



New Acrididae from Oaxaca State in Mexico (Orthoptera: Caelifera: Acrididae: Ommatolampinae, Melanoplineae)

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Abstract

Two new genera and seven new species, collected in the state of Oaxaca in Mexico, are described. The genera *Reyesacris* (*R. amedegnatoae*) and *Oaxaca* (*O. colorata* and *O. carinata*) are new to science. *Melanoplus mixes*, *M. oaxacae* and *M. ludivinae* are new species for the genus *Melanoplus* Stål, 1873 and *Cephalotettix chinantecus* is new species for the genus *Cephalotettix* Scudder, 1897.

Key words: Grasshoppers, Ommatolampinae, Melanoplineae, *Reyesacris*, *Oaxaca*, *Melanoplus*, *Cephalotettix*

Introduction

During past years collecting in Mexico within the framework of projects of CONABIO (Project GE 001), University of Padova (year 2004–2008) and WBA—World Biodiversity Association (2008–2009), new materials of Acrididae have been collected and partly described (Fontana & Buzzetti 2007, Buzzetti, Barrientos-Lozano & Fontana 2010). Here we describe more new taxa from the materials collected in Southern Mexico, Oaxaca State.

Among the materials collected, a striking specimen of Ommatolampinae called our attention, which belonged to the genus *Reyesacris* (Amedegnato, in litt.). The genus *Reyesacris* appears for the first time in a footnote by Descamps & Amedegnato (1989) on page 17 (not 19 as erroneously reported by Otte 1995) as belonging to the group Vilerinae. The genus was not properly described, no type species was designated, nor was any previous described taxa assigned to *Reyesacris*. Thus, the name *Reyesacris* has to be considered *nomen nudum*, according to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, art. 13 (online version 8 June 2010). According to Orthoptera Species File Online version (October 2010) this name is mentioned only once more, in Otte (1995). In this study, we conserve and describe the genus *Reyesacris*, and as a result the name is no more a *nomen nudum*. Type species is *R. amedegnatoae* n. sp. also described.

According to Morrone (2005) in Mexico we can characterize three main biotic components; Nearctic (Nearctic region), Transitional (Mexican Transition Zone) and Neotropical (Neotropical region). Despite the fact that the state of Oaxaca represents only 4.8% of the Mexican territory, it has two of main biotic components: the Mexican Transitional Zone (included basically mountainous areas in central Mexico) with the provinces of Transmexican Volcanic Belt, Balsas Basin and Sierra Madre del Sur and the Neotropical region (humid and subhumid tropical areas of southern Mexico) with the provinces of Mexican Pacific Coast and Mexican Gulf. In the first the Palaeoamerican, Nearctic, Tropical Mesoamerican and Mountainous Mesoamerican elements coexist and in the latter the Tropical Mesoamerican element predominates, but Nearctic and Antillean elements are also present. This complexity in biogeographical provinces is reflected in the high diversity of Orthoptera found as new genera and species here presented.