



A new species of the South American genus *Arthurella* Albuquerque (Diptera: Muscidae), with a key to species and new records

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Abstract

The monotypic genus *Arthurella* Albuquerque, 1954 was originally described for *A. nudiseta* with a distribution restricted to Chile and Argentina. We add one new species, *Arthurella choelensis* **sp. nov.**, from the central part of Argentina, and new distribution records for *A. nudiseta*. Biological and distributional information is given for both species. An identification key to the species of the genus is provided.

Key words: *Arthurella*, new species, Argentina, Muscidae

Resumen

El género monotípico *Arthurella* Albuquerque, 1954 fue descrito originalmente para *A. nudiseta* con una distribución restringida a Chile y Argentina. Añadimos una nueva especie, *Arthurella choelensis* **sp. nov.**, de la parte central de la Argentina, y nuevos registros de distribución para *A. nudiseta*. Se comenta la información sobre la biológica y la distribución de las especies. Se proporciona una clave de identificación para las especies del género.

Palabras clave: *Arthurella*, nueva especie, Argentina, Muscidae

Introduction

The Neotropical genus *Arthurella* Albuquerque, 1954 is known only from *Arthurella nudiseta* Albuquerque, 1954 (Carvalho *et al.* 2005; Couri & Penny 2007). The species was originally described by Albuquerque (1954) based on male specimens from Chile. The female and puparium were originally described by Lopes (1985) and later redescribed by Araújo & Couri (1993). Recently, Couri & Penny (2007) redescribed the male based on several specimens found in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences (San Francisco, California, USA), including color variation, morphological variation, and new distribution records.

The subfamily placement of *Arthurella* has not yet been established and currently the genus is placed in the Cyrtoneurinae (Couri & Penny 2007), a subfamily not currently considered monophyletic. Many genera previously placed in the Cyrtoneurinae have been transferred to other subfamilies (Carvalho *et al.* 2005; Schuehli *et al.* 2007).

The adult habits of *Arthurella* are poorly known. Some female specimens were reared from saprophytic fungi (Agaricaceae) found on wood (Lopes 1985) and some of the specimens included in this study were collected from Malaise traps placed over pig carrion. Information about the immature stages is scarce, and the larva and the egg are still undescribed.

We present here the description of a new species of *Arthurella* and an updated generic diagnosis. An identification key to the species and additional geographic distribution information are also provided.