

A new species of *Ileopeltus* Cwikla from Costa Rica (Cicadellidae: Deltocephalinae)

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Abstract

The genus *Ileopeltus* was described by Cwikla (1988), who included twelve species. The genus is Neotropical, with a range from Mexico to Brazil. In this paper a new species, *I. similarus*, is described from Costa Rica. The Mesoamerican species are keyed.

Key words: Hemiptera, Homoptera, leafhopper, taxonomy

Introduction

The genus *Ileopeltus* was described by Cwikla (1988), who included twelve species: *aberrans* (Osborn), *blockeri* Cwikla, *clavatus* Cwikla, *cuneus* (DeLong & Martinson), *cyclops* (Linnavuori), *dorsalus* Cwikla, *haplus* Cwikla, *hastulus* (DeLong & Linnavuori), *nanoanthus* Cwikla, *spinosus* (DeLong), *tethys* (Van Duzee), and *ventriculus* Cwikla. The Neotropical species, under the name *Doleranus*, were treated by Linnavuori (1959). *Ileopeltus tethys* is the only species reported from Costa Rica and is very common in Guanacaste Province, from 100 to 600 meters altitude. Nothing is known about the biology of these leafhoppers. In this paper I describe one new species, *I. similarus*.

Material and methods

Oman's (1949) method of preparing leafhopper genitalia was followed. The abdomen was placed separately in 10% potassium hydroxide overnight at room temperature instead of being heated. The following day the genitalia were washed for five minutes in water. Holotypes of *I. tethys* and *I. blockeri* were examined.

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