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Taxonomic notes on *Wahydra* Steinhauser (Hesperiidae, Hesperinae, Anthoptini) with description of four new species

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Abstract

The genus *Wahydra* Steinhauser, 1991 was classified as Anthoptini together with other eight genera, based on the shape of the brand, hind tibial spurs and male genitalia. Species of *Wahydra* are scarcely represented in collections, therefore the taxonomic knowledge of the genus remains poorly explored. Aiming to contribute to the recognition and organization of the diversity of *Wahydra*, in the present study, four new species: *Wahydra trinitas* Henao, Mielke, Carneiro & Casagrande **sp. nov.**, *Wahydra curtis* Mielke, Henao, Carneiro & Casagrande **sp. nov.**, *Wahydra shueyi* Carneiro, Henao, Mielke & Casagrande **sp. nov.**, and *Wahydra mapiriensis* Casagrande, Henao, Carneiro & Mielke **sp. nov.**; are described. In addition *Dalla curia* Evans, 1955 is considered a **syn. nov.** of *Wahydra tassa* Evans, 1955, and *Wahydra obscura* is recognized as a **syn. nov.** of *Wahydra ekka* Evans, 1955 **comb. nov.** Male genitalia is illustrated for all species, except for *Wahydra dores* (Bell, 1959) and *Wahydra thisbe* (Hayward, 1942). The female and genitalia of *Wahydra vola* (Evans, 1955) are described and illustrated here for the first time.

Key words: taxonomy, skippers, Anthoptini, genitalia, biological collections

Introduction

Anthoptini is a tribe of skippers recently established by molecular and morphological phylogeny (Warren *et al.* 2009). As its phylogenetic relationships remain controversy and no putative synapomorphy was assigned to the tribe (Warren *et al.* 2008, 2009), its exact delimitation is still poorly known. On the other hand, Anthoptini members were diagnosed by bifurcated male valvae, whose harpe is hooked-shaped, upturned, and distally dentate (Warren *et al.* 2009).

Wahydra Steinhauser, 1991 was classified as Anthoptini together with eight other genera, based primarily on these male genitalia characters (Warren *et al.* 2009). Steinhauser (1991), described *Wahydra*, along with three new species, based on the conspicuous brands on male wings and hind tibial spurs, and shifted six species previously assigned to *Zalomes* Bell, 1947 into the genus. Although they are abundant in high altitude habitats, specimens of *Wahydra* are scarcely represented in worldwide collections (Steinhauser 1991).

As a result, taxonomic information of the group is still briefly explored, e.g. many taxa are known from a few specimens and/or females are unknown. Observing a considerable number of non-identified specimens in the entomological collection in the Departamento de Zoologia of Universidade Federal do Paraná, the present contribution aims to describe new species of *Wahydra*, verify the validity of some available taxa, and finally enhance the descriptions and illustrations of this poorly known skipper group.

Methods

Specimens used in this study are deposited in: DZUP (Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal do Paraná,