



## ***Typhlocybella maidica* (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Typhlocybinae: Dikraneurini), new species from Argentina**

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The tribe Dikraneurini, belonging to subfamily Typhlocybinae, is represented in the Afrotropical, Australian, Indomalayan, Nearctic, Neotropical and Palearctic regions with 201 genera and 31 subgenera recognized (Balme 2007). The genus *Typhlocybella* Baker, 1903 includes the following four species: *Typhlocybella minima* Baker, 1903 from Nicaragua, *T. maculata* Caldwell & Martorell, 1952 from Puerto Rico, *T. parva* Ruppel & DeLong, 1953 from Mexico and *T. minuta* (DeLong 1924) from Florida (USA) (Baker 1903, DeLong 1924, Caldwell & Martorell 1952, Ruppel & DeLong 1953). *T. minima* has been found on papaya, grasses, weeds, bushes, while *T. maculata* has been captured on grasses (Caldwell & Martorell 1952).

According to Young (1952) this genus is distinguished mainly by the hind wings with vannal veins completely fused, submarginal vein absent at wing apex, and forewing with third apical cell embracing the entire wing apex.

Although no species of *Typhlocybella* were previously reported from Argentina, sampling on maize and *Digitaria sanguinalis* (L.) Scop. (Poaceae) in 2007–2008, yielded several specimens of this genus, and revealed a species new to science, *T. maidica*, n.sp., described below. We also report the geographical distribution, host plants and some field observations on its behavior.

### **Material and method**

The adults examined were collected from different localities in Buenos Aires (Chacabuco, Chivilcoy, Junín, Saladillo), Mendoza (La Consulta) and Córdoba provinces. Insects were collected with net and aspirators in maize and sorghum crops. Type material of *T. parva* from Ohio State University (OSUC), *T. maculata* from United States National Museum of Natural History (USNM) and *T. minima* from Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) were examined. Species were prepared for microscopic examination according to standard taxonomic techniques. The illustrations were drawn using a stereoscopic microscope with a camera lucida. Measurements were taken from ten specimens of each sex and they are expressed in millimeters; some measurements are relative. Body length was measured from the anterior margin of the crown to the tip of the forewing in repose. The terminology of Young (1952) and Southern (1982) was used to describe the main morphological characters of the male genitalia; and that of Balduf (1934) of the ovipositor. The type-series of the newly described species is deposited in the collection of Museo de Ciencias Naturales de La Plata (MLP).

### **Results**

#### **Genus *Typhlocybella* Baker**

*Typhlocybella* Baker, 1903: 3; type species: *Typhlocybella minima* by monotypy.

#### ***Typhlocybella maidica* n. sp.**

**Diagnosis:** This species is easily distinguishable from its congeners by the dorsal like-spine process of the male pygofer