

## Regeneration of old slide specimens mounted in Hoyer's medium

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All slide specimens of the Sasa collection are mounted in Hoyer's solution, which due to crystallization is considered to be an unsuitable medium for long term preservation (Pinder 1989). The oldest slide specimens of the Sasa collection were mounted in 1979 (34 years ago). However, crystallized slides are so far not very frequent. Recently, I successfully regenerated a Holotype specimen in a crystallized mount (Figure 1). Here I describe the method used.

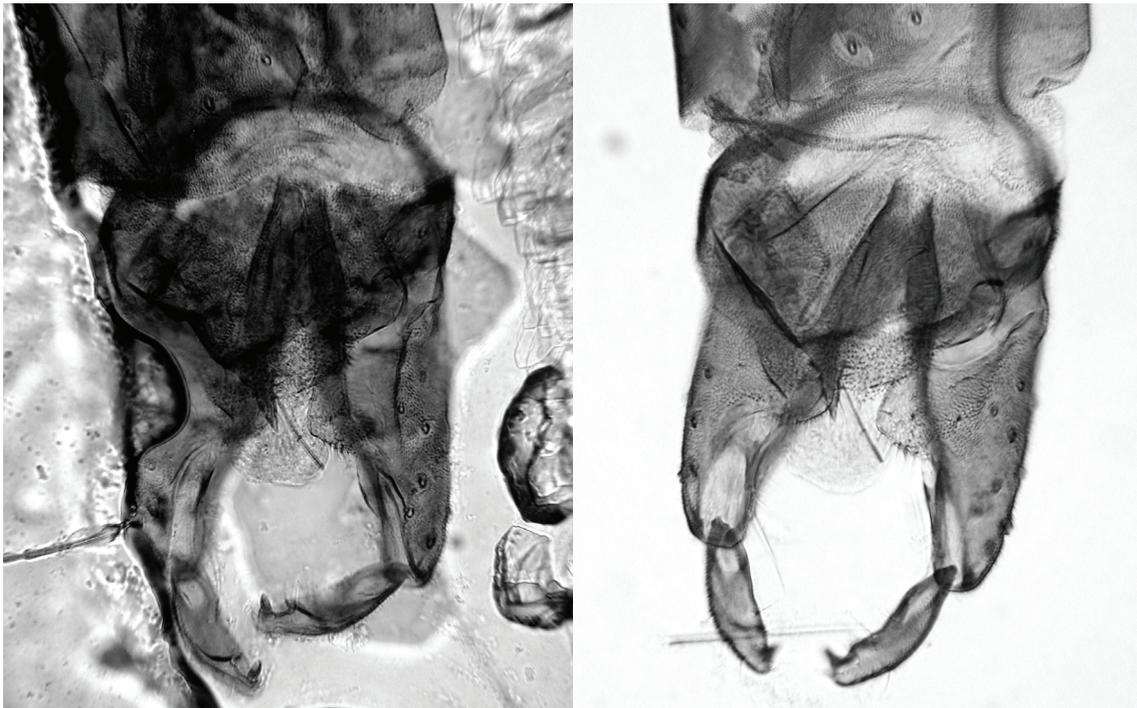


Figure 1. Holotype of *Rheocricotopus* (*Paracricotopus*) *tamabrevis* Sasa, 1983, transferred to *Paracricotopus tamabrevis* (Sasa, 1983) by Niitsuma (1990). Holotype NSMT-I-Dip-4558. Left before regeneration, right after regeneration.

### Methods

Hoyer's solution is water-soluble even if it is crystallized, so crystallized slide mounts can be dissolved in water.

- 1) Pour tepid water (about 40°C) into a glass (or 200ml beaker) in which a microscope slide is placed standing so **that the water covers the mount but not the label**. Replace the water with new tepid water, after several hours. After repeating this several times, the medium dissolves and the cover slip is released. At the same time the specimen parts come loose and sink to the bottom.
- 2) Collect the body parts using a fine pipette, and place them in 70% alcohol in a petri dish. Examine dish and glass using a binocular to ensure that all parts are retrieved.
- 3) Wipe up the microscope slide and cover slip with clean gauze.
- 4) Carefully mount the specimen using a medium suitable for permanent slides.

### Reference

Pinder L.C.V. 1989. Introduction. In Wiederholm, T. (Ed.) *Chironomidae of the Holarctic region, Keys and diagnoses. Part 3. Adult males*. Entomologica scandinavica Supplement 34: 5-9.

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