

New genera of Psocoptera (Insecta), from Mexico, Belize and Ecuador (Psoquillidae, Ptiloneuridae, Lachesillidae)

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Abstract

Four new species of Psocoptera are described, each in a new monotypic genus: *Rhyopsocoides typhicolus* (Psoquillidae) and *Omilneura circumvittata* (Ptiloneuridae) from Mexico, *Belicania cervantesi* (Ptiloneuridae) from Belize, and *Waoraniella erwini* (Lachesillidae) from Ecuador. Relationships within each family are discussed, and keys to the genera in each family are included.

Keywords: Psocoptera, Psoquillidae, Ptiloneuridae, Mexico, Ecuador, new genera

Introduction

To the end of the year 2000, 4408 species of Psocoptera were described, in 371 genera and 41 families, the period of most rapid description being from about 1970 to the end of 2000 (Lienhard & Smithers 2002, Mockford 2004). By the end of 2005, 103 additional genera had been described, also 1149 new species, so that in only five years the number of species described in the Psocoptera was increased by 26%, a remarkable achievement, resulting from the work of a small number of investigators. It is pertinent that a single author, Li Fasheng (2002), dealt with 1500 species of Chinese Psocoptera, of which 920 species and 64 genera were described as new; for a critical analysis of this work see Lienhard (2003).

In the present work, four new monotypic genera are described, one each in the families Psoquillidae and Lachesillidae, and two in the family Ptiloneuridae. The specimens studied were dissected in 80% alcohol and their parts (head, right antenna, right legs and wings and genitalia) were mounted in Canada Balsam. Color description was made with direct cold light under a dissecting microscope. Drawings were made with a drawing tube, and measurements were taken with a filar micrometer and are stated in μm . Abbreviations of body parts measured are as follows: FW= right forewing, HW= right hindwing, F= right