

Checklist of Known Moth Flies (Diptera: Psychodidae: Psychodinae) from Morocco with Distributions

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Abstract

Moth flies (Diptera: Psychodidae: Psychodinae) are a diverse and widespread group of small insects. Primarily associated with humid environments, they also display a significant, yet largely unexplored, ecological diversity. Adult Psychodinae are mostly found in wet, shaded habitats. Many known species are considered aquatic, semi-aquatic, or terrestrial. The world fauna of Psychodinae consists at present of approximately 3000 recognized and described species belonging to more or less than 100 genera. Till now the contributions to Psychodinae of Morocco are very fragmented and remain patchy. Here we present a comprehensive checklist of all species known till now in the country, with their distribution across the Moroccan regions, such as the Rif Mountains, the Beni Snassen Mountains, the Atlantic plain and the Atlas Mountains. The habitats, ranging from terrestrial, lotic and lenitic aquatic ecosystems, were surveyed using various methods from 2004 to 2015.

Keywords

Moth-flies, Psychodinae, Morocco