



A new species of *Penaincisalia* (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae: Eumaeini) from the high Andes of Colombia

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Abstract

A new species of *Penaincisalia* from the central mountain range of Colombia is described and diagnosed. We present a brief discussion on the systematic placement of *Penaincisalia cuiva* Prieto & Rodríguez **n. sp.** within the genus. The species is apparently a member of the “*browni* group”, and we discuss its relationships with other members of this group. Adult specimens of both sexes and the genitalia of the male are illustrated and compared with *P. magnifica*, the most closely related species according to phenotypic appearance. A key to the known species of the “*browni* group” is provided.

Key words: Colombia, Andes, Cloud Forest, Theclinae, Cordillera Central, Antioquia

Introduction

Knowledge of Eumaeini diversity in the Neotropics has increased due to the efforts of a number of researchers during the last couple of decades. Recent systematic work in this group includes descriptions of new species (Hall *et. al* 2005; Bálint *et al.* 2006; Bálint & Wojtusiak, 2006), nomenclatural notes (Robbins & Lamas, 2002) and revisions of the existing taxonomy (Robbins, 2004). Nevertheless, many species remain undescribed, as shown by the list of 274 species indicated as “[n. sp]...MS” in the Neotropical Eumaeini checklist (Robbins, 2004).

The species described below belongs to the Eumaeini because it has ten forewing veins, male genitalia lacking a juxta and the male foretarsus is fused and stubby tipped (Eliot, 1973). It is placed in *Penaincisalia* because it has an androconial cluster consisting of a scent pad at the distal portion of the discal cell in the forewing, and a minutely brand, presumably a scent patch (Bálint y Wojtusiak, 2006). This genus was placed within the *Micandra* section of Eumaeini by Robbins (2004).

The generic name *Pons* was established by Johnson (1992) with *P. magnifica* Johnson, 1992 as the type species. He diagnosed the genus based principally on the shape of the hindwing anal tail in males, which only appears as a blunt spatulated lobe. Currently it is known that hindwing shape is sexually dimorphic in all species of this group, where the females have a pointed tail extending from the lobe along vein CuA₂ versus the tailless hindwing of males. Robbins (2004) synonymized the genera *Abloxurina* Johnson, 1992, *Candora* Johnson, 1992, *Thecloxurina* Johnson, 1992 and *Pons* Johnson, 1992 with *Penaincisalia* Johnson, 1990. Recently Bálint & Wojtusiak (2006) argued that *Thecloxurina* and *Abloxurina* were valid genera, with their monophyly supported primarily by wing shape characters. In that paper the authors also proposed that the dimorphic wing shape in *Pons* was an important synapomorphy of the genus. Although some authors (Bálint,