Zootaxa 3652 (1): 156–162
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

Article

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)
ZOOTAXA
ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3652.1.5
http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:416B25B6-D885-4DAD-94C7-13AEBD98115E

Three new species of *Neozygina* Dietrich & Dmitriev (Hemiptera, Cicadellidae, Typhlocybinae) from Argentina, with a key to South American species

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Abstract

Three new species of *Neozygina* Dietrich & Dmitriev are described from Argentina, *N. apicalis* **sp. nov.**, *N. bifurcata* **sp. nov.** and *N. spinula* **sp. nov.** Detailed morphological descriptions and illustrations of the new species are provided, and a key to South American species of the genus is given.

Key words: Auchenorrhyncha, identification, morphology, distribution

Introduction

The genus *Neozygina* includes 25 previously described species distributed from the western United States to Argentina (Dietrich & Dmitriev 2007) and is the most diverse genus of the tribe Erythroneurini recorded in South America. Species of *Neozygina* differ from other New World Erythroneurini in having both dorsal and ventral appendages present on the male pygofer, one or more macrosetae just basad of the dorsal appendage on the pygofer margin, and a pair of conspicuous black spots on the crown (Dietrich & Dmitriev 2007). Phylogenetic analysis of morphological data recovered *Neozygina* as the monophyletic sister group to a clade comprising the New World genera *Mexigina*, *Hepzygina*, and *Zyginama* (Dietrich & Dmitriev 2006). The few available host records indicate that species of the genus feed on shrubs or herbaceous vegetation, including grasses (Dietrich & Dmitriev 2007).
In Argentina, the genus *Neozygina* is represented by three species (*N. argentiniensis* Dietrich & Dmitriev 2007, *N expanda* Dietrich & Dmitriev 2007, and *N. forcipata* Dietrich & Dmitriev 2007). In the current work, three new species of *Neozygina* Dietrich & Dmitriev are described and illustrated from Argentina, and a key including the new species is given.

Materials and methods

The specimens were collected with Malaise and mercury vapor lights traps in Chaco, Jujuy, and Tucumán provinces. For morphological study of the genital structures, clearing was accomplished by immersion of the entire abdomen in a solution of 10% KOH at room temperature for several hours followed by several rinses with water. For illustration, genital structures were embedded in glycerin. The color pattern here described is the post-mortem coloration. In living or recently collected individuals the coloration can be more vivid relative to that of old preserved specimens. Morphological terminology follows Young (1952) and Dietrich (2005) for habitus and genitalia characters. Digital photographs were taken using a QImaging Micropublisher 3.3 digital camera mounted on an Olympus SZX12 stereomicroscope. The type-series of the new species are deposited in the entomological

 Accepted by A-P. Liang: 9 Apr. 2013; published: 15 May 2013