



Additions to the cicada fauna of Venezuela with the description of a new species and checklist of the Venezuelan cicada fauna (Hemiptera: Cicadomorpha: Cicadidae)

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Abstract

The new Neotropical cicada species *Fidicinoides flavipronotum* sp. n. is described. Comparisons are made to other members of the genus found in Venezuela. *Fidicina distanti* Goding, 1925 is transferred to *Fidicinoides* Boulard & Martinelli and *Diceroprocta bilaqueata* (Uhler, 1903) is transferred to *Ariasa* Distant. Eleven additional species are recorded for the first time from Venezuela increasing the cicada fauna diversity of the country by 31%. A checklist of Venezuelan species is provided.

Key words: taxonomy, biodiversity, *Fidicinoides*, morphology

Resumen

Se describe una nueva especie de chicharra Neotropical *Fidicinoides flavipronotum* sp. n., y se la compara con otras especies del mismo género encontradas en Venezuela. *Fidicina distanti* Goding, 1925 es transferida a *Fidicinoides* Boulard & Martinelli y *Diceroprocta bilaqueata* (Uhler, 1903) es transferida a *Ariasa* Distant. Otras 11 especies son documentadas por primera vez en Venezuela, incrementando así la diversidad de la fauna de las chicharras en un 31% en este país. Una lista de verificación de las especies venezolanas se proporciona.

Palabras clave adicionales: nueva especie, taxonomía, chicharra, biodiversidad, *Fidicinoides*, morfología

Introduction

The South American cicada fauna has received little attention. The faunistic reviews for cicadas inhabiting South American countries are limited in scope and often historical. The cicada fauna of Argentina (Berg 1882, 1883), Peru (Jacobi 1907), Ecuador (Goding 1925), Chile (Goding 1926), the Andean region (Jacobi 1907), along with reviews of collections made on specific expeditions (e.g., Lethierry 1890, Uhler 1875, Uhler 1903, Martorell 1939, Boulard 1971, Boulard 1979, Pogue 1996) are all that have been published. Complete faunistic reviews of cicadas can only be obtained by searching the bibliographies of the Cicadoidea (Metcalf 1963a, Metcalf 1963b, Metcalf 1963c, Duffels & van der Laan 1985) and supplementing these data with information from more current literature. The lack of knowledge concerning the cicada fauna of various countries has begun to be addressed (Sanborn 2001a, Sanborn 2001b, Sanborn 2006a, Sanborn 2006b) but much work remains to be done in terms of identifying new species and determining the biogeography of known species.