

# ZOOTAXA

435

**Revision of the Neotropical caddisfly genus *Banyallarga*  
(Trichoptera: Calamoceratidae)**

AYSHA L. PRATHER



Magnolia Press  
Auckland, New Zealand

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(*Zootaxa* 435)

76 pp.; 30 cm.

18 Feb. 2004

ISBN 1-877354-28-7 (Paperback)

ISBN 1-877354-29-5 (Online edition)

PUBLISHED BY

Magnolia Press

P.O. Box 41383 St. Lukes

Auckland 1030

New Zealand

e-mail: [zootaxa@mapress.com](mailto:zootaxa@mapress.com)

<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/>

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ISSN 1175-5326 (Print edition)

ISSN 1175-5334 (Online edition)

## Revision of the Neotropical caddisfly genus *Banyallarga* (Trichoptera: Calamoceratidae)

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## ABSTRACT

Systematics of the genus *Banyallarga* are reviewed. Illustrations, a generic diagnosis, and descriptions are provided for males and females. A new subgenus, *Histricoverpa*, is recognized. Nine previously described species are recognized: *Banyallarga* (*Banyallarga*) *argentinica* Flint, *B. (B.) columbiana* (Navás), *B. (B.) loxana* (Navás), *B. (B.) vicaria* (Walker) *B. (B.) villosa* (Navás), *B. (B.) yungensis* Flint, *B. (Histricoverpa) acutiterga* (Denning and Hogue), *B. (H.) fortuna* (Resh), and *B. (H.) mollicula* (McLachlan). Eight species are described as new: *B. (B.) penai* (Peru), *B. (H.) echinata* (Peru), *B. (H.) mexicana* (Mexico), *B. (H.) nica* (Nicaragua), *B. (H.) quincemil* (Peru), *B. (H.) sanchezi* (Colombia), *B. (H.) sylvana* (Costa Rica, Nicaragua), and *B. (H.) tapanti* (Costa Rica). *Banyallarga testacea* is designated a synonym of *B. (B.) vicaria* and a neotype of *B. testacea* is designated to clarify the identity of the genus. The genus *Loxinum*, formerly considered a synonym of *Banyallarga*, is designated a synonym of *Chimarrhodella* (Philopotamidae).

**Key words:** Trichoptera, Calamoceratidae, *Banyallarga*, caddisfly, Neotropical, taxonomy, systematics

## INTRODUCTION

The Calamoceratidae are a cosmopolitan family of 8 extant genera, 1 fossil genus, and over 100 described species. Two endemic genera occur in the Neotropics, *Banyallarga* Navás and *Phylloicus* Müller. *Phylloicus* contains 55 species; *Banyallarga*, with 11 described species, is the second largest calamoceratid genus in the New World. The distribution of these species is more limited than that of *Phylloicus* species, which range from the southwestern United States throughout South America; *Banyallarga* species are restricted to Central America and northwestern South America. A new species from Oaxaca is the northernmost record, and *Banyallarga argentinica* the southernmost.

Only the larva of *Banyallarga argentinica* is described. I have also seen material of *B. acutiterga*; the description will be published elsewhere. Unlike other calamoceratid genera, which exclusively use plant material in their cases, the larvae of *Banyallarga* build tubular cases primarily of mineral fragments with some plant material incorporated. They are found in slowly flowing areas on sandy-stony bottoms or among vegetation (Flint & Angrisano 1985). *Banyallarga* larvae appear to be omnivorous.

Navás established the genus *Banyallarga* in 1916, in the Hydropsychidae, Macroneurinae. The holotype of the type species, *B. testacea*, from Colombia, is lost. Subse-