Abstract

Coelomomyces utahensis is a fungal parasite of several genera of mosquitoes that inhabit rock-pools in southern Utah. Studies of the biology of Coelomomyces and their potential use in biological control of mosquitoes have been hindered by their complex life history, lack of axenic culture methods, and logistical problems producing their arthropod hosts for in vivo culture. In the case of C. utahensis, we have identified the alternate microcrustacean host as Potamocypris unicaudata, which is an ostracod that can be easily reared in abundance and stored for long periods. Described here are the life cycle and culturing of C. utahensis.