



A new group of species of *Edessa* Fabricius, 1803 (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Pentatomidae)

JOSÉ ANTÔNIO MARIN FERNANDES¹ & LOURIVAL DIAS CAMPOS²

Universidade Federal do Pará, Instituto de Ciências Biológicas, Av. Augusto Correa #1 66075–110, Belém, Pará, Brazil.

E-mail: ¹joseamf@ufpa.br; ²lourivaldias@gmail.com

Abstract

Three new species of *Edessa* (*E. metallica* sp. nov., *E. preclara* sp. nov., *E. splendens* sp. nov.) are described which form a distinct species group. The *metallica* group is characterized by a metallic blue or green dorsal color. *Edessa preclara* sp. nov. and *E. splendens* sp. nov. have an Andean distribution, having been collected above 1000 meters in Ecuador and Colombia respectively. *Edessa metallica* sp. nov. has been collected in Panama. Illustrations of the metasternal process and male and female external genitalia, photographs of the habitus, and descriptions are provided.

Key words: Edessinae, *metallica* group, Neotropical region, new species, taxonomy

Introduction

The genus *Edessa* is very diverse with many described species, many exhibiting different sizes, colors, and shapes. It is, however, still possible to find new variations among the undescribed species (Fernandes & van Doesburg, 2000). Here is presented a remarkable group of dark species with parts of the dorsal and ventral surfaces metallic blue or green.

Material and methods

A total of six specimens were examined, belonging to the following institutions: The Natural History Museum, London, England (BMNH); J. E. Eger Collection (Eger); National Museum, Prague, Czech Republic (NMCR); Museum für Naturkunde, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany (ZMHB); Zoologische Staatssammlung München, Munique, Germany (ZSMC).

Measurements are expressed in millimeters. Illustrations were made with a drawing tube connected to a stereomicroscope. The nomenclature follows Fernandes (2010) and Kment & Vilímová (2010) for the thoracic scent efferent system. No dissections of internal genitalia were made; only external characters were used in this study.

Results

The *Edessa metallica* group

Diagnosis. This group is easily recognized by the metallic blue or green color of the dorsal surface and the reddish margin of the mesopleura crossing the evaporatorium; neither of these characteristics is found in any other species of Edessinae. Furthermore, the combination of short peritreme, shape of the gonocoxites 8, and the basal tumescence of the pygophore's posterolateral angle are also diagnostic. The shape of the body, especially the humeral angles, resembles some species (e.g., *E. satrapa* Breddin and *E. helicoceras* Breddin), but the genitalia of both sexes are completely different.