



Descriptions of three new Brazilian *Subrasaca* species, redescription of *S. nigriventris* (Signoret, 1855) and a key to males of the genus (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Cicadellini)

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Abstract

Three new species of the Neotropical sharpshooter genus *Subrasaca* Young, 1977 from Southeastern and Southern Brazil are described and illustrated: *S. diminuta* **sp. nov.** (State of São Paulo and State of Paraná), *S. rubra* **sp. nov.** (State of Minas Gerais and State of São Paulo), and *S. rachelae* **sp. nov.** (State of Espírito Santo). *Subrasaca nigriventris* (Signoret, 1855) is reinterpreted, redescribed and illustrated based on specimens from Southeastern Brazil (State of Rio de Janeiro). In addition to the external morphology, color pattern, and male genitalia, this paper includes detailed descriptions and illustrations of the female genitalia. A key to males of all known *Subrasaca* species is provided.

Key words: Auchenorrhyncha, Cicadellinae, morphology, leafhopper, taxonomy

Introduction

The South American sharpshooter genus *Subrasaca* Young, 1977 comprised eleven species until the present paper (Young 1977, McKamey 2007, Silva *et al.* 2013): *S. atronasa* Young, 1977, *S. austera* Young, 1977, *S. bimaculata* Silva, Cavichioli & Mejdalani, 2013, *S. constricta* Silva, Cavichioli & Mejdalani, 2013, *S. curvovittata* (Stål, 1862), *S. flavolineata* (Signoret, 1855), *S. flavoornata* (Stål, 1862), *S. ignicolor* (Signoret, 1854) (type species), *S. monacha* (Melichar, 1951), *S. nigriventris* (Signoret, 1855), and *S. rhienetta* (Signoret, 1854). This genus is known from Brazil, Argentina, and Colombia. Two males of *S. monacha* studied and recorded by Young (1977: 475) from “Paraguay (?)” were labeled “Paraguai”, one from “Rio Aguatal” and the other from “Rio Vitaco”. These rivers, however, are apparently in Colombia, which was cited as the type locality (“West-Columbien”) in the original description of Melichar (1951).

Species of *Subrasaca* may be recognized by the following combination of male genital features: (1) aedeagus usually short and expanded (lobed) dorsally, (2) style (paramere) with distinct preapical lobe, (3) paraphyses with two or four rami (except for *S. monacha*, with only one ramus), and (4) subgenital plates connected to each other at base, usually not extending as far posteriorly as pygofer apex. Young (1977: 445) included *Subrasaca* in his *Juliaca* group of genera.

Recently, Silva *et al.* (2013) reviewed the group of *Subrasaca* species that have longitudinal dark brown to black stripes on the forewings. This group, which comprises four species (*S. bimaculata*, *S. constricta*, *S. curvovittata*, and *S. flavolineata*), is apparently a monophyletic assemblage within the genus. Three new Southeastern and Southern Brazilian species of *Subrasaca* are herein described and illustrated (states of São Paulo, Paraná, Minas Gerais, and Espírito Santo). In addition, *S. nigriventris* is reinterpreted, redescribed, and illustrated based on specimens from Southeastern Brazil (State of Rio de Janeiro). A key to males of all known *Subrasaca* species is also provided. The present contribution, along with its companion paper (Silva *et al.* 2013), attempts to