



Two new species of the Mexican genus *Ichthyotettix* Rehn, 1901 with remarks on the tribe Ichthyotettigini (Orthoptera, Caelifera, Pyrgomorphidae)

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Abstract

Two new species of Pyrgomorphidae of the Mexican endemic genus *Ichthyotettix* Rehn, 1901, are described: *Ichthyotettix stricticaudatus* **n. sp.** (from Oaxaca) and *Ichthyotettix inexpectatus* **n. sp.** (from Morelos and Michoacan). The identity of the genus *Ichthyotettix*, to date considered monotypic, within the tribe Ichthyotettigini is discussed and the type locality of *Ichthyotettix mexicanus* (Saussure, 1859) is examined and restricted to Veracruz state. The two new species are well characterised both for their morphological external characters as well for male genitalia.

Key words: Pyrgomorphidae, *Piscacris affinis* Kevan, Singh et Akbar, 1964, *Piscacris robertsi* Kevan, Singh et Akbar, 1964, *Pyrgotettix pueblensis* Kevan, Singh et Akbar, 1964, *Sphenotettix nobilis* Kevan, Singh et Akbar, 1964, *Ichthyotettix mexicanus* (Saussure, 1859), *Ichthyotettix stricticaudatus* **n. sp.**, *Ichthyotettix inexpectatus* **n. sp.**

Introduction

During recent field collecting in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico, run by us and other Mexican entomologists, we collected some specimens of a new species of the genus *Ichthyotettix* Rehn, 1901, to date known as monotypic with the only species *Ichthyotettix mexicanus* (Saussure, 1859). In order to characterize the differences between the new species and *I. mexicanus*, we examined material of the latter from different localities and collections (see Material and methods), as well as of the species belonging to all other genera in the tribe Ichthyotettigini Kevan, Singh et Akbar, 1964. The study of both external and internal (male genitalia) morphology resulted in a well-separated new species from the materials that have been identified as *I. mexicanus* until now.

The tribe Ichthyotettigini is currently composed of four genera: *Ichthyotettix* Rehn, 1901, *Piscacris* Kevan, Singh & Akbar, 1964, *Pyrgotettix* Kevan, Singh & Akbar, 1964 and *Sphenotettix* Kevan, Singh & Akbar, 1964. The members of this tribe are well characterized by the following characters: body cylindrical, slightly fusiform but not very elongate, tegminal vestiges always absent, male tenth abdominal tergite sometime posteriorly produced, endophallus with apodemes moderately to very long and epiphallus very variable (Kevan *et al.* 1964). Ichthyotettigini are to date exclusively known from central Mexico and the genus *Ichthyotettix* seems to be the most widespread one (Table 1).

The four genera of Ichthyotettigini are easily identifiable on the basis of their external morphology. In particular, the structures of male terminalia are extremely useful. *Ichthyotettix* and *Piscacris* have male terminalia well produced posteriorly (Figs. 1–4) but the former has elongated subrectangular cerci while the latter has simply conical cerci. *Sphenotettix* and *Pyrgotettix* have simple male terminalia (Figs. 5–8) but the former has a well-developed