



***Niborskiana*: a new genus to accommodate *Tigava gracilis* Monte and *Tigava notabilis* Drake (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Tingidae)**

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Abstract

A new Neotropical genus, *Niborskiana* n. gen., is introduced to accommodate *Tigava gracilis* Monte and *T. notabilis* Drake, and redescrptions, illustrations and photographs of these two species are provided. A diagnosis for the genus *Tigava* and a key to the related Neotropical genera are presented.

Key words: *Niborskiana*, new genus, Neotropical Region, key to Neotropical genera

Introduction

Tigava Stål was at one point a highly polyphyletic genus comprised of species that now belong to several other genera, such as *Campylovingis* Drake & Bondar, *Gitava* Drake, *Idiostyla* Drake, *Tigavaria* Drake, and *Vatiga* Drake & Hambleton. In fact, the type species of all these genera were first described in *Tigava*. All are distributed in the Neotropical Region, except for *Gitava* from Africa and *Tigavaria* from Australia. They all share a very simple morphology, when compared with other lace bugs, with long slender scarcely ornate bodies. *Ceratotingis* Montemayor and *Macrotisingis* Champion are two Neotropical genera that also are similar in appearance to *Tigava* (Montemayor 2008; Montemayor & Costa 2009), but unlike the other previously mentioned genera their species were never placed in *Tigava*.

Currently *Tigava* contains 14 species: *T. bombacis* Drake & Poor, *T. brevicollis* Monte, *T. ceibae* Drake & Poor, *T. convexicollis* Champion, *T. corumbiana* Drake, *T. ferruginea* Monte, *T. gracilis* Monte, *T. graminis* Drake & Poor, *T. hambletoni* Drake, *T. notabilis* Drake, *T. praecellans* Stål, *T. pulchella* Champion, *T. semota* Drake and *T. tingoana* Drake. From these species, *T. gracilis* and *T. notabilis* exhibit differences in the head, pronotum and hemelytra that set them apart from species of *Tigava*.

In this contribution, a new genus is introduced to accommodate *T. gracilis* and *T. notabilis*; redescrptions, illustrations and photographs of these two species are provided; and a key is given to help distinguish the related genera.

Material and methods

Material studied in this paper belongs to the American Museum of Natural History, New York, United States (AMNH) and the Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C., United States (USNM). The specimens of *Tigava gracilis* were compared with photographs of a paratype deposited in the Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro. The symbol “?” is used to indicate that the measurement could not be taken because the structure was missing.