New genera and host plant records of Asteraceae-feeding Tephritidae (Diptera) from Brazil

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Abstract

Three new genera of Tephritinae (Tephritidae), Cipomyia (type species: C. totofusca, n. sp.), Eutretopsis (type species: E. albipunctata, n. sp.), and Lewinsohnia (type species: L. magna, n. sp.) are described from Brazil. The first host plant records are provided for C. totofusca, L. magna, and Caenoriata pertinax (Bates).

Key words: Diptera, Tephritidae, Tephritinae, taxonomy, host plant, Asteraceae

Introduction

Fruit fly species of the subfamily Tephritinae (Diptera: Tephritidae) are among the most diverse and important insects that feed inside flowerheads of composite plants (Asteraceae). In the Neotropics there are more than 430 species and nearly 50 genera currently recognized in this subfamily (Norrbom et al. 1999, and unpublished data), but many are poorly studied and numerous additional species are undescribed, including more than one-third of the tephritid species reared from Asteraceae in southern Brazil by Prado et al. (2002). In this paper we describe three new genera and report host plant and distribution records for several species, mainly the result of the extensive surveys of endophagous insects in Asteraceae in southern Brazil by Thomas Lewinsohn and colleagues (Prado et al. 2002). The new genera are described for inclusion in a key to Neotropical tephritid genera to be published in a forthcoming manual.