



***Lobomyia neotropica*, a new genus and species of Tachinidae (Diptera) from the Neotropical Region**

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Abstract

A new genus and species, *Lobomyia neotropica* **gen. nov., sp. nov.**, (Diptera: Tachinidae) is described from material from Colombia (type locality), Brazil, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Trinidad. The Colombian material was reared from *Glena bisulca* Rindge (Lepidoptera: Geometridae), a defoliator of introduced cypress trees. Costa Rican material was reared from several species of Lepidoptera: Notodontidae.

Key words: Diptera, Tachinidae, *Lobomyia neotropica*, new genus, new species, Neotropical Region

Introduction

The genus and species described herein has been known for several decades (Vélez 1974). The late Curtis Sabrosky was sent specimens for identification by biological control workers studying *Glena bisulca* Rindge (Lepidoptera: Geometridae), a serious cypress (*Cupressus lusitanica* Miller) defoliator in central Colombia (Drooz & Bustillo 1972). He noted that the taxon belonged to a new genus and species, but never continued his work on the project. NEW began work to describe the species at the instigation of Sabrosky. Independently, the late W.R. Thompson knew of this species from a single specimen collected in Trinidad, and PHA recognized the taxon as new from material collected in Brazil by Fritz Plaumann and did some preliminary work toward describing it. Because of the potential for exotic *Glena* species to become invasive into the United States (Kliejunas *et al.* 2001), it is appropriate at long last to formally describe this taxon. It is also being described so that the generic name is available to be included in a manual of Central American Diptera that is nearing completion.

Lobomyia neotropica **gen. nov., sp. nov.** was first reported in the literature as “mosca verde” by Vélez (1974) from specimens reared from *Glena bisulca* by biological control workers in Colombia. The colloquial name referred to the bright green coloration of the living fly. Species of *Glena*, including *G. bisulca*, also are considered pests of *Eucalyptus* spp. in plantations in South America where they apparently have shifted from native Myrtaceae hosts. There is some concern that *Eucalyptus* feeders in South America could become invasive into the United States through importation of *Eucalyptus* logs and chips (Kliejunas *et al.* 2001).

Material and methods

Terminology follows McAlpine (1981). Label data are quoted verbatim for the holotype, with slashes “/” used