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Article

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The genus *Micandra* Staudinger (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae: Theclinae) in Colombia, with the description of a new species from the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta

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Abstract

Micandra stephanieae, **sp. nov.**, is described and illustrated from the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta in northern Colombia. Adult specimens and male genitalia are illustrated and compared with those of *M. aegides* (C. Felder & R. Felder) and *M. dignota* (Draudt), the putatively most closely related species. A synopsis of the *Micandra* species in Colombia is presented along with distribution maps and a key to the species based on wing pattern.

Key words: Butterflies, Eumaeini, cloud forest, Magdalena, biodiversity

Resumen

Se describe una nueva especie de *Micandra*, *M. stephanieae* **sp. nov.** de la Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta al norte de Colombia. Especímenes adultos y genitalias masculinas son ilustradas y comparadas con *M. aegides* (C. Felder & R. Felder) y *M. dignota* (Draudt), hipotéticamente las especies más relacionadas. Se presenta una breve discusión sobre las especies de *Micandra* presentes en Colombia junto con mapas de distribución y una clave dicotómica con base en patrones del diseño alar.

Palabras clave: Mariposas, Eumaeini, Bosque de niebla, Magdalena, biodiversidad

Introduction

Butterflies of the genus *Micandra* Staudinger, 1888 are restricted to montane habitats and are well represented in cloud-forests. Members of the genus are distributed from central Mexico to northern Argentina at elevations from 1000 to 3200 m. *Micandra* was correctly credited to Staudinger by Hemming (1967) and Johnson (1992), with *Pseudolycaena platyptera* C. Felder & R. Felder, 1865 as the type species. Distinctive traits of the genus including the following: truncate forewings (Röber, 1889–1892; Clench 1971; Eliot 1973); the form of the costal vein of the forewing, which is long and ends at almost the same point as vein SC, with the latter starting exceptionally close to the wing base and ending far from the end of the discal cell (Röber, 1889–1892); the origin of vein M_2, which is much closer to M_1 than to M_3 on both wings (Clench 1971); the position of vein R_1, which is much closer to the vein SC than to the vein R_2 (Clench 1971; Robbins 1986; Robbins & Busby 2008); and the venation of the forewing discal cell, which is angulated inwards (Röber, 1889–1892; Clench 1971; Eliot 1973; Robbins 1986; Robbins & Busby 2008) and with a recurrent vein (Röber, 1889–1892). The unusual forewing discal cell venation is shared with minor variation by all species of *Micandra* (Robbins 1986). Although these male forewing venation characters are not yet well documented, illustrated, and compared, nine species have been provisionally placed in *Micandra* on the basis of genitalia, wing pattern, and venation (Robbins 2004): *M. platyptera* (C. Felder & R. Felder), *M. ion* (Druce), *M. extrema* (Draudt), *M. comae* (Druce), *M. aegides* (C. Felder & R. Felder), *M. dignota* (Draudt), *M.*

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