

A new brachypterous genus of Platiphyllini (Orthoptera, Tettigoniidae, Pseudophyllinae) from Colombia

OSCAR J. CADENA-CASTAÑEDA¹ & HOLGER BRAUN²

¹Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas, Grupo de Investigación en Artrópodos "Kumangui", Bogotá, Colombia.
E-mail: ojccorthoptera@gmail.com

²Museo de La Plata, División Entomología, Paseo del Bosque s/n°, 1900 La Plata, Argentina. E-mail: braun@fcnym.utpl.edu.ar

Abstract

Brachyplatyphylloides riosi gen. et sp. nov. from the eastern Andean foothills of Colombia is described. Among the Platiphyllini it is exceptional for having greatly reduced wings. As in several other members of the tribe, only the male sports a conspicuous coloration, which is briefly discussed.

Key words: sexual dimorphism, night vision in insects, Andean foothills

Resumen

Se describe e ilustra un interesante género de la subfamilia Pseudophyllinae para el Neotrópico, el cual se ubica en la tribu Platiphyllini a pesar de su condición braquíptera que comparte con algunas especies del género *Choeroparnops*, esto no es usual en esta tribu; aunque conserva los caracteres diagnósticos proporcionados por Beier en 1960, además del dimorfismo sexual donde los machos presenta una coloración característica en el pronoto y extremidades, reconociéndolo de la tribu Pleminiini donde el braquíptero es común para las especies allí descritas. Este género monoespecífico se distribuye entre la cordillera oriental y pie de monte llanero en Colombia entre los 300 y 850 m.

Palabras clave: *Brachyplatyphylloides riosi*, dimorfismo sexual

Introduction

A new species of Pseudophyllinae from the eastern Andean foothills of Colombia has been discovered. The brachypterous katydid with sexually-dimorphic coloration apparently belongs to the neotropical tribe Platiphyllini. This is one of the larger tribes of the mostly tropical and very diverse subfamily Pseudophyllinae. It so far comprises 16 genera and 65 valid species (Eades *et al.*), which usually can be fairly easily recognized by the typical shape of the tegmina: in lateral view of the insect the dorsal or anal margin of the tegmen is curved, especially its rear end, while the ventral or costal margin is almost straight. Only some of the conspicuously spiny and robust species of the genus *Choeroparnops* have reduced tegmina. To accommodate the delicate new species with strongly reduced tegmina it is necessary to create an additional genus. With the discovery of this katydid the number of genera and species of Platiphyllini known from Colombia rises to 8 and 14 respectively (corresponding to an updated checklist, Chamorro *et al.* in prep.). And there are species waiting to be described.