A new species of *Thaumastocoris* Kirkaldy from Argentina (Heteroptera: Thaumastocoridae: Thaumastocorinae)

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Abstract

Thaumastocoris peregrinus n. sp. from Argentina is described. New morphological characters are studied and compared with other related species. This is the first record of a member of the subfamily Thaumastocorinae (Thaumastocoridae) from the New World.

Key words: Thaumastocorinae, *Thaumastocoris peregrinus*, new species, Neotropics, Argentina

Introduction

The family Thaumastocoridae comprises small phytophagous cimicomorphan bugs (2 to 4.6 mm). Two subfamilies are recognized, the Xylastodorinae with two genera: *Discocoris* Kormilev (South America) and *Xylastodoris* Barber (Cuba and Florida), and the Thaumastocorinae with four genera: *Baclozygum* Bergroth (Tasmania and mainland Australia), *Onymocoris* Drake and Slater (Australia), *Thaumastocoris* Kirkaldy (Australia and South Africa), and *Wechina* Drake and Slater (southern India).

The nominotypical genus *Thaumastocoris* was created by Kirkaldy (1908) for a new species: *T. australicus*. Later, Drake & Slater (1957) described another two new species: *T. hackeri* and *T. petilus*, and Rose (1965) described the fourth species in the genus, *T. macqueeni*. All these species occur in Australia. The only species of the genus recorded outside Australia is *T. australicus,* from South Africa as a recently introduced species (Jacobs & Neser, 2005) (see discussion below).

Schaefer (1969) commented on the phylogenetic relationships of the family and suggested a relationship to the Plokiophilidae; more recently, Schuh and Štys (1991) placed the Thaumastocoridae in a clade together with Miridae + Tingidae.

Whereas the Xylastodorinae feed only on palm trees, the Thaumastocorinae are known

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