



## Neotropical Meliponini: the genus *Celetrigona* Moure (Hymenoptera: Apidae, Apinae)

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### Abstract

Three new species of *Celetrigona* are described: *C. euclydiana* **sp. nov.**, from Acre, Brazil, *C. hirsuticornis* **sp. nov.**, from Rondônia, Brazil and *C. manauara* **sp. nov.**, from the northern Amazon. Additional geographic records are provided for *C. longicornis* (Friese, 1903), the only previously known species; its nest and the male are described and illustrated for the first time. Diagnosis and an identification key for species are provided, which are distinguished by the pattern of pilosity on the antenna.

**Key words:** Stingless bees, taxonomy, identification key, male, nest

### Resumo

Três novas espécies de *Celetrigona* são descritas: *C. euclydiana* **sp. nov.**, do Acre, Brasil, *C. hirsuticornis* **sp. nov.**, de Rondônia, Brasil e *C. manauara* **sp. nov.**, do norte do Amazonas. Registros geográficos adicionais são fornecidos para *C. longicornis* (Friese, 1903), a única espécie previamente conhecida; seu ninho e o macho são descritos e ilustrados pela primeira vez. Diagnose e chave de identificação para as espécies são apresentadas, as quais podem ser reconhecidas pelo padrão da pilosidade da antena.

**Palavras-chave:** Abelhas-sem-ferrão, taxonomia, chave de identificação, macho, ninho

### Introduction

The New World genus *Celetrigona* is restricted to South America east of the Andes, from Guiana and French Guiana to Mato Grosso, Brazil, Peru and Bolivia (Fig. 16). It is composed of small and docile stingless bees. Only *Celetrigona longicornis* (Friese, 1903) was previously recognized. Bees of this genus can be easily recognized by the very small body size (3.5–4.3 mm), densely punctate integument of the head and thorax, very long antenna, very long tibia III, slender and saw-toothed on its posterior edge, the yellowish lower half of the face, and especially by the bituberculate labrum.

*Celetrigona* is closely related to *Dolichotrigona* Moure, *Trigonisca* Moure and *Leurotrigona* Moure, with which it shares the arrangement of bristles in transverse rows on the inner surface of basitarsus III in workers (Fig. 4; Michener 1990: 131). A historical review of the systematics of this group was presented in the revisions of *Dolichotrigona* by Camargo and Pedro (2005) and *Leurotrigona*, by Pedro and Camargo (2009). Like *Trigonisca* and *Dolichotrigona*, the species of *Celetrigona* are attracted to perspiration (Ducke 1916) and are sometimes annoying to humans, especially in Central Brazil where *C. longicornis* is very common (Camargo pers. obs.)