A NEW SPECIES OF PLECTROMACRONEMA ULMER (TRICHOPTERA: HIDROPSYCHIDAE), LARVAE, PUPAE, ADULT AND LIFE HISTORY ASPECTS

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Plectromacronema Ulmer 1906 is a Neotropical genus recorded sparsely from South of Mexico to the North of Argentina. The genus is placed within the Macronematinae sub-family, which has beautiful wing ornamentation being relatively large among the Trichoptera. There are only two species recorded for Brasil, Plectromacronema comptum Ulmer 1906 and Plectromacronema subfuscum (Banks 1920). Both of the Brazilian species do not have the immature stages described. There is only one species P. lisae Flint 1983 with immature stages described. The species level identification of aquatic insect immature stages is crucial for ecological and evolutionary studies because most of the natural selection is undertaken in the water. Therefore, immature stages species level identification is required for water quality biomonitoring. Most of the Trichoptera taxonomy is based only on adult male genitalia, lacking the association with immature stages. The progress of biomonitoring of water quality and ecological studies has been detained in the Neotropics because most of the species immature stages are unknown. In this presentation, we propose a new species associating larvae, pupae and adult. Aspects of the life history of the new species are also discussed. This record also represent a new genus record for the state of Minas Gerais, extending the knowledge on the diversity, distribution and biology of this remarkable hidropsychid genus.