



Description of a new *Amblystira* (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Tingidae) from Argentina with a key to the South American species of the genus

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Introduction

Amblystira Stål is a new world American genus comprising nineteen species, most of them distributed in Central and South America. Nine species have been recorded from South America, and only *Amblystira silvicola* Drake is known from Argentina (Drake & Ruhoff, 1965). Members of the genus are dark, the cephalic spines are generally absent or poorly developed, the hood is absent, the paranota are scarcely developed or absent as well as the lateral pronotal carinae, the discoidal area is short not reaching the middle of the hemelytra, and the costal area is slender. The only member of the genus that has been recorded as a pest is *Amblystira machalana* Van Duzee, commonly known as “black lacebug”, which feeds on cassava, *Manihot esculenta* Crantz, an important crop of South America. Arias & Belloti (2003) studied the life cycle, behavior, and damage caused by *A. machalana* on *M. esculenta*. (Guilbert, 2005) described the fifth instar of *Amblystira peltogyne* Drake & Hambleton.

In this contribution, a new species of *Amblystira* for Argentina is described including a description of the fifth instar. Illustrations of the adult and fifth instar and a key to the South American species of the genus are provided.

Material and methods

All specimens studied are deposited in the Museo de La Plata (MLP). Measurements are in millimeters and were taken with an ocular micrometer.

Amblystira niborskiana Montemayor, new species

Description of the adult (Figs. 1–2). General coloration black except for a narrow hyaline space on the costal area, legs and segments I, II, III and base of IV yellowish. Body beneath black. Body length: 3.00-2.90-3.00.

Head short, shiny; with five spines, frontal and anterior pair very short and decumbent; occipital pair stout, decumbent and long reaching anterior margin of eye. Eyes dark red. Bucculae wide, wider posteriorly, at its maximum width with four rows of areolae. Head length: 0.21-0.23-0.21; width: 0.41-0.41-0.41. Antennal segments measurements: 0.13-0.11-0.13: 0.10-0.08-0.10: 0.98-0.88-0.93: 0.47-0.48-0.50; proportions 0.08-0.08-0.08: 0.05-0.05-0.06: 0.58-0.57-0.56: 0.29-0.30-0.30. Rostrum yellowish except for the tip, reaching middle of mesosternum.

Collar with four rows of areolae, slightly produced forward. Pronotum shiny, tumid, closely and coarsely punctate; tricarinate, median carina higher than lateral carinae; lateral carinae developed at posterior process and pronotal disc, slightly converging posteriorly; paranota very slender, carina-like. Pronotal length: 1.17-1.16-1.16; maximum width: 0.91-0.90-0.88. Mesosternal rostral laminae widely separated divergent posteriorly; metasternal laminar convex and subparallel, widely separated.

Hemelytra opaque except for one large areole at sutural area transparent, hemelytral margins constricted a little before apex, medially serrate. Costal area uniseriate, narrow at base, becoming wider towards apex, areolae small and ovate on the basal portion and moderately large and subrectangular at the widest part. Subcostal area wide, at maximum width with four or five rows of areolae. Discoidal area short, raised; not reaching middle of hemelytra, at maximum width with four or five rows of areolae. Hemelytral length: 2.21-2.20-2.16; maximum width: 0.87-0.86-0.84; discoidal area length: 0.86-0.86-0.78; maximum width: 0.24-0.23-0.21.

Type material. Holotype female, Argentina, Misiones, Parque Provincial Urugua-I, 25.51.464S 54.10.139W, 276m, 7-III-2010, P. Dellapé col.; 2 female paratypes, same data as for the holotype.