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**Revision of the Mexican and Central American species of
Mortoniella (Trichoptera: Glossosomatidae: Protoptilinae)**

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Abstract

The genus *Mexitrichia* Mosely, 1937 (27 described species) is synonymized with *Mortoniella* Ulmer, 1906 (22 described species) and a revised generic description is provided for the genus. These species are placed in 4 recognized species groups. Mexican and Central American species of *Mortoniella* are revised to include 6 species formerly placed in *Mexitrichia* and 22 new species from Costa Rica, Panama, and Mexico. New species combinations for these regional species include: *Mortoniella florica* (Flint, 1974), *M. leroda* (Mosely, 1937), *M. meralda* (Mosely, 1954), *M. pacuara* (Flint, 1974), *M. rancura* (Mosely, 1954), and *M. rovira* (Flint, 1974). New species of *Mortoniella* described here (followed by the country of provenance) include *M. akantha* (Costa Rica) *M. anakantha* (Costa Rica) *M. aviceps* (Costa Rica, Panama) *M. brachyrhachos* (Mexico), *M. buenoi* (Mexico), *M. carinula* (Costa Rica), *M. caudicula* (Costa Rica), *M. falcicula* (Mexico), *M. mexicana* (Mexico) *M. munozi* (Costa Rica, Panama), *M. opinionis* (Costa Rica), *M. panamensis* (Panama), *M. papillata* (Costa Rica), *M. pectinella* (Panama), *M. propinqua* (Costa Rica), *M. redunca* (Costa Rica), *M. rodmani* (Costa Rica), *M. sicula* (Costa Rica), *M. stilula* (Costa Rica), *M. tapanti* (Costa Rica, Panama), *M. taurina* (Costa Rica, Panama), and *M. umbonata* (Panama). Males of all known Mexican and Central American species are illustrated or reillustrated and a key is provided for males of the species.

Key words: Trichoptera, Glossosomatidae, Protoptilinae, *Mexitrichia*, *Mortoniella*, new synonymy, new species, new combination, caddisfly, revision, neotropics, Central America

Introduction

This paper represents the first part of a research project to revise the species currently placed in the genus *Mexitrichia* Mosely, 1937, and is part of a larger project to completely revise the subfamily Protoptilinae of the family Glossosomatidae. Previously published papers in this series include: Blahnik & Holzenthal 2006, Holzenthal & Blahnik 2006, Robertson & Holzenthal 2005, and Robertson & Holzenthal 2006. In the present paper, all of the species of *Mexitrichia* from Central America are covered, most of them new to science. In the process, a decision was made to synonymize *Mexitrichia* with *Mortoniella* Ulmer, 1906. The similarity between the two genera has been recognized for a long time (Flint 1963), and the differences between them are much less than those ordinarily used to characterize genera of protoptiline glossosomatids. *Mortoniella* is the older name, and hence species of *Mexitrichia* will receive a new generic combination. All previously described species of *Mexitrichia* are here transferred to the genus *Mortoniella*. A comprehensive list of the species currently recognized for both genera, with literature citations and geographic distributions, is found in the Catalogue of Neotropical Caddisflies (Flint *et al.* 1999b). These species are here assigned to 4 species groups and listed in Table 1, together with the new species described in this paper. Of the 27 species formerly placed in *Mexitrichia*, 6 were described from Mexico or Central America, including the type species for the genus, *Mexitrichia leroda* Mosely, 1937. No species outside of South America have been previously placed in the genus *Mortoniella*. Mexican and Central American species transferred to *Mortoniella*, with their new combinations, include: *M. leroda* (Mosely, 1937), *M. rancura* (Mosely, 1954), *M. florica* (Flint, 1974), *M. meralda* (Mosely, 1954), *M. pacuara* (Flint, 1974), and *M. rovira* (Flint, 1974). An additional 22 new species of *Mortoniella* are described in this paper, bringing the total number of species now included in the genus to 71.