

## A new species of the leafhopper genus *Apogonalia* from Mexico (Insecta: Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Cicadellini)

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### Abstract

*Apogonalia nielsoni*, a new cicadelline leafhopper species from Mexico (Nayarit State), is described and illustrated. The color pattern of the new species is similar to that of *A. germana* (Fowler), whereas the male genital characteristics are similar to those of *A. monticola* (Fowler). The aedeagal shaft of *A. nielsoni* has a pair of short, triangular lateral processes that are absent in *A. monticola*. The paraphyses in both species are formed by a curved, Y-shaped basal plate and by a pair of narrow and very long rami. *Apogonalia nielsoni* has the arms of the basal plate longer than those of *A. monticola*. Moreover, the rami of the new species are dorsally or ventrally curved, whereas in the latter species they are approximately straight.

**Key words:** Cicadellinae, *Apogonalia nielsoni*, sharpshooter, taxonomy, morphology, North America

### Introduction

The New World cicadelline genus *Apogonalia* Evans, 1947 comprises currently 21 species. This genus occurs from southwestern USA (Arizona) to Panama and the Antilles (Young 1977; Nielson & Godoy 1995; Nielson & Knight 2000; Freytag 2004). Twelve species of *Apogonalia* are geographically confined to the mainland (Young 1977; Nielson & Godoy 1995): *A. blanchardi* (Signoret), *A. dampfi* Young, *A. fractinota* (Fowler), *A. fraterna* Young, *A. germana* (Fowler), *A. krameri* Young, *A. mediolineata* (Fowler), *A. monticola* (Fowler), *A. omani* Young, *A. pennata* Nielson & Godoy, *A. stali* (Signoret), and *A. woodruffi* Young. The remaining nine species have been recorded only from the Caribbean islands (Young 1977; Freytag 2004): *A. angusta* Freytag, *A. histrio* (Fabricius),