



Additional new species of the genus *Pterodichopetala* (Phaneropteridae: Phaneropterinae) from Northeastern Mexico

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Abstract

Four new Species of the genus *Pterodichopetala* from Northeastern México are described: *P. monternach* n. sp., *P. tuliensis* n. sp., *P. geovanyi* n. sp., and *P. robertoi* n. sp. Information on distribution and ecology is provided.

Key words: Mexico, Orthoptera, Biodiversity, ecology

Introduction

The genus *Pterodichopetala* was erected by Buzzetti, Barrientos and Rocha (2010) as monotypic, describing *P. cieloi* as a generic type. It was characterized by the square pronotum in cross section with lateral lobes inserted to the disc at a right angle, forming slightly out-curved lateral carinae. The pronotal disc is pentagonal in dorsal view, with fore margin straight and hind margin angulated. This combination of pronotal characters was considered unique of the genus. Subsequently, Barrientos-Lozano and Rocha-Sánchez (2013) described *P. alfredo*. Cohn, Swanson and Fontana (2014) described four additional new species (*P. strepsidactyla*, *P. hypsibates*, *P. padrisima*, and *P. pityophila*), assigned *P. cultricerca* (Strohecker, 1945) to this genus (previously *Dichopetala cultricerca* Strohecker, 1945) and redefined generic diagnostic characters. Accordingly, *Pterodichopetala* may now be characterized as follows: a mesally directed basal projection of the male cercus, epiproct in males apically dentate, in both sexes tegmina considerably longer than the pronotum (at least extending to or beyond the third tergite, some extending to the end of the abdomen), and the female subgenital plate largely unsclerotized. The epiphallus is considered by the authors as an additional character that may be used for defining, “not for identifying”, the genus. This latter internal structure possesses the dorso-proximal paired appressed fingers spined in addition to spines on the complex robust paired distal projections. The distribution of *Pterodichopetala* spp., is confined to northeastern