



## Redescription, new records and host plant for *Sysinas centralis* Distant, (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Miridae)

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### Abstract

The Neotropical bryocorine plant bug, *Sysinas centralis* Distant, is reported for the first time in Central America, based in one male specimen collected in Guatemala. Additional new records include Cuba, Jamaica, and Brazil. A redescription of adults, figures of habitus, male and female genitalia, color pattern variations, geographic distribution, and a new host plant are provided. Diagnostic characters are provided to distinguish this species from others in the same genus.

**Key words:** Taxonomy, Miridae, *Sysinas*, Neotropical

### Introduction

Many specimens of the bryocorine *Sysinas centralis* were collected in West Minas Gerais State, Brazil, on a new host plant, “árvore leiteira” (Euphorbiaceae: *Sapium* sp.). The only description of this species is in its short original description, which includes a colored figure of the habitus (Distant, 1893). The original description is insufficient to support an identification. Identification of our specimens was possible by comparison with a Cuban specimen which Carvalho had compared with the type, and with other specimens identified by him and deposited in the National Museum of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (MNRJ). Also helpful was an unpublished note from the Carvalho file, which included a key to *Sysinas* species.

The specimen from Cuba, and other specimens from Jamaica and Brazil, all represent new geographic records.

Distant (1883) described *Sysinas centralis* based on single male specimen collected by Champion in Cerro Zunil, Guatemala. Atkinson (1890) includes the species in his catalogue of insects. Carvalho (1952, 1957) included *Sysinas affinis* Distant, 1884 as a new synonymy of *S. centralis*. Later, Carvalho and Dolling (1976) designated the male specimen of *S. centralis* as a lectotype which is deposited in the British Museum (Natural History). Carvalho and Dolling (1976) considered *S. affinis* to be a valid species, as did Schuh (1995) in his catalogue.

Here we redescribe the adults of *Sysinas centralis*, present a diagnosis, and figure its habitus, color pattern variations, and the male and female genitalia. A new host plant and new distributions are given. All measurements are in millimeters.