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Description of the first species of *Scambus* Hartig (Hymenoptera, Ichneumonidae) from Peru, with a key to the Neotropical species

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Abstract

In this work we describe and illustrate two new species of *Scambus* from the Peruvian Andes and the Andean-Amazonian interface: *S. amazonicus* Gómez **sp. n.**, and *S. incanus* Gómez **sp. n.** These are the first *Scambus* species described from Peru. In addition, we provide an identification key to the Neotropical species of the genus.

Key words: Neotropical, Andes, Amazonia, idiobiont, taxonomy, Pimplinae, parasitoid, new species

Resumen

En este trabajo se describen e ilustran dos nuevas especies de *Scambus* encontradas en los Andes peruanos y la interface entre los Andes y la Amazonia, *S. amazonicus* Gómez **sp. n.** y *S. incanus* Gómez **sp. n.** Estas son las primeras especies del género *Scambus* en ser descritas del Perú. Adicionalmente, presentamos una clave de identificación para las especies neotropicales del género.

Palabras clave: Neotropical, Andes, Amazonia, idiobionte, taxonomía, Pimplinae, parasitoide, nuevas especies

Introduction

Pimplinae is probably the best studied ichneumonid subfamily in the Neotropical region. However, a large number of Neotropical, especially Andean and Amazonian, pimplines remain undescribed (Gómez *et al*. 2014). *Scambus* Hartig 1838 is a large genus with 149 described species (Yu *et al*. 2012), most of which are Holarctic in distribution. These species are idiobiont ectoparasitoids or facultative hyperparasitoids of holometabolous insects (Gauld 1991). The host range of *Scambus* is unusually wide, even for idiobiont parasitoids. Some species, such as *Scambus brevicornis* Gravenhorst, are known to attack species representing several insect orders (Gauld 1991). In the Neotropical region *Scambus* species have been found mainly in mid or high altitude areas in Mexico and Central America. Currently, the genus appears to be uncommon in South America. In Peru, in four long term Malaise trap inventories conducted in Amazonia and the Andean-Amazonian interface (Gómez *et al*. 2015), no *Scambus* specimens were found.

Scambus is a difficult genus to study within the subfamily Pimplinae. There is not a modern revision of the genus (Shaw *et al*. 2011) and it is comprised by a rather heterogeneous group of species (Gauld 1991). Furthermore, there is an important intraspecific morphological variation in, at least, some species such as *Scambus colobatus* Gravenhorst (Shaw *et al*. 2011). This intraspecific variation may lead to further reorganization of the *Scambus* species in the Neotropical region, especially if molecular studies are applied in the future.

In the Mexican region there is a complex of *Scambus* species with no clear interspecific delimitation. In addition, the discrimination as to which biogeographic region each of these Mexican species belongs is problematic

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