

***Pieza*, a new genus of microbombyliids from the New World (Diptera: Mythicomyiidae)**

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Abstract

The new genus, *Pieza*, is proposed to include the following described species (all transferred from *Mythicomyia*): *Pieza agnastis* (Hall), **comb. nov.**, *P. angusta* (Melander), **comb. nov.**, *P. minuta* (Greene), **comb. nov.**, *P. ostenta* (Melander), **comb. nov.** Seven new species are described: *Pieza deresistans* Evenhuis, **sp. nov.**, *P. dominicana* Evenhuis, **sp. nov.**, *P. flavitibia* Evenhuis, **sp. nov.**, *P. kake* Evenhuis, **sp. nov.**, *P. pi* Evenhuis, **sp. nov.**, *P. rhea* Evenhuis, **sp. nov.**, *P. sinclairi* Evenhuis, **sp. nov.** *Mythicomyia ministra* Melander and *Mythicomyia vernalis* Tabet & Hall are found to be junior synonyms of *Pieza angusta* (Melander), **syn. nov.**; *Mythicomyia eremica* Melander is found to be a junior synonym of *Pieza minuta* (Greene), **syn. nov.** A key to genera within the Mythicomyiinae and one to species of *Pieza* are presented.

Key words: Taxonomy, Mythicomyiidae, *Pieza*, fossil, *Mythenteles*.

Introduction

Revisionary work by me on the microbombyliid genus *Mythenteles* Hall & Evenhuis including a clarification of its generic limits (to be published separately including a number of new species and new combinations) showed that a number of taxa previously treated as *Mythenteles* do not agree with the characters of the genus and need to be placed in a new genus. All described species placed in the genus-group taxon *Mythenteles* previous to this study except for its type species are transferred here to *Pieza*, n. gen. In addition, types of the species *Mythicomyia minuta* Greene (from California) and *Mythicomyia agnastis* Hall (from Chile) have been examined and are found to belong to *Pieza*, thus are newly transferred to this genus.

Pieza is found throughout the cordillera of the western portions of North and South America plus disjunct populations from Florida and the West Indies, eastern Brazil, and