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A new species of the genus *Alienates* Barber (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Enicocephalidae: Alienatinae) from Venezuela

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Abstract. New species *Alienates thomasi* sp. nov. Baňar & Štys is described from Venezuela based on a single female. It is the first species recorded from South America, and is illustrated and compared with other Caribbean and Central American *Alienates* species.

Key words: Heteroptera, Enicocephalomorpha, Enicocephalidae, Alienatinae, *Alienates*, new species, female, Venezuela.

Introduction

The genus *Alienates* Barber includes twelve recent species occurring mainly in Caribbean and Central America; they have been reviewed and keyed in Wygodzinsky & Schmidt's (1991) monograph of New World Enicocephalomorpha. Both males and females are known for only one species, males only in two species, and females only in nine. The species are strongly sexually dimorphic, males macropterous, with fully developed compound eyes and ocelli, females (first described by Vasárhelyi 1982) apterous, lacking eyes and ocelli, more robust than males. In this paper we describe a new species of *Alienates*, based on a single female from Venezuela, as the first member of this genus found in South America.

Material and methods

The single female available for our study is card-mounted, of small body size and slightly damaged, hence we have neither dissected the unique specimen nor examined the fore tibial and fore tarsal armatures in detail.

For the thoracic lobes, we apply the standard terminology applicable to all the Enicocephalomorpha (and Heteroptera) using the collum and middle lobe instead of 'anterior lobe' and 'posterior lobe', respectively, following Wygodzinsky & Schmidt (1991).

The label data are cited verbatim, using a slash (/) to separate rows on the label; different labels are indicated by double slashes (//). Notes by the authors are in [brackets].

Colour photographs were taken with a Leica MSV266. Drawings were made using a SZP 11 ZOOM stereoscopic microscope.

The holotype is deposited in the collection of the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC, United States of America (USNM).

Taxonomy

Enicocephalomorpha