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A Revision of the New World genus *Lepidophora* Westwood, 1835 (Diptera, Bombyliidae, Ecliminae) with a key to the species

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Abstract

The bombyliid genus *Lepidophora* has a distribution restricted to the New World. The genus is composed by eight species, which are revised and redescribed herein: five restricted to the Neotropical region (*L. acroleuca* Painter, 1930, *L. culiciformis* Walker, 1850, *L. cuneata* Painter, 1939, *L. secutor* Walker, 1857 and *L. trypoxylona* Hall, 1981), two restricted to the Nearctic region (*L. lepidocera* (Wiedemann, 1828) and *L. lutea* Painter, 1962) and one species occurring in Nearctic and Neotropical regions (*L. vetusta* Walker, 1857). The main characters of the external morphology of adults and male and female terminalia are illustrated. An key to species is presented.

Key words: bee flies; *Lepidophora*; New World; taxonomy.

Introduction

Westwood (1835) erected the genus *Lepidophora* with *Ploas aegeriiformis* Gray, 1832 the type species by monotypy. The genus was initially placed in subfamily Toxophorinae. In that paper, Westwood suggested the similarity between *Ploas aegeriiformis* and *Toxophora lepidocera* Wiedemann, 1828. Subsequent authors adopted that synonymy, although it was not formalized in Westwood's (1835) manuscript.

Becker (1913) erected the subfamily Cylleniinae to include *Amictus* Wiedemann, *Cyllenia* Latreille, *Cyrtomyia* Bigot, *Eclimus* Loew, *Epibates* Osten Sacken, *Henica* Macquart, *Toxophora* Meigen, *Sphenoidoptera* Williston and *Lepidophora*, based on similar habitus and wing venation. These genera were previously placed in Toxophorinae.