



A new genus, *Krameragallia*, a segregate from the Neogeic genus *Agalliopsis* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Megophthalminae)

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Abstract

A new genus, *Krameragallia*, type-species *Agalliopsis rex* gen. nov. Kramer, is described and illustrated. *Krameragallia* gen. nov. can be distinguished from all other known genera of Neotropical Agalliini by morphological features such as the following: largest size (7.4–9mm) among known species in the New World representatives of the subfamily; strong contrasting scarlet and black color pattern; aedeagus shaft very long, almost ribbon-like with ventral process; aedeagal apex bearing one pair of lateral slender processes on each side and first valvifer of female genitalia very well developed and hook-shaped. Female genitalia are described for the first time, including a highly unusual, well developed first valvifer. Notes on the genus as well as on the distinction between *Krameragallia* gen. nov., *Agalliopsis* Kirkaldy, *Brasa* Oman, and *Chromagallia* Linnavuori are given.

Key words: Auchenorrhyncha, Agalliini, new genus, taxonomy, morphology, leafhopper

Introduction

The subfamily Megophthalminae comprises approximately 650 described species registered worldwide and distributed in four tribes with 53 genera. The Neotropical Region itself has 22 genera with 280 species registered. The tribes are distributed as follows: Adelungiini has a Palearctic distribution, Megophthalmini, African and Holarctic, Evansiolini is restricted to Chile. and Agalliini worldwide. The latter tribe, the largest within the subfamily, was historically studied mostly by Oman (1933, 1934, 1938), Linnavuori (1954) and Kramer (1964, 1976). Species in this group occur primarily in dense, low-growing herbaceous or shrubby vegetation.

Fragmentation of genera in Agalliini has a long history. New Neotropical genera have been established from species previously assigned to the following genera: *Aceratagallia* Kirkaldy, *Agalliana* Oman, *Bergallia* Oman, *Chromagallia* Linnavuori and *Megagallia* Linnavuori from the genus *Bythoscopus*; *Brasa* Oman from the genus *Macropsis* (Macropsinae); *Agalliota* Oman, *Euragallia* Oman, *Latusagallia* Nielson & Godoy and *Fibragallia* Nielson from the genus *Agallia* Curtis and *Agalliopsis* Kirkaldy from *Jassus* Fallen (invalid name). This is probably due to the fact that external features, such as texture of the pronotum, and shape of the head, were used up until recently for generic definitions resulting in artificial keys. Nowadays, an effort is being made to incorporate male and female genitalic characters whenever describing a new genus or species.

Agalliopsis Kirkaldy, 1907, type-species *Jassus novellus* Say, 1831, is apparently limited to the New World (Oman 1970). Many species in this genus were described by Oman (1933, 1934, 1938). Additional relevant contributions were published by Kramer (1964), Linnavuori & DeLong (1979), and Nielson & Godoy (1995), resulting in a total of approximately 110 Neotropical species. According to Nielson & Knight (2000), *Agalliopsis* is of probable Neotropical origin, having radiated to the Nearctic Region after South and North America were joined during the Miocene. The posterior margin of the crown, which is sinuate or slightly curved behind the eyes, is the diagnostic feature of *Agalliopsis* (Nielson & Godoy 1995). Due to the establishment of this genus based solely on this external feature, several species bearing very different male and female genitalia were grouped together artificially. Some attempts have been made through the years to group species based on male genitalic characters, such as that of Oman (1970) and Nielson & Godoy (1995) who recognized complexes within *Agalliopsis* that might eventually merit status as separate genera.