

## The South American genus *Protothereva* Malloch (Diptera: Therevidae: Therevinae) with description of two new species

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### Abstract

The genus *Protothereva* Malloch, 1932, was described based on a single female from southwestern Argentina. The genus is revised with the description of two new species, *P. ecuadorensis* Webb from Ecuador and *P. peruensis* Webb from Peru, represented by both male and female specimens. A key to the identification of the species is included along with illustrations of the genitalia and a map of the species distributions. The genus *Protothereva* is redefined to include the male characteristics.

**Key words:** *Protothereva*, Diptera, Therevidae, new species, key, morphology, distribution

### Introduction

The genus *Protothereva* was described by Malloch (1932) based on a single female specimen collected from southwestern Patagonia (Valle del Lago Blanco) that was “distinguished from any other from Patagonia known to [him] by the setulose upper surface of the apical half or more of the vein  $R_1$ .” The presence of setulae on the dorsal surface of  $R_1$  is considered to be apomorphically lost in the subfamilies Agapophytinae and Therevinae, being present in the ancestral Phycinae (except *Schlingeria* Irwin) and Xestomyzini (except *Henicomysia* Coquillett). We have yet to observe the presence of these setae on any therevine taxa other than *Protothereva*, except for a newly discovered, undescribed species of *Stenopomyia* Lyneborg from Madagascar.

Since Malloch’s description of the genus, several specimens of two new species from Ecuador and Peru possessing  $R_1$  setulae have been examined. Although the type species, *P. grisea* Malloch, is still only known from the holotype female, the males of the Ecuadorian and Peruvian species share the distinct characteristics of having an isolated cuticular pro-