Zootaxa 1136: 39–48 (2006)
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)
ZOOTAXA
ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

1136

Notes on the Neotropical bee genera *Agapostemonoides* Roberts & Brooks and *Rhinetula* Friese, with description of a new species of *Agapostemonoides* (Hymenoptera, Apidae, Halictinae)

RODRIGO B. GONÇALVES[1, 2] & GABRIEL A. R. MELO[3]

[1]*Laboratório de Biologia Comparada de Hymenoptera, Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Caixa postal 19020, 81531-980, Curitiba, PR, Brazil.*

[2]*Programa de Pós-Graduação em Entomologia. E-mail: goncalvesrb@yahoo.com.br*

[3] *E-mail: garmelo@ufpr.br*

Abstract

The genera *Agapostemonoides* and *Rhinetula* have been treated as containing only a single species each. In this work *Agapostemonoides weyrauchi* **new species**, from Bolivia and Peru, is described and the species *Rhinetula rufiventris* Friese, 1922 is removed from the synonymy of *Rhinetula denticrus* Friese, 1922. Identification keys, illustrations of male terminalia and record maps for the species of both genera are provided.

Key words: new species, Halictidae, Caenohalictina, Neotropical

Introduction

Roberts & Brooks (1987) working with the agapostemonine bees of Mesoamerica proposed the monotypic genus *Agapostemonoides*. The type species, *A. hurdi*, was described based on material coming from two widely disjunct areas, Costa Rica and Panama in the north, and Bolivia and Peru, in the south. Despite morphological differences, interpreted by those authors as non-significant, and a disjunct distribution, they recognized only one species. In this same work [and at the same time as Moure & Hurd (1987)], the two species names, *R. denticrus* and *R. rufiventris*, attributed by them to the genus *Rhinetula* Friese were synonymized under *R. denticrus*.

As part of an ongoing study on the phylogeny of the *Agapostemon* group, a new species of *Agapostemonoides* is described and the name *Rhinetula rufiventris* is revalidated. Also, the species distribution patterns are discussed.

Accepted by L. Packer: 18 Jan. 2006; published: 27 Feb. 2006