIUM | | | | | | | | | |
| Lateral surface | | | | | | | | | |
| Hexagonal reticulum | X | X | X | X | | | | | |
| Relief of ephippial surface | | | | | | | | | |
| Complex structure of polygons interlocked with many thin tentacle-like projections | X | X | Circular | Grapes-like | | | | | |
| Projections cover inner surface of polygons | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | | |
| MALE | | | | | | | | | |
| A1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Aesthetascs at the exit of the seta | | | | | | | | | |
| Number of hooks | 4 to 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | | | 0 | 3 | |
| Spine in the last third | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | |
| Denticles (0=No denticles, 1 = few, 2 = many) | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | | | 2 | 0 | |
| Presence of hairs (0=No, 1=yes) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 1 | 0 | |
| LIMB I | | | | | | | | | |
| Endite 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Seta without setulation with spines on the tip | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | |
| Endite 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| Plumose seta | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | |
| Endite 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| Num. setae | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | 2 | 2 | |
| Spines | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | |
| Endite 4 | | | | | | | | | |
| Num. setae | | 3 | 2 | 3 | | | 3 | 2 | |
| Hairs or spines | Spines | Spines | Spines | Big Spines | | | Spines | Spines | |
| Making groups | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 1 | |
| Desigual hooks | X | X | X | X | | | X | X | |

1033 Fig.1. Jurine's original drawings (Jurine, 1820).

1034 Fig.2. Distribution of *Moina micrura* sensu Goulden (1968).

1035 Fig.3. Distribution of *Moina micrura* sensu Armengol (1978).

1036 Fig.4. Description of *Moina micrura* sensu Alonso (1986).

1037 Fig. 5. Map of sampling points

1038 Fig. 6. Morphological scheme of *Moina micrura*


1039 Fig.7. Habit of females *Moina micrura* complex. Optical microscope (MO) photographs and
1040 Scanning Electronic Microscope (SEM) photographs. A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B,C) *Moina*
1041 *cf micrura* 2MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 4MX; F,G) *Moina cf micrura*
1042 5MX; H) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; I, J) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; K,L) *Moina micrura* s. str.


1043 Fig. 8. A1 ♀ and ♂. ♀: A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf*
1044 *micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 4MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 5MX; F) *Moina cf micrura*
1045 1ES; G) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES. ♂: H) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; I) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; J)
1046 *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; K) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; L) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; M) *Moina*
1047 *micrura* s. str. (SEM).


1048 Fig. 9. SEM photographs of A1 ♀. A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX, 1: detail of tip and
1049 aesthetascs; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura*
1050 4MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 5MX; F) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; G,H) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; I,J)
1051 *Moina micrura* s. str.


1052 Fig.10. SEM and MO photographs of A2 ♀. A,B) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX: a: distal seta; b:
1053 distal spine; c: proximal setae; C,D) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; F)
1054 *Moina cf micrura* 4MX.

1055 Fig.11. SEM photographs of A2 ♀. A,B,C) *Moina cf micrura* 5MX: B: distal spine; C) 1: distal
1056 seta; 2: proximal setae; D) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; E) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; F,G) *Moina*
1057 *micrura* s. str.


1058 Fig.12. SEM and MO photographs of Valves . A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B,C) *Moina cf*
1059 *micrura* 4MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX: 1: detail of the end of the valves, 2: detail of
1060 spinulation; E) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX: 1, 2, 3: details of spinulation pattern;.F,G) *Moina cf*
1061 *micrura* 5MX; H,I) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; J-L) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; M,N) *Moina micrura* s.
1062 str.


1063 Fig. 13. Limb I : A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf micrura*
1064 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 4MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 5MX; F) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; G)
1065 *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; H) *Moina micrura* s. str.

1066 Fig. 14. Limb II : A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf micrura*
1067 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 4MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 5MX; F) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; G)
1068 *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; H) *Moina micrura* s. str.: se: sensilia, be: beating seta, 1: long seta,
1069 2,3: setae with apical spinulation; 4: anterior brush-like setae; a-l:filter plate.

1070 Fig. 15. Limb III : A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX, arrow: seta única; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX;
1071 C) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 4MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 5MX; F) *Moina cf*
1072 *micrura* 1ES; G) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; H) *Moina micrura* s. str.: 1,2,3: Endites, a,b: distal
1073 setae, c-f: setae of exopod.

1074 Fig. 15cont.: Spinulation pattern and hairs present at the base of the filter plate at
1075 gnathobase. I,J) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX: 1,2: rows of spines, 3: hairs. K) *Moina micrura* s.
1076 str.

1077 Fig. 16. Limb IV : A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf*
1078 *micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 4MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 5MX; F) *Moina cf micrura*
1079 1ES; G) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; H) *Moina micrura* s. str.: 1: seta endite1, 2: seta endite2, 3:
1080 hairy seta.

1081 Fig. 17. Limb V : A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf*
1082 *micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 4MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 5MX; F) *Moina cf micrura*
1083 1ES; G) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; H) *Moina micrura* s. str.

1084 Fig. 18. Postabdomen ♂: A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf*
1085 *micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 4MX; E) *Moina cf micrura* 5MX; F) *Moina cf micrura*
1086 1ES; G) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; H) *Moina micrura* s. str.

1087 Fig.19. SEM and light photographs of Postabdomen and claw ♂. A,B) *Moina cf micrura*
1088 1MX; C) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; D,E) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; F) *Moina cf micrura* 4MX; G,H)
1089 *Moina cf micrura* 5MX; I,J) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; L,M) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; N) *Moina*
1090 *micrura* s. str.

1091 Fig.20. SEM photographs of Ehippia and ehippial females. A,B,C) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX;
1092 D,E) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; F,G) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; H,I,J) *Moina micrura* s. str.

1093 Fig. 21. Limb I ♂: A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX, 1: Tip of the hook, 2: Detail of the spinulation
1094 of the unsetulated seta (in black), 3: Plumose seta 4: bisetulated seta; B) *Moina cf micrura*
1095 2MX; C) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; E) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES.

1096 Fig. 22. Limb II ♂: A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf*
1097 *micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; E) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES.

1098 Fig. 23 Limb III ♂: A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf*
1099 *micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; E) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES.

1100 Fig. 24 Limb IV ♂: A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf*
1101 *micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; E) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES.

1102 Fig. 25. Limb V ♂: A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; C) *Moina cf*
1103 *micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES.

1104 Fig. 26. Illustrations of Postabdomen ♂: A) *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; B) *Moina cf micrura*
1105 2MX; C) *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; D) *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; E) *Moina cf micrura* 2ES.

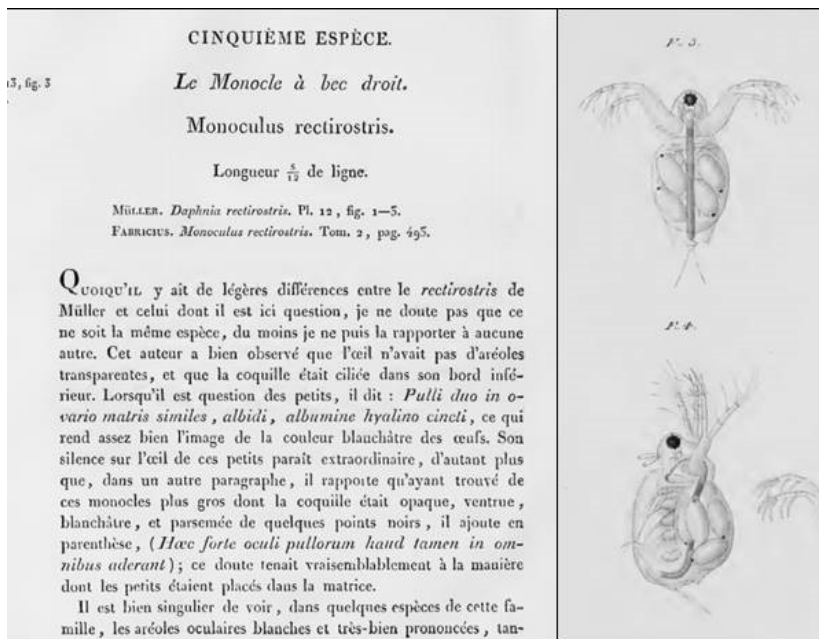
1106 Fig. 27. PCA. A) Environmental PCA. B) Morphometrical PCA. Numbers in boxes represent
1107 species. 1 = *Moina micrura* s. s.tr.; 2 = *Moina cf micrura* 2ES; 3 = *Moina cf micrura* 1ES; 4 =

1108 *Moina cf micrura* 1MX; 5 = *Moina cf micrura* 2MX; 6 = *Moina cf micrura* 3MX; 7 = *Moina cf*
 1109 *micrura* 4MX; 8 = *Moina cf micrura* 5MX.

1110 Fig. 28. COI Haplotypes network of *M. micrura* complex. Each circle indicates a unique
 1111 haplotype and variation in circle size reflects the number of sequences assigned to it.
 1112 Colors and sizes in circles represent the countries of collection and the number of
 1113 sequence records for each haplotype. In parenthesis, intraspecific divergences of COI gene
 1114 from *Moina micrura* complex in Mexico and Spain. % Minimum divergence = Min., %
 1115 Mean divergence = Mean., % Maximum divergence = Max. Bin numbers assigned to each
 1116 clade. Clades in grey boxes are sequences from different parts of the world only used for
 1117 intercontinental comparison. Clades in blue boxes are populations analyzed in this study.

1118 S1. Supplementary material. Sampling points data.

1119 Fig. 1



1120

1121 Fig. 2.



1122

1123 Fig. 3

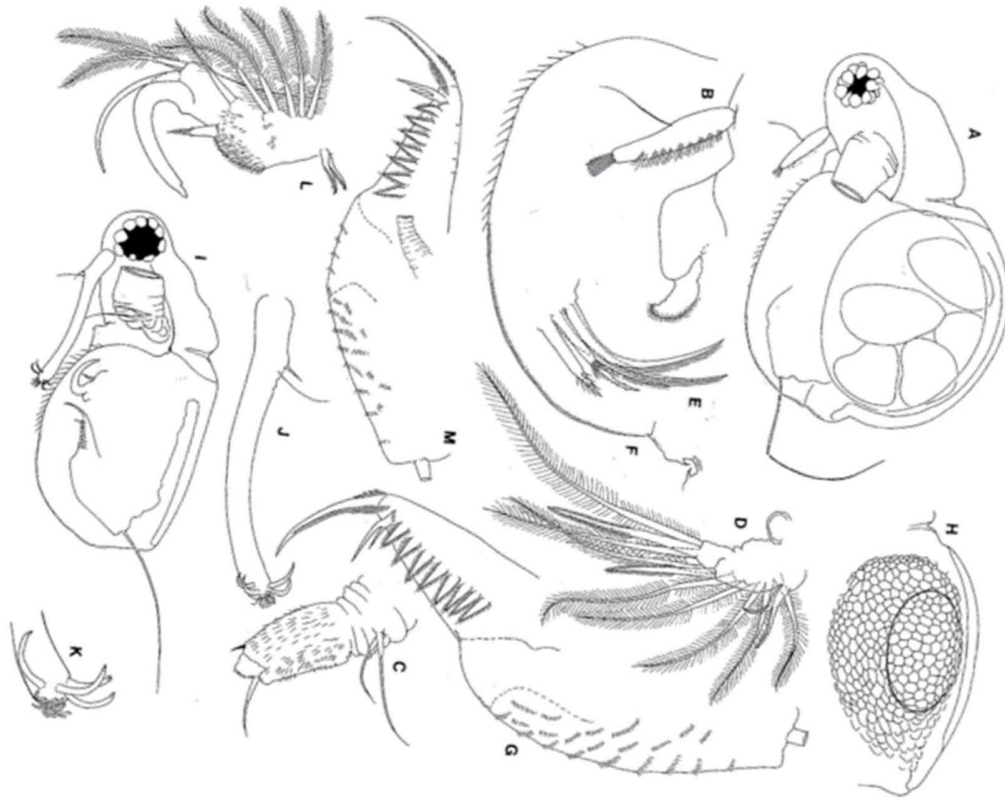


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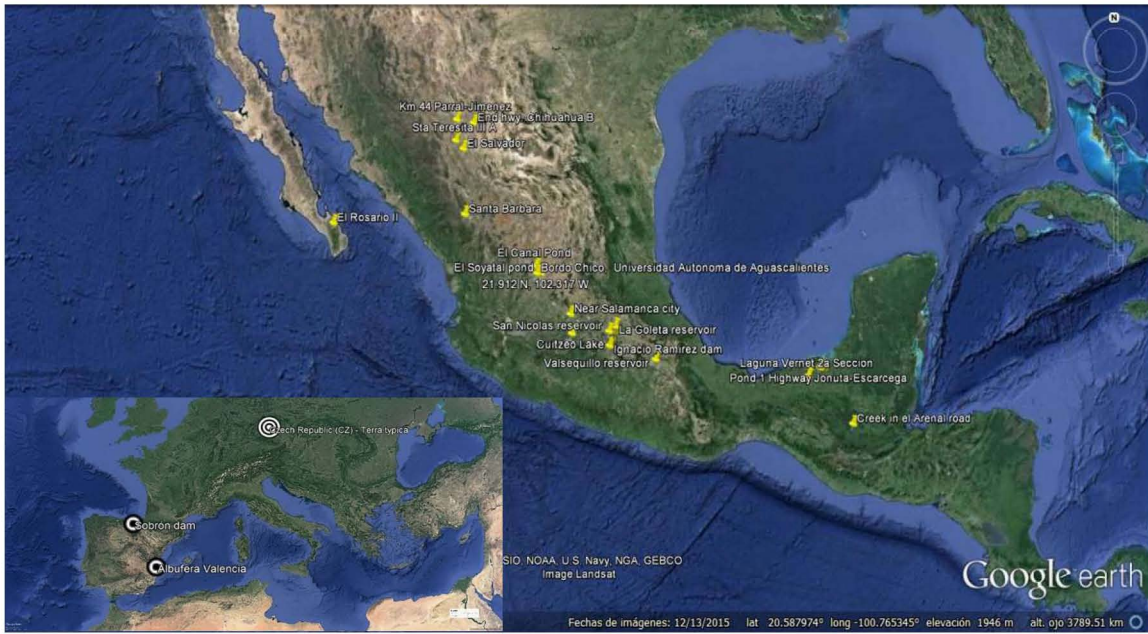
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1126 Fig. 4.

1127

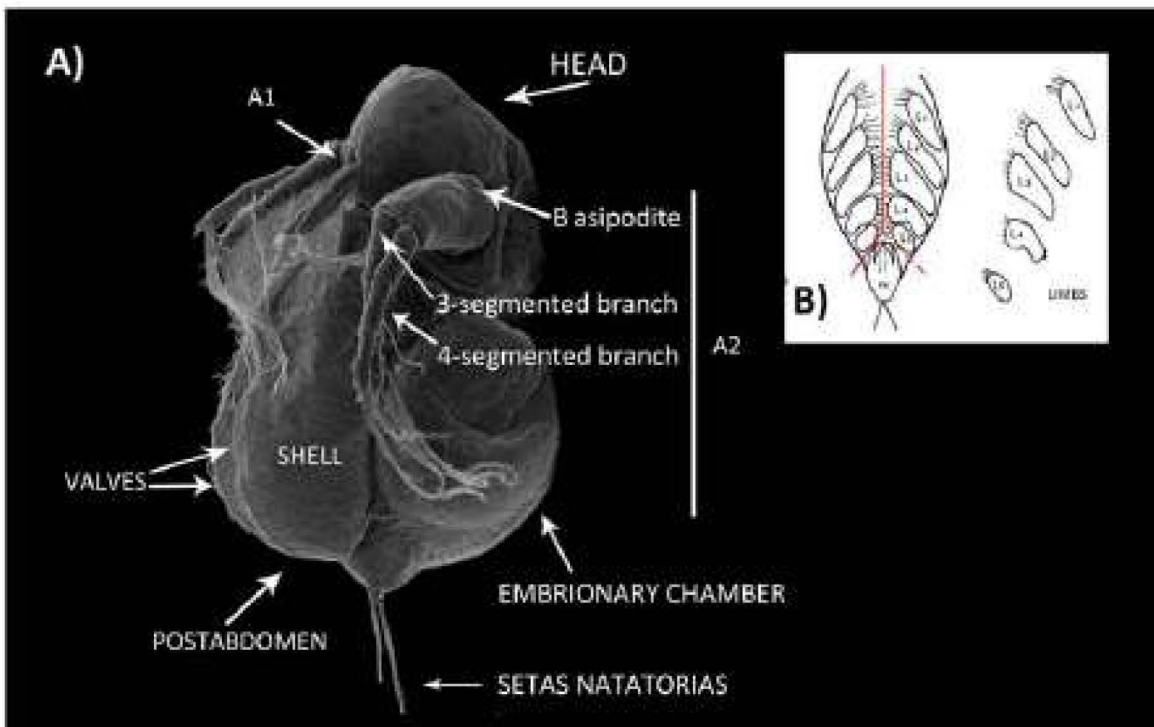


1128 Fig.5

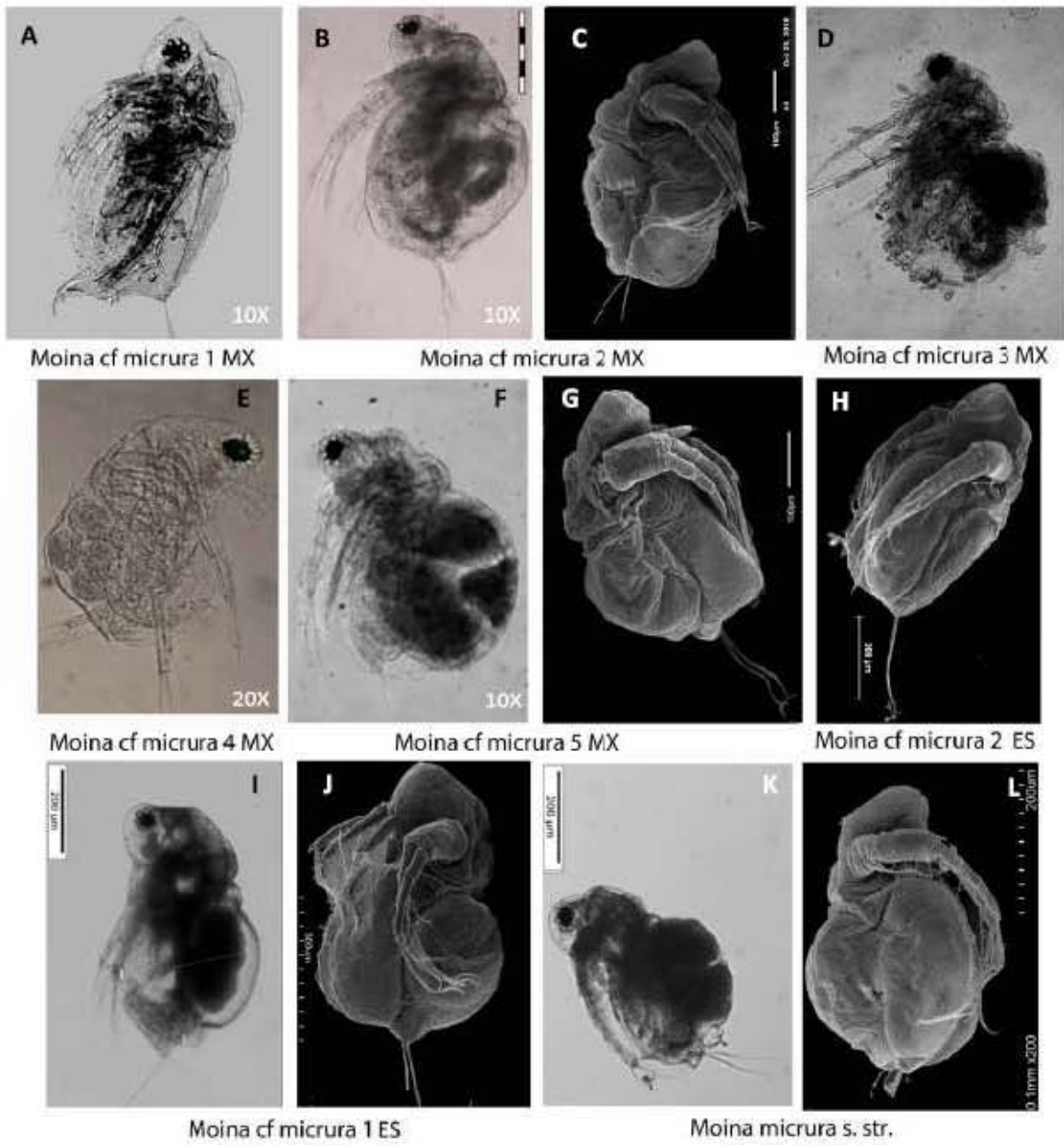


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1130 Fig.6



1131



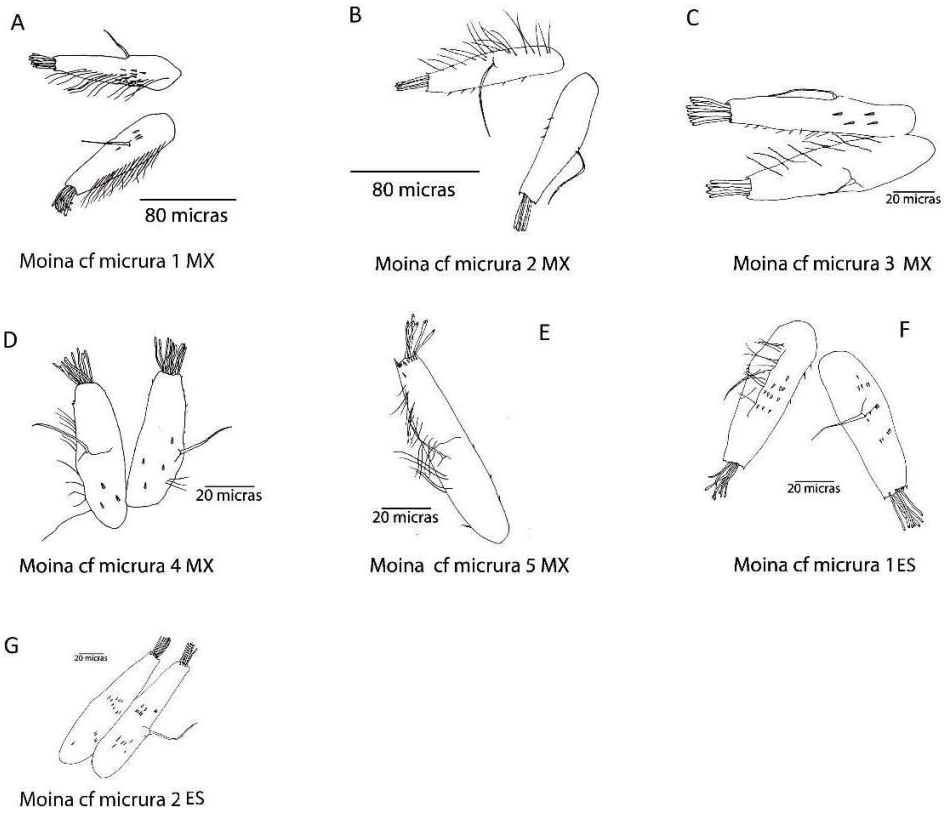
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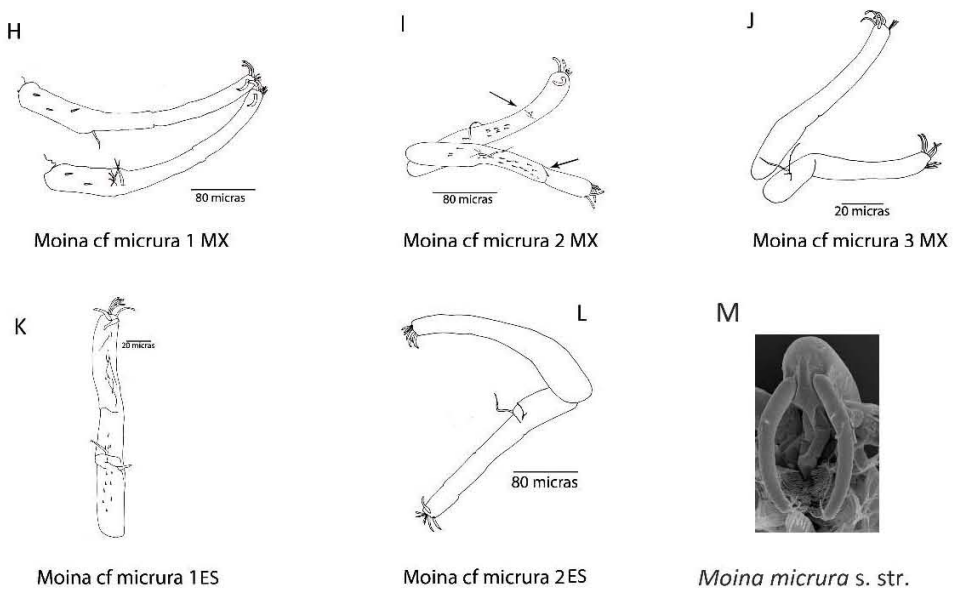
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1136 Fig. 8

1137

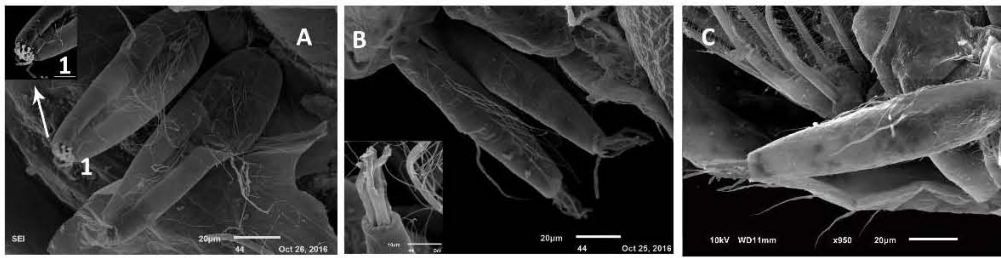


Males



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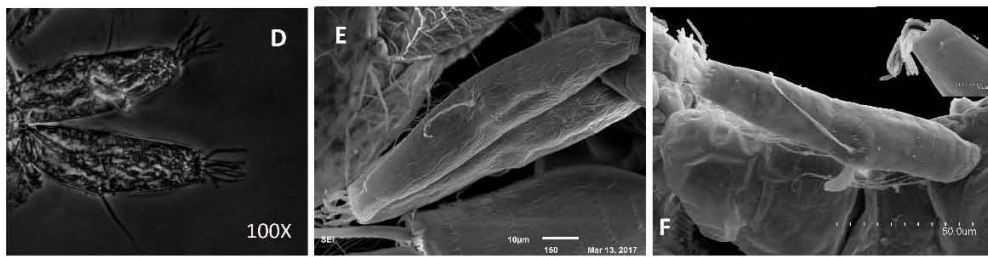
1139 Fig. 9



Moina cf micrura 1 MX

Moina cf micrura 2 MX

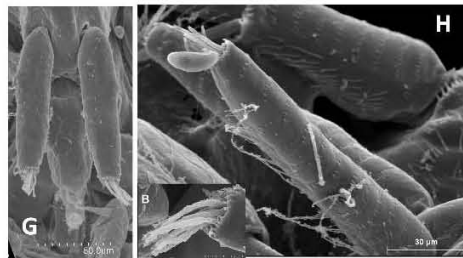
Moina cf micrura 3 MX



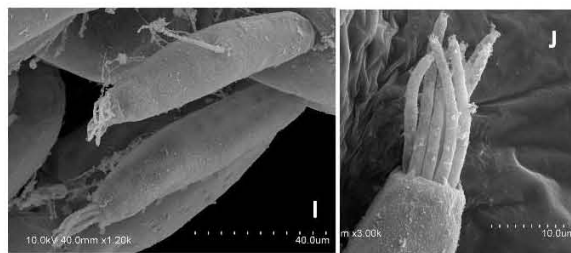
Moina cf micrura 4 MX

Moina cf micrura 5 MX

Moina cf micrura 1 ES



Moina cf micrura 2 ES

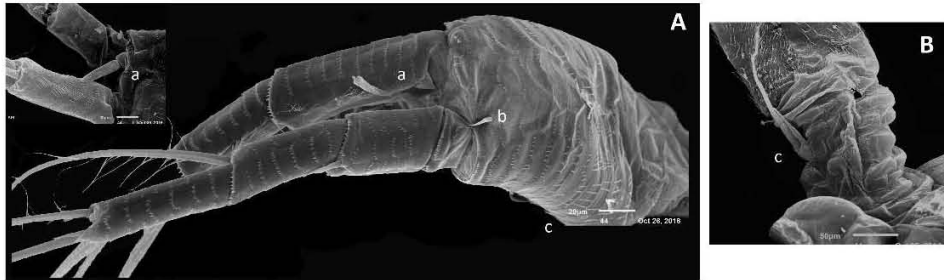


Moina micrura s. str.

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1141

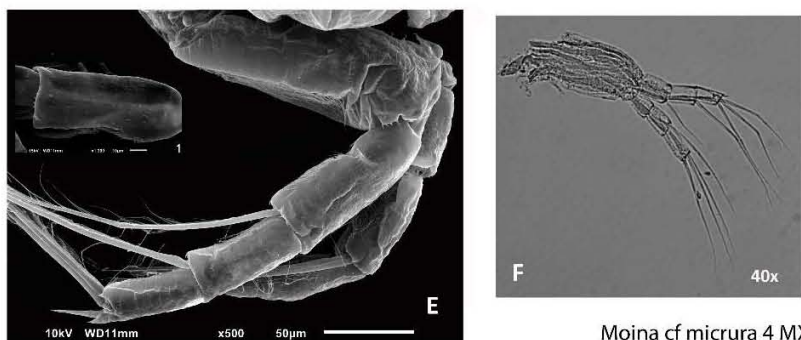
Antennes (A2)



Moina cf micrura 1 MX



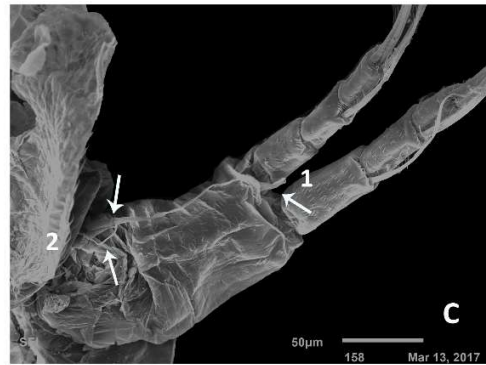
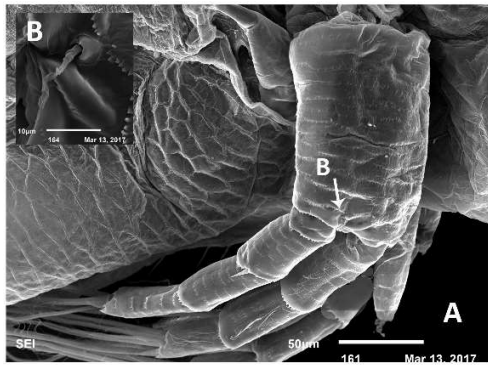
Moina cf micrura 2 MX



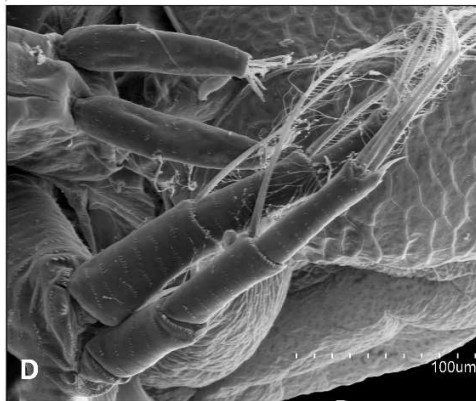
Moina cf micrura 3 MX

Moina cf micrura 4 MX

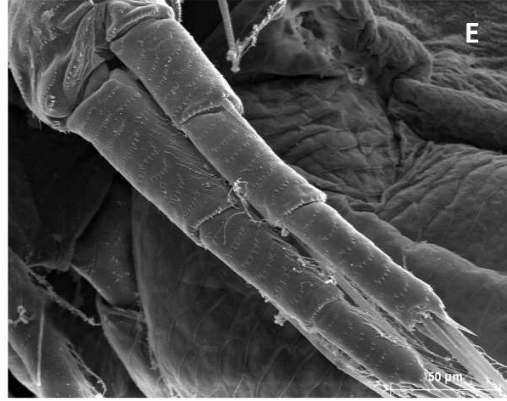
1144 Fig. 11



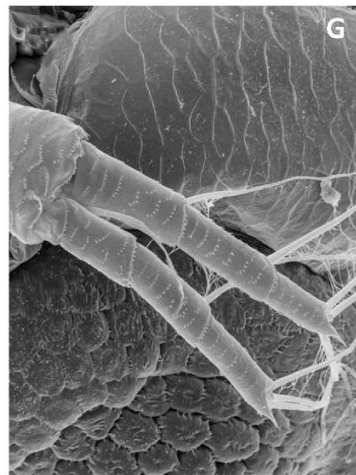
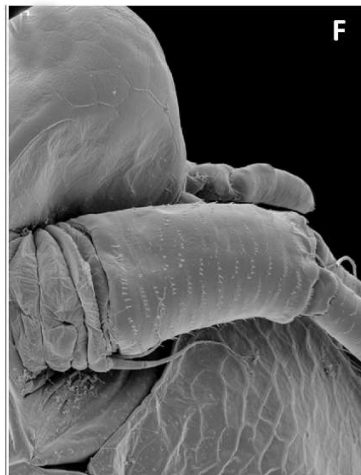
Moina cf micrura 5 MX



Moina cf micrura 1 ES



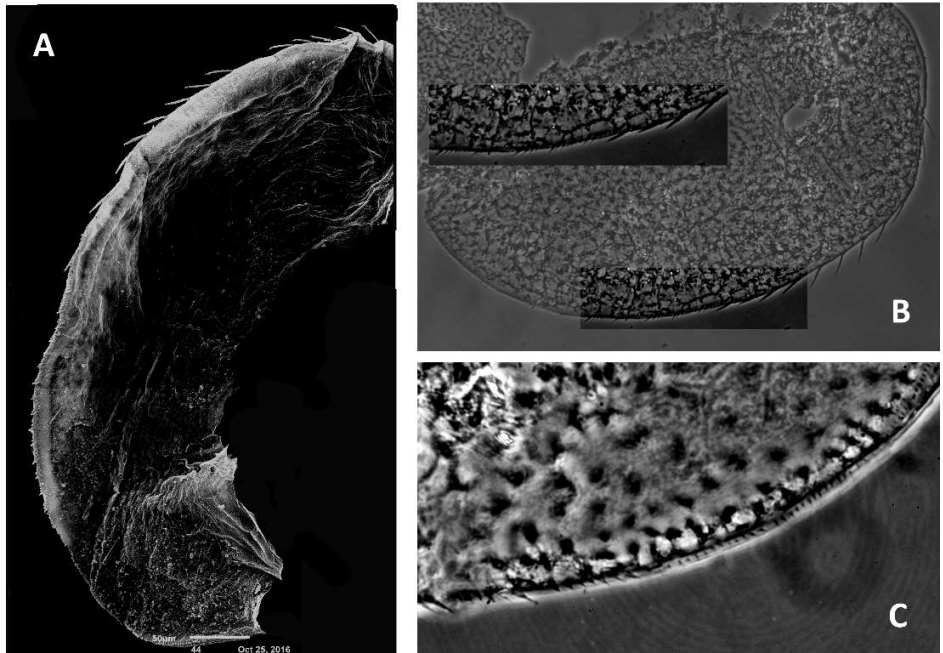
Moina cf micrura 2 ES



Moina micrura s. str.

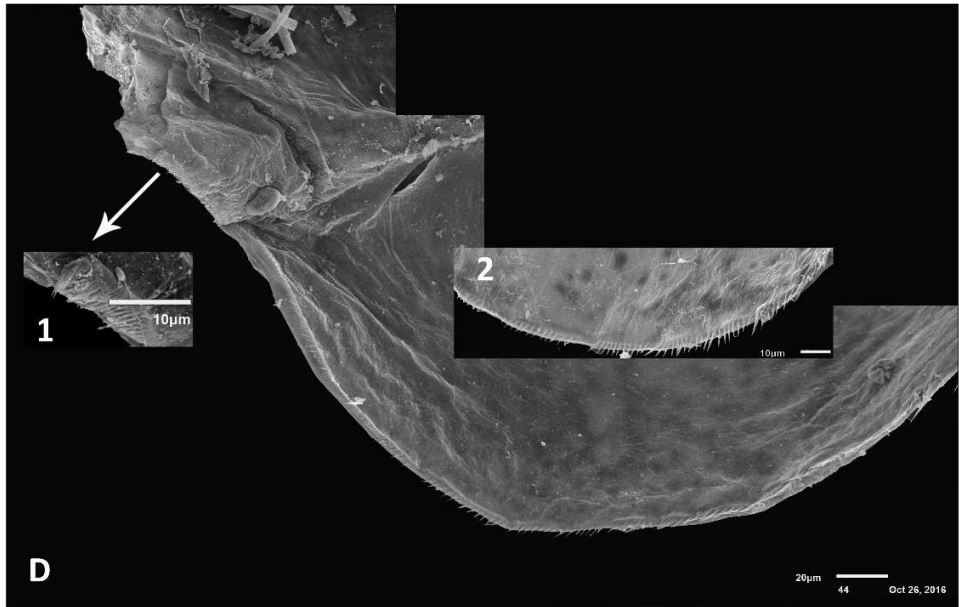
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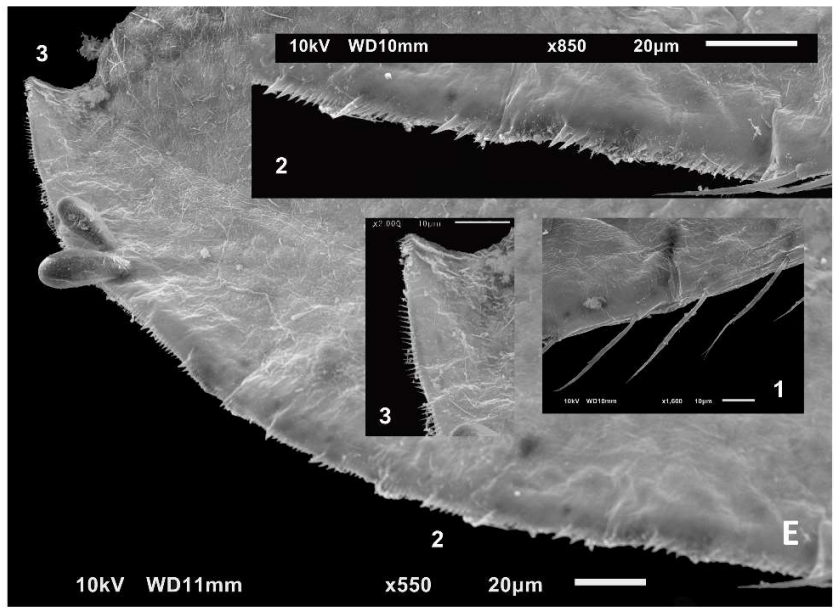


Moira cf micrura 1 MX

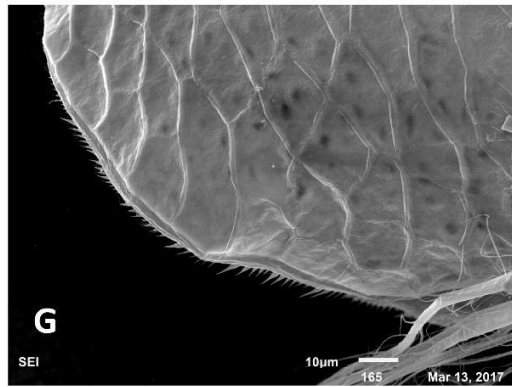
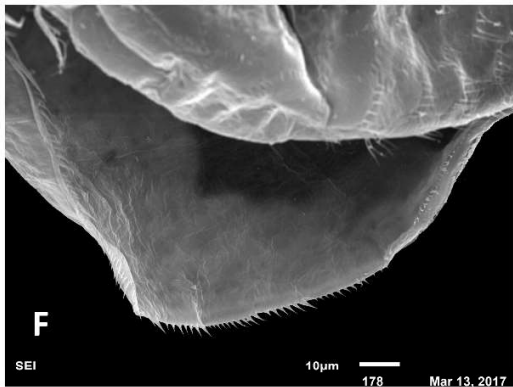
Moira cf micrura 4 MX



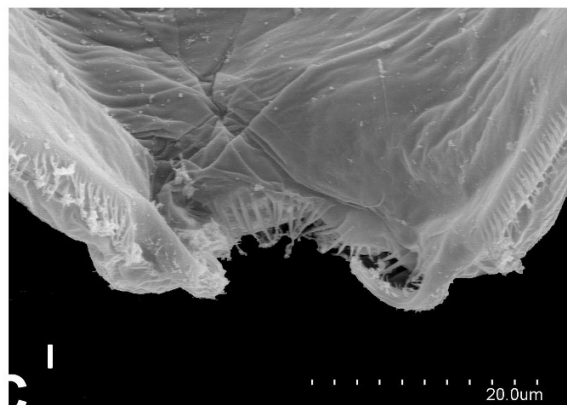
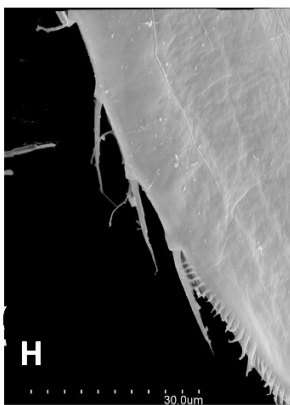
Moira cf micrura 2 MX



Moina cf micrura 3 MX



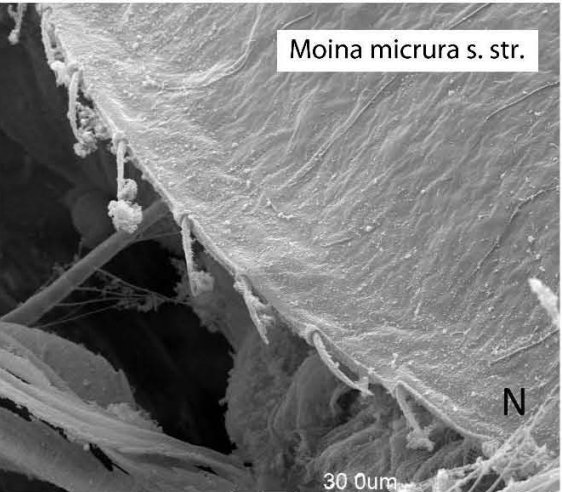
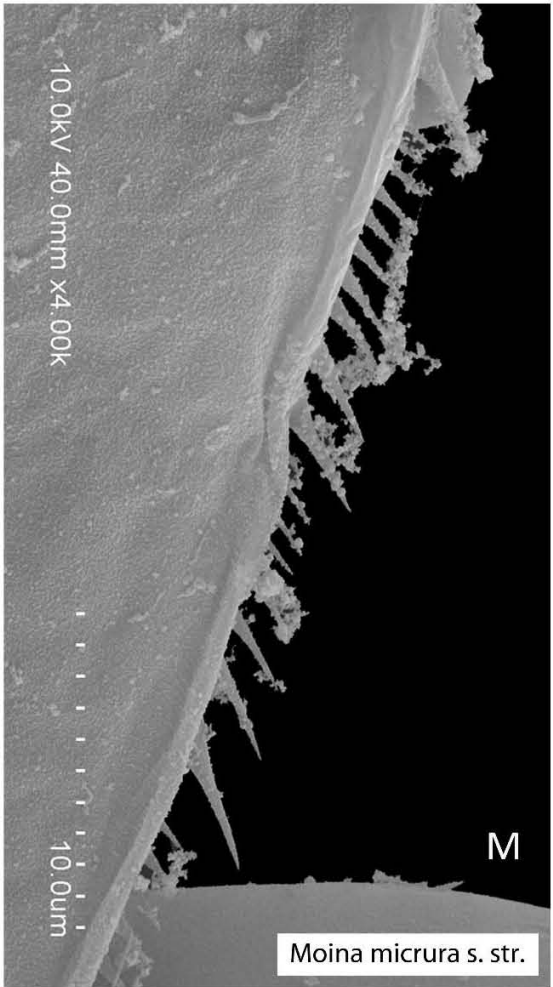
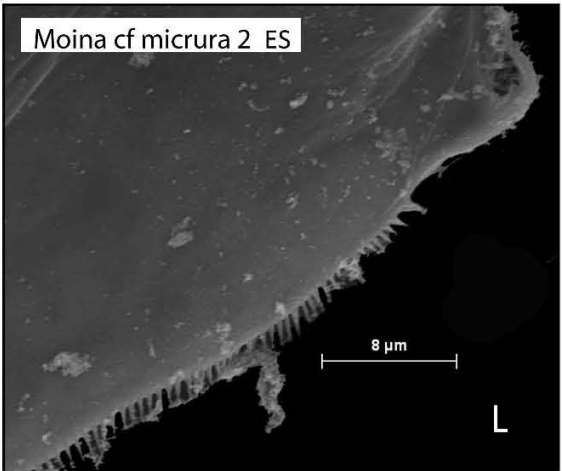
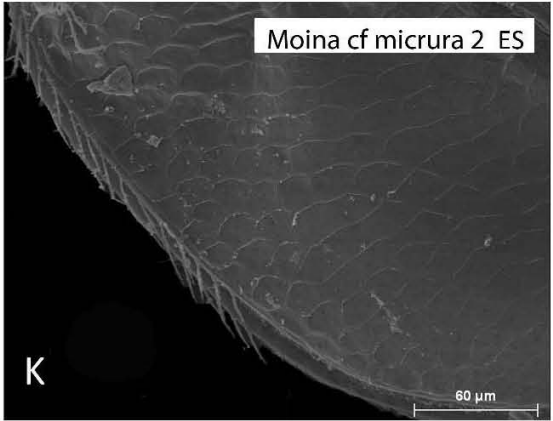
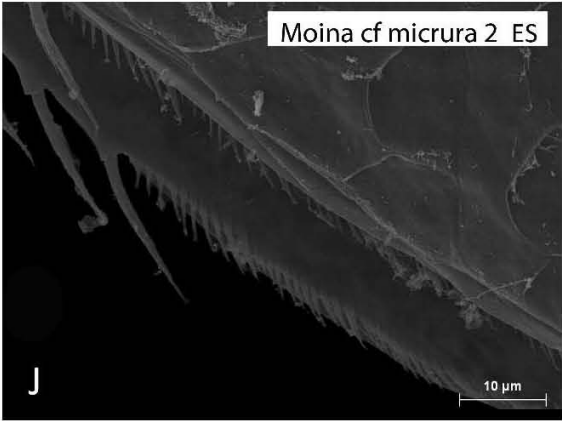
Moina cf micrura 5 MX



Moina cf micrura 1 ES

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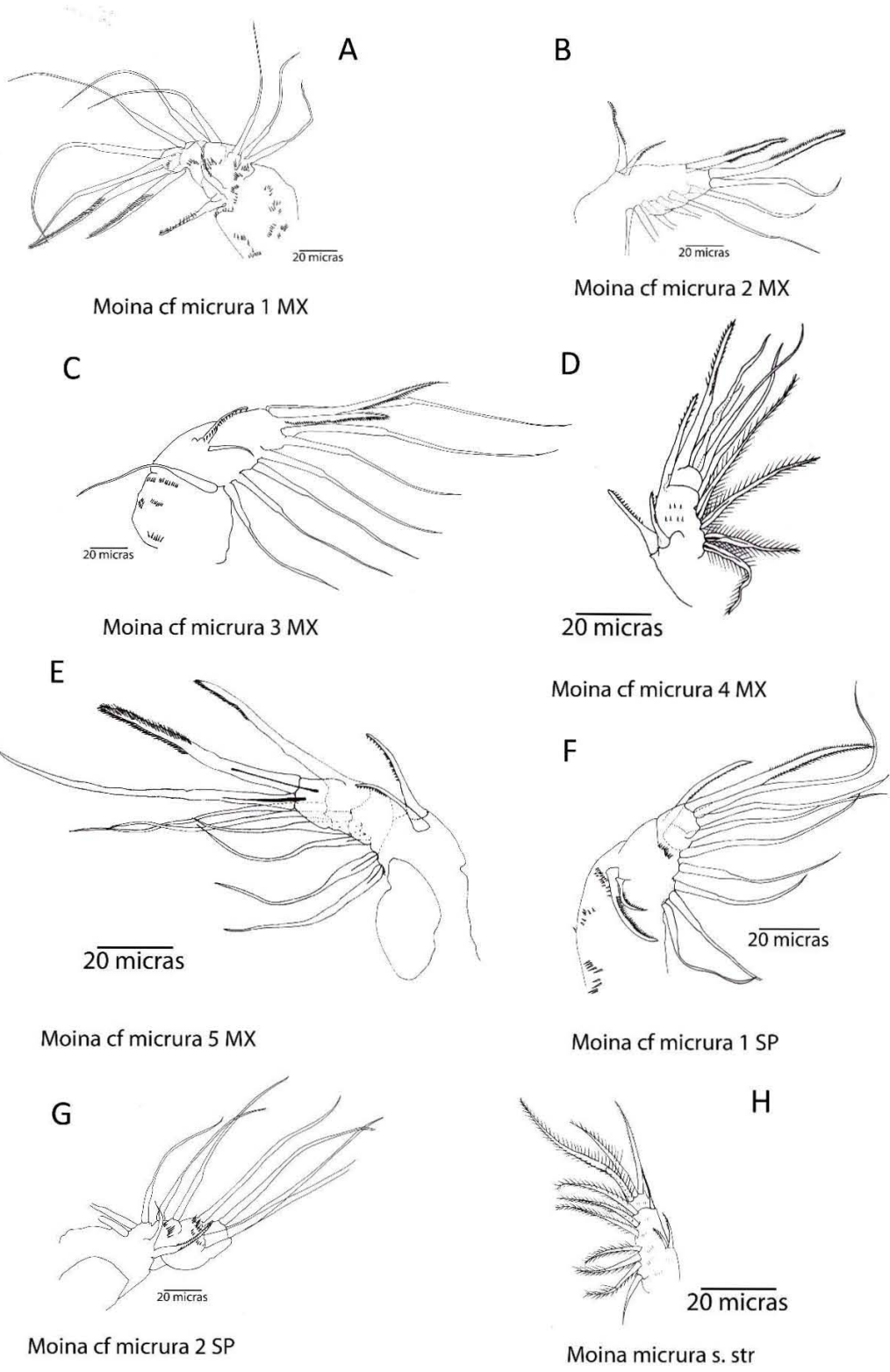
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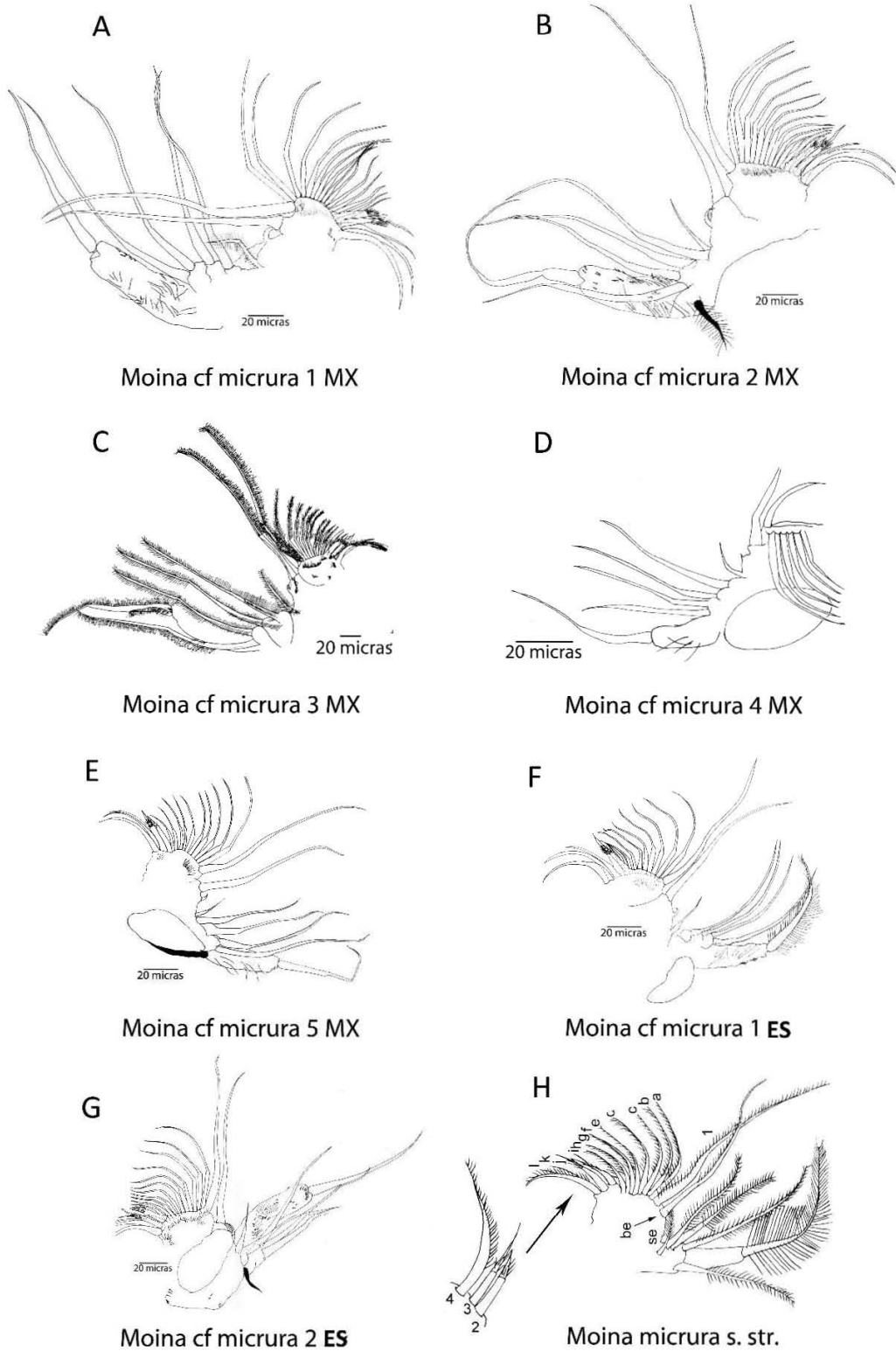
1154 Fig. 13
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1158 Fig. 14

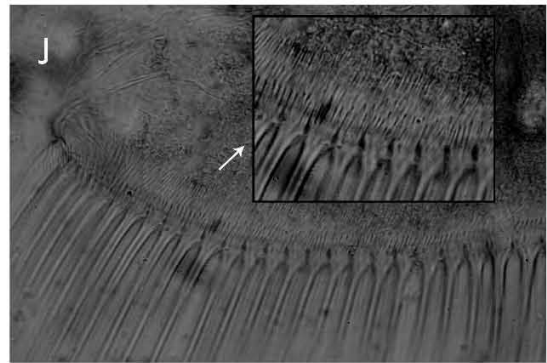
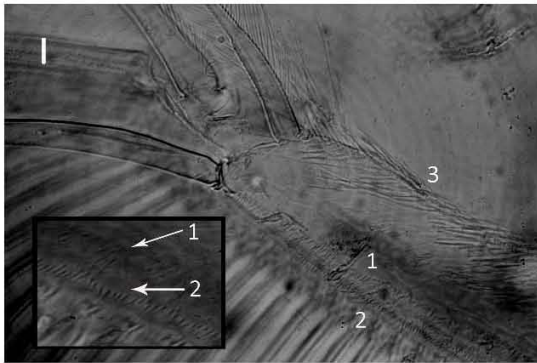
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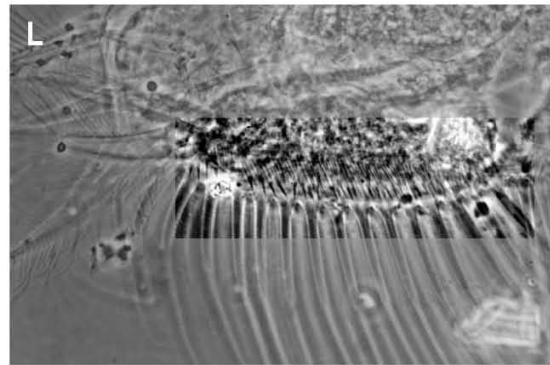
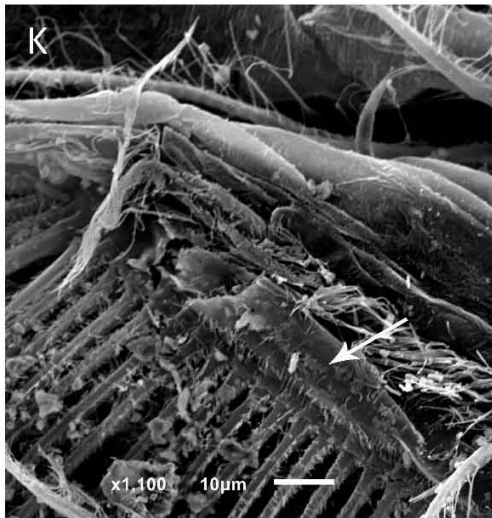
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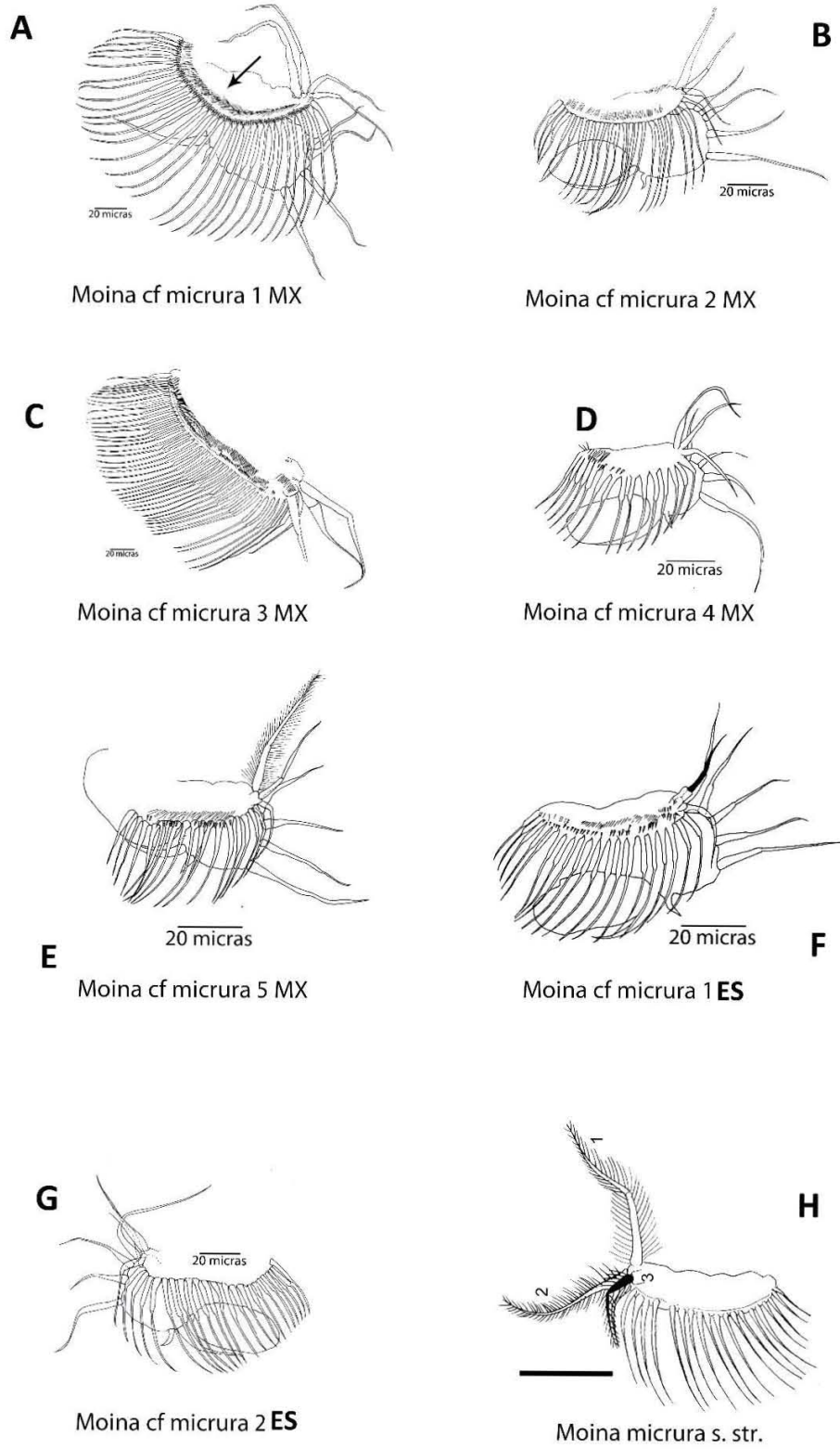
Moina cf micrura 3MX



Moina micrura s. str

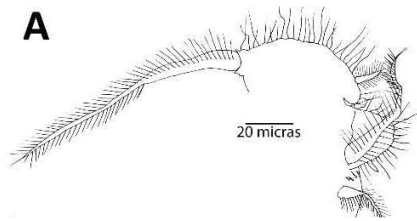
1163

1164

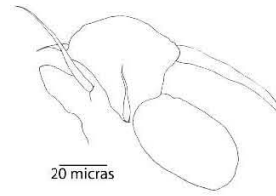


1167 Fig. 17

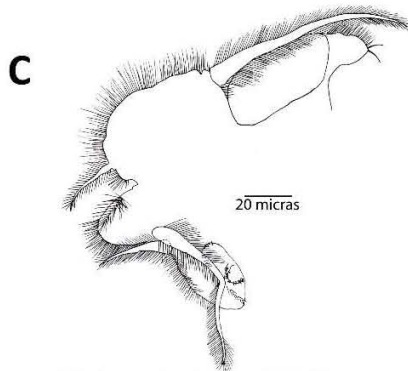
1168



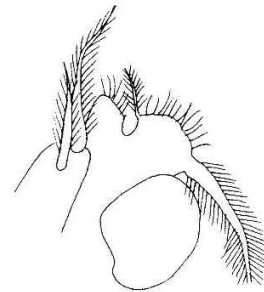
Moina cf micrura 1 MX



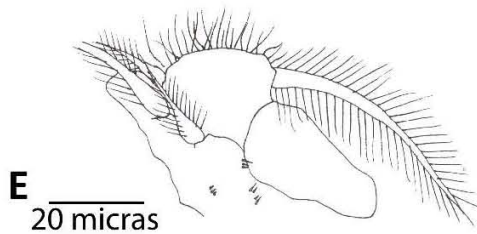
Moina cf micrura 2 MX



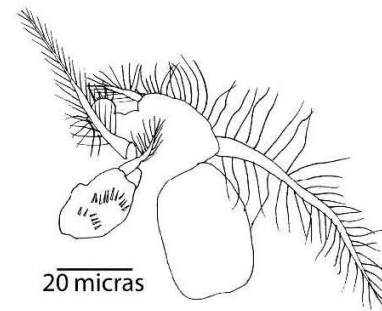
Moina cf micrura 3 MX



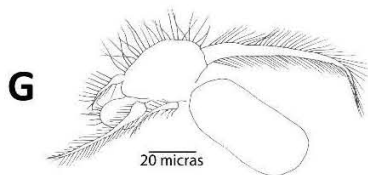
Moina cf micrura 4 MX



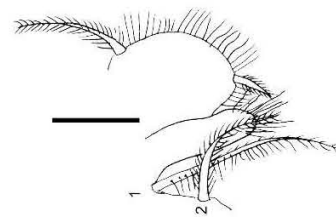
Moina cf micrura 5 MX



Moina cf micrura 1 SP



Moina cf micrura 2 SP

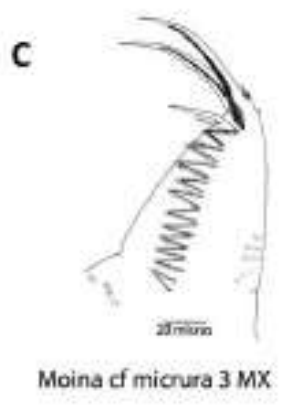
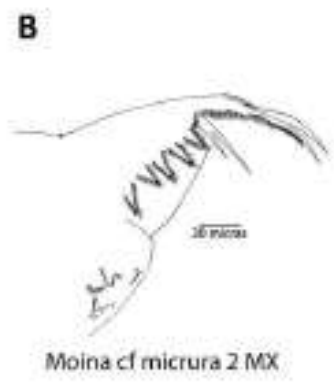
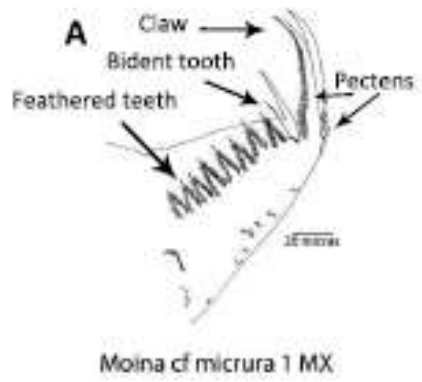


Moina micrura s. str.

1169

1170 Fig.18

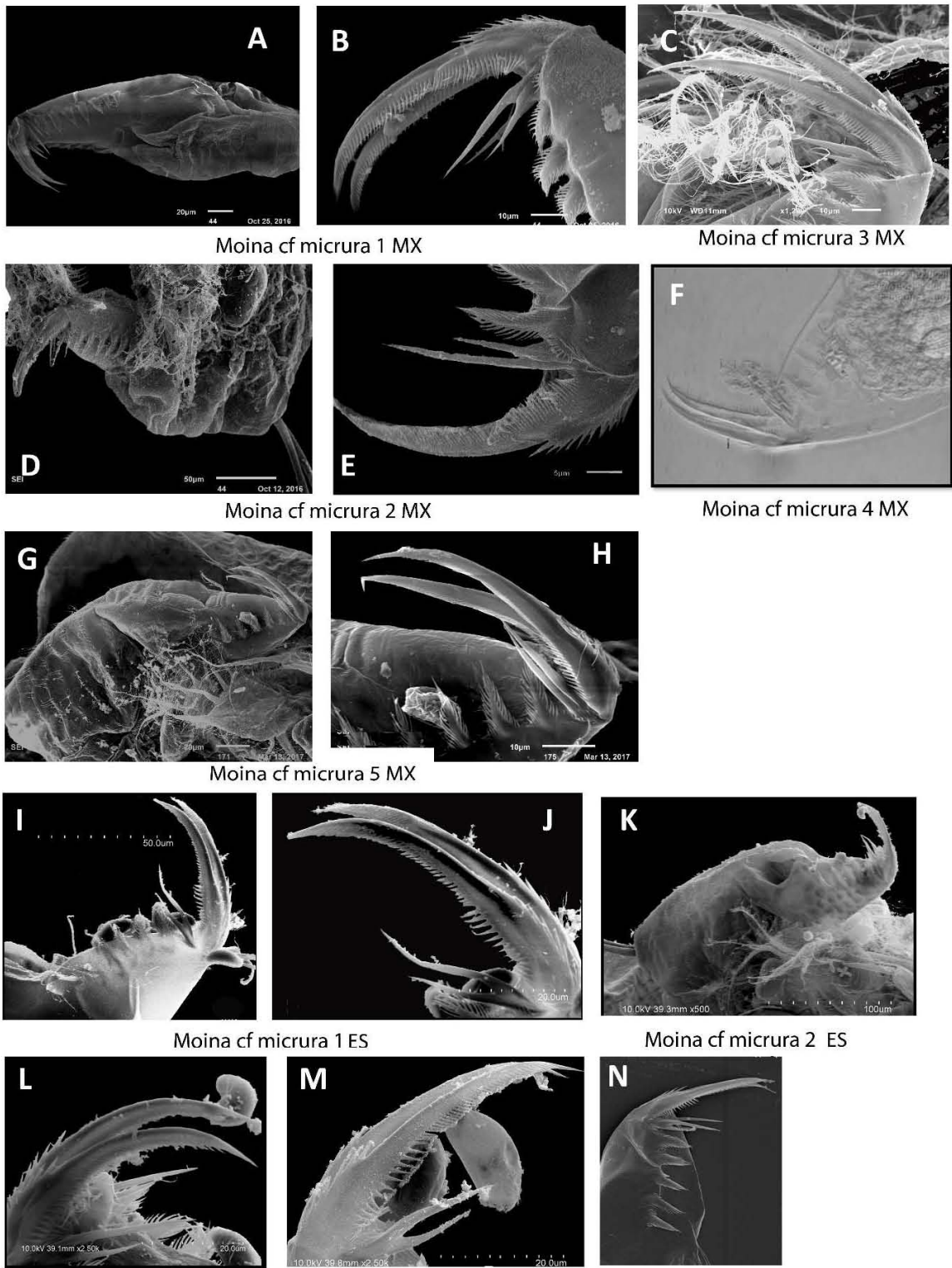
1171



1172

1173 Fig. 19

1174



Moina cf micrura 1 MX

Moina cf micrura 3 MX

Moina cf micrura 2 MX

Moina cf micrura 4 MX

Moina cf micrura 5 MX

Moina cf micrura 1 ES

Moina cf micrura 2 ES

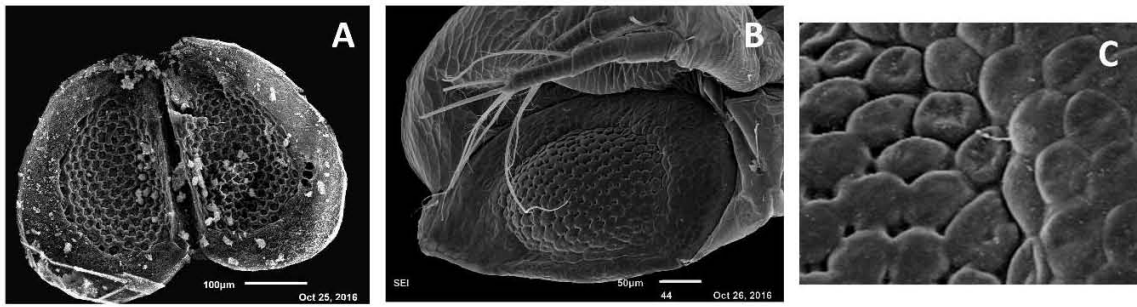
Moina cf micrura 2 ES

Moina micrura s. str.

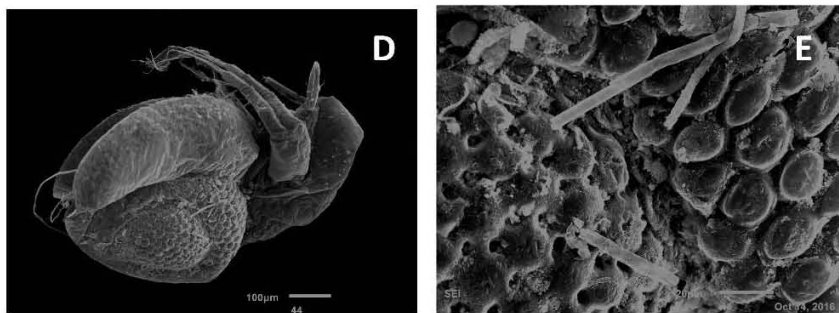
1175

1176

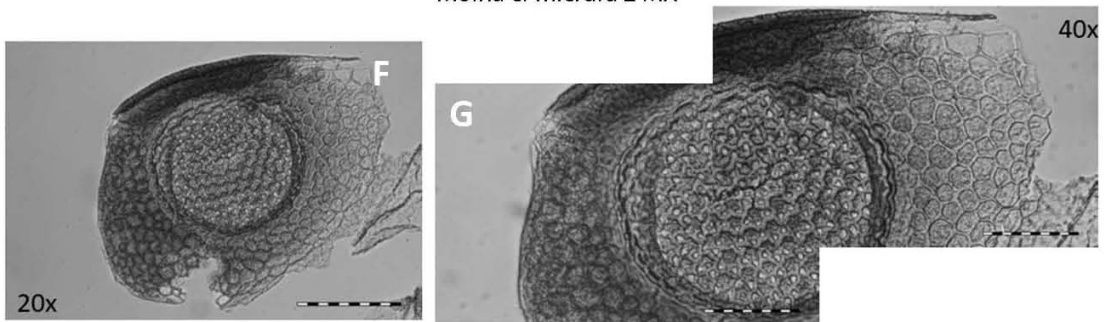
1177 Fig. 20



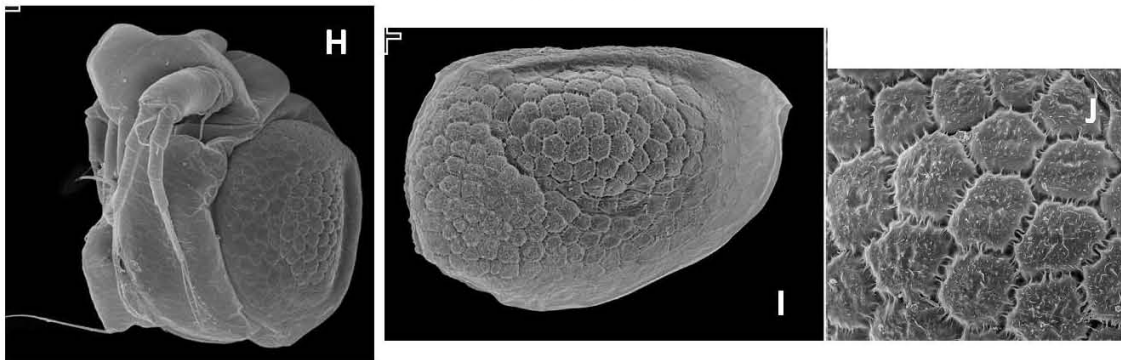
Moina cf micrura 1 MX



Moina cf micrura 2 MX



Moina cf micrura 3 MX



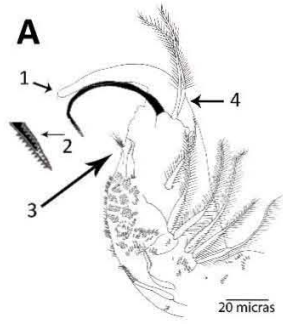
Moina micrura s. str.

1178

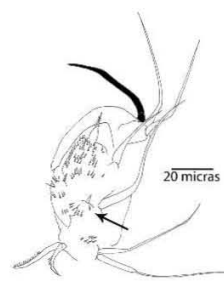
1179

1180 Fig. 21

1181



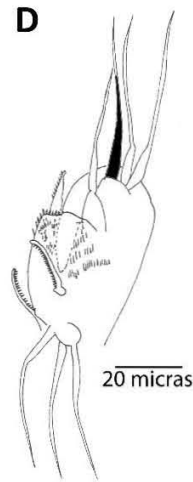
Moina cf micrura 1 MX



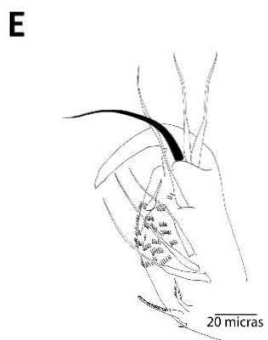
Moina cf micrura 2 MX



Moina cf micrura 3 MX



Moina cf micrura 1 ES



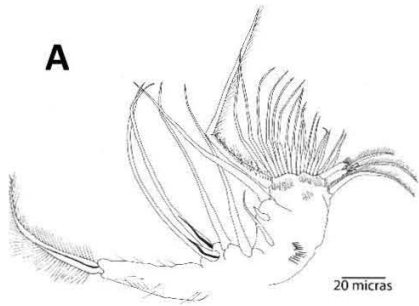
Moina cf micrura 2 ES

1182

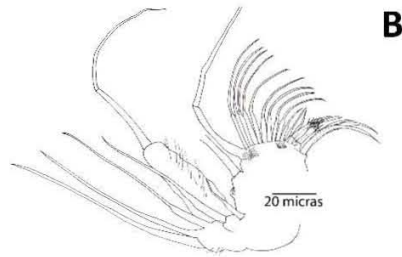
1183

1184 Fig. 22

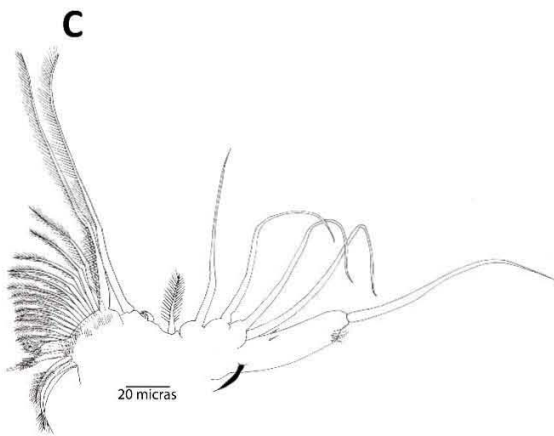
1185



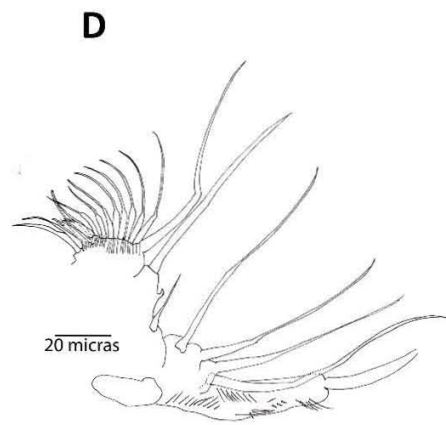
Moina cf micrura 1 MX



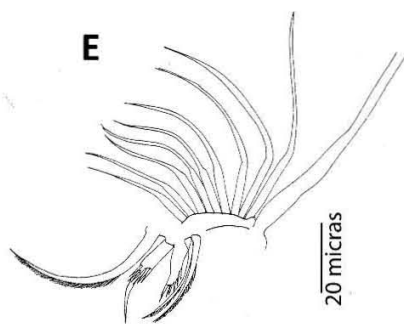
Moina cf micrura 2 MX



Moina cf micrura 3 MX



Moina cf micrura 1 ES



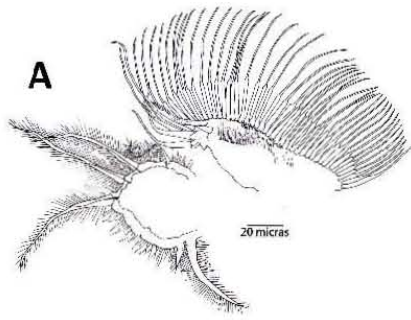
Moina cf micrura 2 ES

1186

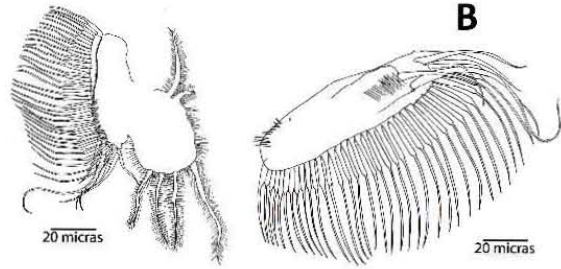
1187

1188 Fig. 23

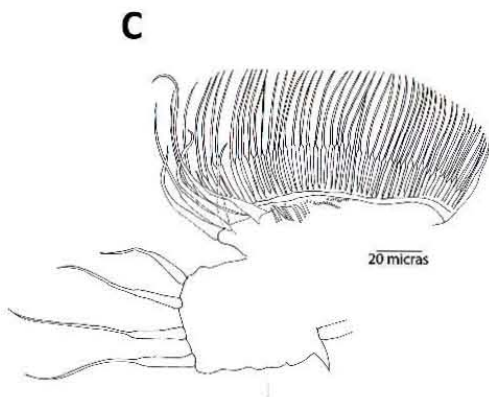
1189



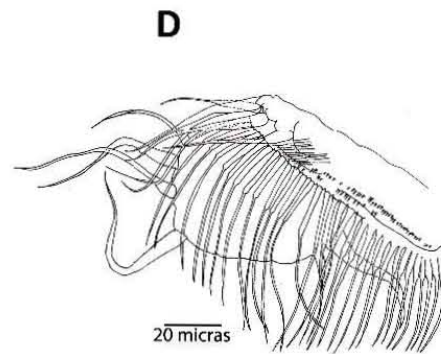
Moina cf micrura 1 MX



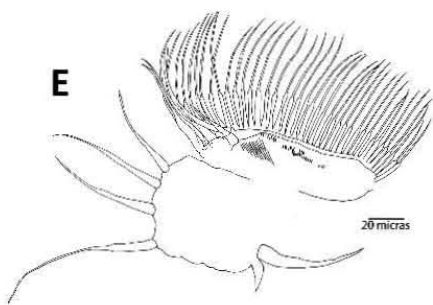
Moina cf micrura 2 MX



Moina cf micrura 3 MX



Moina cf micrura 1ES



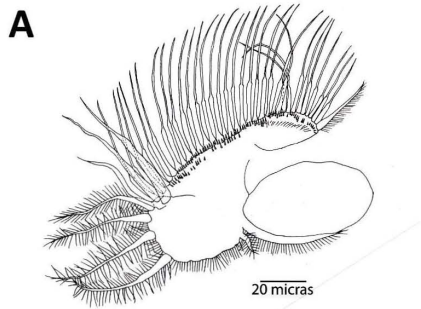
Moina cf micrura 2 ES

1190

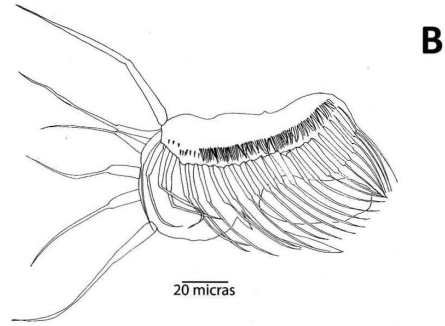
1191

1192 Fig. 24

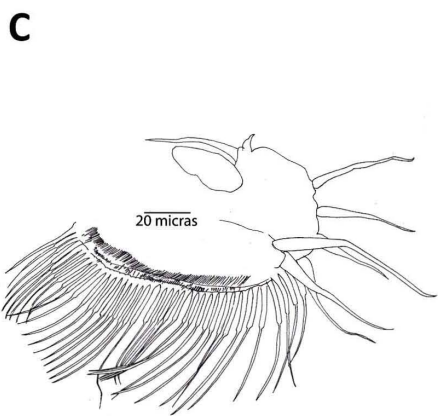
1193



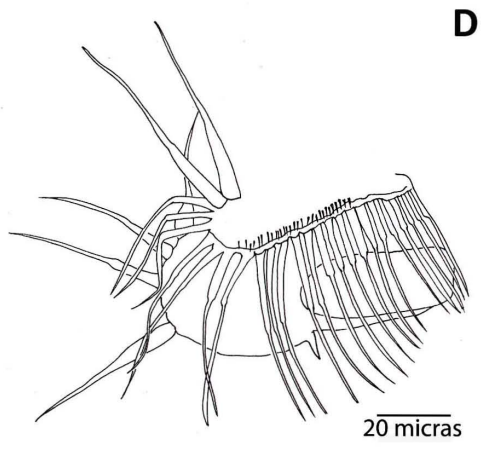
Moina cf micrura 1 MX



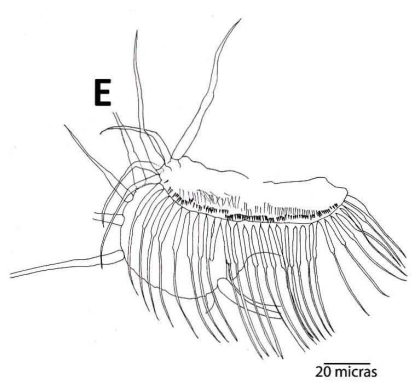
Moina cf micrura 2 MX



Moina cf micrura 3 MX



Moina cf micrura 1ES



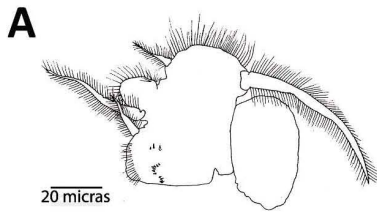
Moina cf micrura 2 ES

1194

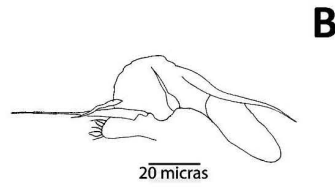
1195

1196 Fig. 25

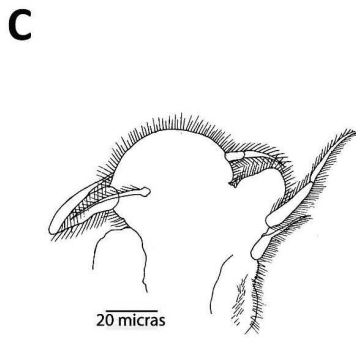
1197



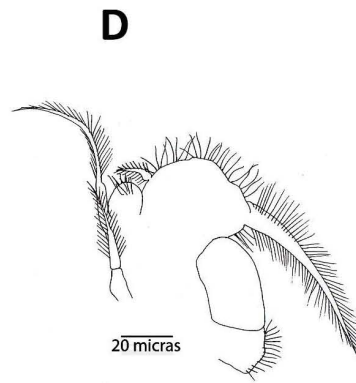
Moina cf micrura 1 MX



Moina cf micrura 2 MX



Moina cf micrura 3 MX



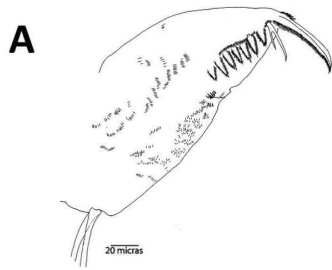
Moina cf micrura 2 ES

1198

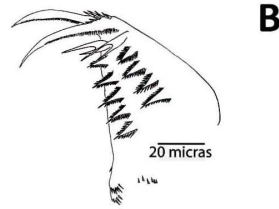
1199

1200 Fig. 26

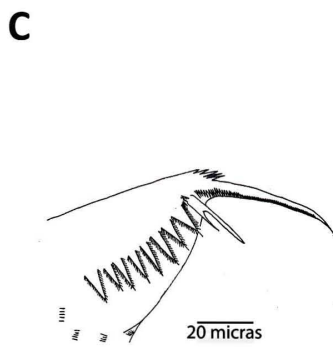
1201



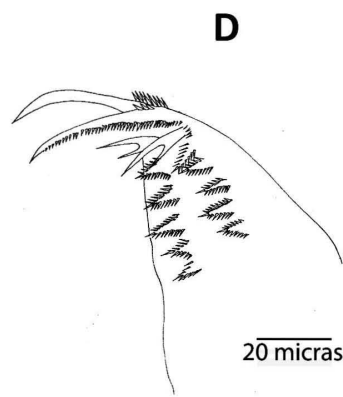
Moina cf micrura 1 MX



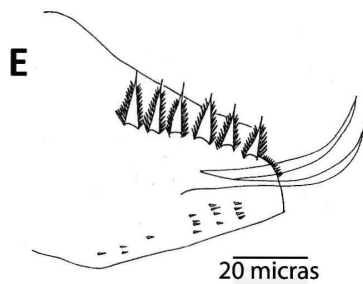
Moina cf micrura 2 MX



Moina cf micrura 3 MX



Moina cf micrura 1 ES

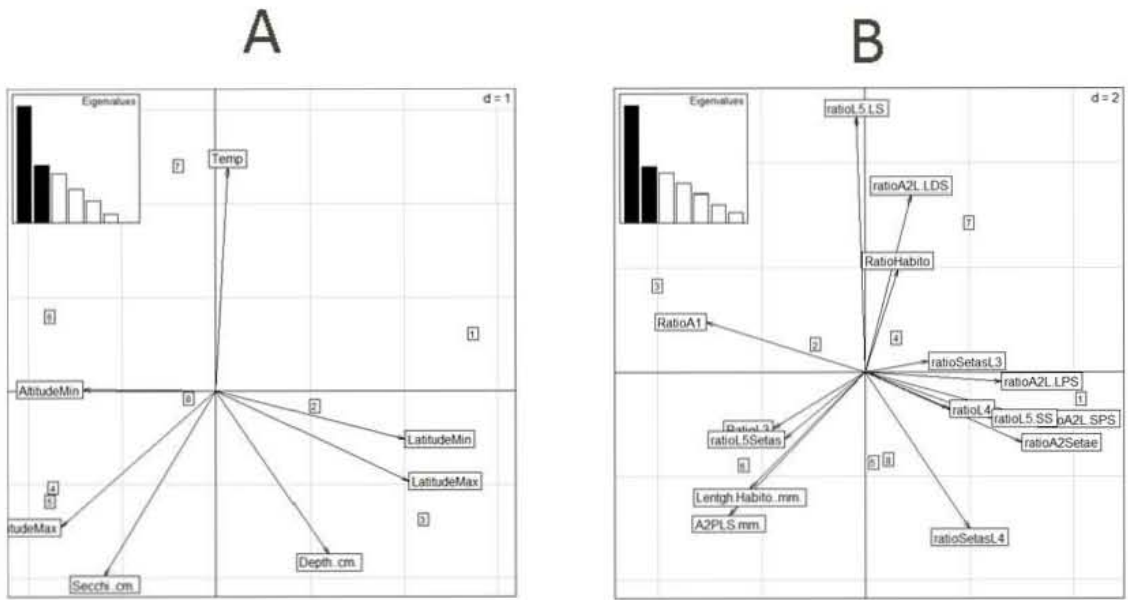


Moina cf micrura 2 ES

1202

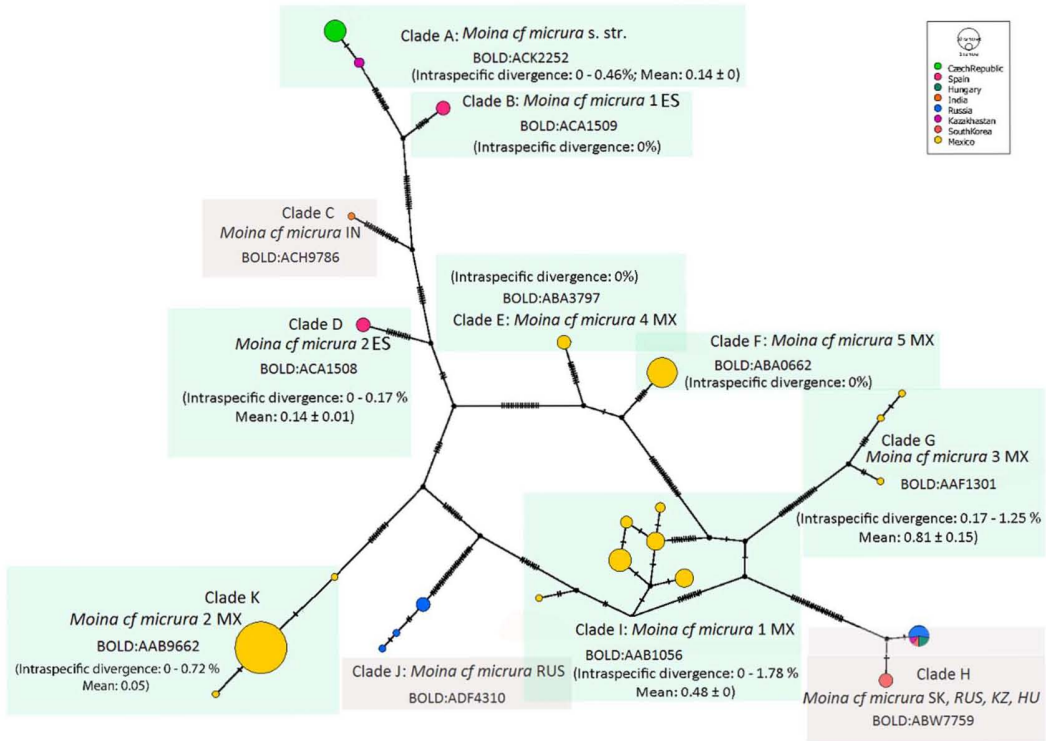
1203

1204 Fig. 27



1205

1206



S1. Table. Complete list of sequences generated in this study and public sequences from BOLD and GenBank used in the analyses.

| Phylogroup name | Sample ID (BOLD) | Genbank accession number | Country of origin | Reference |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | CH-659-G10 | | Mexico | In this study |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | CH-659-G09 | | Mexico | In this study |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | CH-659-G01 | | Mexico | In this study |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | CH-659-G06 | | Mexico | In this study |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | ESP067-12 | | Spain | In this study |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | BIOUG01705-C03 | | Canada | Jeffery et al., 2011 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | BIOUG01705-C02 | | Canada | Jeffery et al., 2011 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | BIOUG01705-A02 | | Canada | Jeffery et al., 2011 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | BIOUG01701-F09 | | Canada | Jeffery et al., 2011 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | BIOUG01701-F02 | | Canada | Jeffery et al., 2011 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | AS22a9 | KC617126 | Mexico | Prosser et al., 2013 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | AS22a6 | KC617127 | Mexico | Prosser et al., 2013 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | AS22a3 | KC617130 | Mexico | Prosser et al., 2013 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZPLMX262 | EU702249 | Mexico | Elías-Gutiérrez et al., 2008 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZMXIII_227 | KC617408 | Canada | Jeffery et al., 2011 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZMXII-146 | JN233944 | Canada | Jeffery et al., 2011 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|------------------------------|
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZMXII-134 | JN233945 | Canada | Jeffery et al., 2011 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZPLMX335 | EU702246 | Mexico | Elías-Gutiérrez et al., 2008 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZPLMX334 | EU702247 | Mexico | Elías-Gutiérrez et al., 2008 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZPLMX263 | EU702248 | Mexico | Elías-Gutiérrez et al., 2008 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZMXII-579 | KC617128 | Mexico | Prosser et al., 2013 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZMXII-568 | KC617129 | Mexico | Prosser et al., 2013 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZMXII-649 | KC617131 | Mexico | Prosser et al., 2013 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZMXII-637 | KC617132 | Mexico | Prosser et al., 2013 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZMXII-625 | KC617133 | Mexico | Prosser et al., 2013 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | ZMXII-613 | KC617134 | Mexico | Prosser et al., 2013 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | JN657688 | JN657688 | Hungary | Nédli et al., 2014 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | JN657689 | JN657689 | Hungary | Nédli et al., 2014 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | JN657690 | JN657690 | Hungary | Nédli et al., 2014 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | JN657691 | JN657691 | Hungary | Nédli et al., 2014 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168582 | KX168582 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168581 | KX168581 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168556 | KX168556 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168524 | KX168524 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168523 | KX168523 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168546 | KX168546 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168545 | KX168545 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168519 | KX168519 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168518 | KX168518 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |
| <i>Moina cf macrocopa macrocopa</i> | KX168571 | KX168571 | Russia | Bekker et al., 2016 |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | 09BBCRU-0155 | | USA (terra typica) | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | 09BBCRU-0151 | | USA (terra typica) | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | 09BBCRU-0150 | | USA (terra typica) | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | SJA-0058 | | Bolivia | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | SJA-0048 | | Bolivia | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | SJA-0104 | | Bolivia | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | SJA-0088 | | Bolivia | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | SJA-0091 | | Bolivia | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | SJA-0071 | | Bolivia | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | SJA-0074 | | Bolivia | |
| <i>Moina macrocopa americana</i> | SJA-0076 | | Bolivia | |

CAPÍTULO V. DISCUSIÓN

La delimitación e identificación precisa de las especies sigue siendo un problema central en el conocimiento de la diversidad biológica. Delimitar las especies depende de los datos utilizados y del concepto de especie aplicado (Schwentner, Timms y Richter, 2011). Tradicionalmente, la taxonomía, se ha basado principalmente en caracteres morfológicos. Sin embargo, descripciones basadas sólo en caracteres morfológicos a menudo conllevan una delimitación errónea de los límites de las especies, principalmente de microinvertebrados. Este problema se agudiza con las especies crípticas, es decir aquellas estrechamente relacionadas y que a menudo son demasiado parecidas morfológicamente para ser identificadas sin error. Goulden (1968) en su revisión del género *Moina* realizó una comparación exhaustiva basada en la morfología de todas las especies de *Moina* descritas y concluye que muchas de las especies reconocidas eran sinónimos unas de otras, invalidando de este modo un gran número de ellas. Atribuyó la plasticidad fenotípica observada en las poblaciones como adaptaciones locales a diferentes tipos de hábitats. Por estas razones, el uso de un enfoque integrativo, de acuerdo con los estándares modernos para delimitar las especies, basados en la combinación de datos de otro tipo, como los genéticos, biogeográficos, fisiología, etc. permiten una mejor resolución de los límites estas y por lo tanto una hipótesis con mayor soporte.

En este estudio, el uso de este enfoque integrativo para resolver los complejos de las especies de los cladóceros *Moina micrura* y *Moina macrocopa*, permitió descubrir y delimitar una gran diversidad críptica, siete especies diferentes en el caso del complejo *Moina micrura* y tres para el complejo *Moina macrocopa*, que presentan patrones de distribución muy restringidos tal y como otros autores ya habían evidenciado anteriormente pero sólo con datos derivados de datos genéticos (Bekker et al., 2016; Elías-Gutiérrez, 2008b). Cabe remarcar que una de las piezas fundamentales en la resolución de estos complejos de especies ha sido reconocer la identidad "real" de los holotipos (datos morfológicos, genéticos y geográficos) o en su caso de material topotipo, que por cierto no es reconocido por el Código Internacional de Nomenclatura Zoológica, para que a final de cuentas permiten realizar comparaciones más detalladas entre las

poblaciones que componen un taxón y poder establecer hipótesis más robustas en relación a los límites de las especies.

También se evidenció el éxito del zooplancton de aguas dulces para colonizar nuevos hábitats. Tanto en el caso del copépodo *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* (Hu, 1943), como en el de *Moina*, el estudio de sus patrones de distribución demostró que existen traslocaciones de las poblaciones por todo el mundo, por lo que las encontramos viviendo en simpatria en un sin fin de hábitats. Estas nuevas distribuciones confusas desde el punto de vista biogeográfico son debidas principalmente al hombre y en segunda instancia a otros factores bióticos y abióticos (Montoliu, Miracle and Elías-Gutiérrez, 2015).

Una de las ventajas de utilizar diferentes tipos de datos y herramientas de última generación, es el potencial de determinar la variación intra e interespecífica dentro de cada uno de estos tipos de datos y entre ellos, las divergencias genéticas obtenidas fueron concurrentes con las observaciones morfológicas y geográficas en general pues existe una correspondencia directa entre todas las observaciones. Es importante resaltar que no se encontraron diferencias morfológicas en poblaciones con divergencias menores del 3% en el gen COI (Hebert, Ratnasingham and DeWaard, 2003).

Con respecto a este gen, conocido comúnmente como códigos de barras de la vida (Hebert et. Al., 2003), ya ha sido demostrado que por sí solo no es del todo adecuado para construir un árbol filogenético ni para realizar la taxonomía basada exclusivamente en el ADN, sino para permitir una herramienta de identificación universal respaldada por el conocimiento taxonómico basado en la taxonomía integrativa y recopilada en una biblioteca de referencia disponible en línea. El éxito indiscutible del proyecto de códigos de barras de ADN, que actualmente queda representado por más de 900 publicaciones al año en el Web of Science (webofknowledge.com) se debe principalmente al hecho de que los estándares de códigos de barras de ADN mejoran considerablemente las prácticas actuales para la identificación de los seres vivos a partir de una estandarización que ofrece aplicaciones que van más allá de lo que podemos concebir en este momento para todos los usuarios interesados en el reconocimiento de las especies (Teletchea, 2010).

Pero ahora que hemos resuelto un problema, tenemos otro problema, en relación a la biodiversidad. ¿Realmente existen tantas nuevas especies? o ¿se corresponden con especies previamente invalidadas? Esto ha llevado a un nuevo concepto: la inflación de especies (Isaac et al., 2004). En este caso las dos preguntas planteadas toman especial relevancia, por lo tanto para poder responderlas es necesaria una exhaustiva revisión del género, y para ello, es esencial una descripción integrada de las especies tipo o en su caso, tal y cómo se ha citado anteriormente, de los topotipos, que incluya información no sólo de los organismos sino del ecosistema en el que se encuentran, que incluyan tanto factores bióticos y abióticos, de esta forma no sólo seremos capaces de delimitar con más precisión las especies sino que podremos detectar de una forma temprana, rápida y sencilla los cambios que se están produciendo en el ecosistema.

Finalmente, remarcar que para el descubrimiento de esta inmensa biodiversidad es necesario el uso de herramientas de última generación como el microscopio electrónico de barrido, la metagenómica y la actualización de las metodologías de muestreo, principalmente en el caso del zooplancton de aguas epicontinentales. Elías-Gutiérrez et al. (2018) demostraron que el uso combinado de los códigos de barras del ADN, trampas de luz y mejoras en la preservación de los especímenes les permitió evaluar la comunidad entera de zooplancton. La creación de líneas base de zooplancton nos permitirá un biomonitoreo más preciso que permitirá el desarrollo de estrategias más precisas de conservación y gestión de los recursos ante el reto que presenta el crecimiento desordenado de las actividades humanas, falta de regulación y en última instancia el cambio global.

CAPÍTULO VI. CONCLUSIONES GENERALES

En base a las preguntas de investigación propuestas, podemos concluir que:

Las especies de cladóceros analizadas en este estudio son especies crípticas y diferentes con distribuciones muy restringidas y por lo tanto, no son anfiatlánticas.

El gen mitocondrial COI delimita con exactitud las especies crípticas. Su amplia variación interespecífica permite una correspondencia directa entre la identificación molecular y la identificación basada en caracteres morfológicos de las especies. Esto es debido a su alta tasa de evolución molecular que se manifiesta en la gran cantidad de haplotipos detectados. La variabilidad fenotípica observada en las especies es resultado de la adaptación a nuevos hábitats como consecuencia principalmente de la depredación y de las presiones medioambientales.

El umbral de divergencia genética del gen COI del 3% nos permite delimitar los grupos analizados con precisión. Los diferentes algoritmos utilizados (ML, NJ, ABGD, mPTP) para establecer este umbral de divergencia, fueron concluyentes y obtuvimos los mismos resultados. Estos resultados fueron consistentes con la morfología ya que, no se observaron diferencias morfológicas en poblaciones con divergencias menores al 3%.

La taxonomía integrativa nos permite delimitar las especies con más exactitud que si utilizamos solo un enfoque. Todos los análisis (morfológicos, genéticos y biogeográficos) fueron concordantes y se obtuvieron los mismos resultados, ocho especies en el caso de *Moina micrura*, dos especies en el complejo *Moina macrocopa* mientras que, *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis* es una especie oportunista que se está extendiendo asociada al cultivo del arroz.

El uso de herramientas de última tecnología como la Microscopía Electrónica de Barrido, facilita la identificación de las especies ya que, permite observar diferencias en micro caracteres de gran importancia taxonómica, que no fueron descritos anteriormente al no ser visibles utilizando las herramientas tradicionales. Los resultados muestran diferencias morfológicas en algunos caracteres que han sido usados para la identificación del grupo micrura y la diferenciación con sus congéneres.

Las especies registradas en diferentes partes del mundo muy alejadas unas de otras, y con baja divergencia genética, como *Mesocyclops pehpeiensis*, alguna de las especies del complejo *Moina micrura* y el complejo *Moina macrocopa* s.l. son debidas principalmente a dos razones: actividades antropogénicas, por ejemplo, asociadas a cultivos, agua de lastre y a las aves que, durante su migración van transportando efipios de un lugar a otro, cómo se ha demostrado anteriormente para otros cladóceros.

Los resultados obtenidos en este análisis son totalmente compatibles con la actual clasificación jerárquica de los seres vivos basada en el sistema de Linneo.

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