



Review of Madagascaran Agalliini (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Megophthalminae) with descriptions of a new genus and six new species

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Abstract

Studies on the Agalliini leafhoppers collected from the Terrestrial Arthropods of Madagascar inventory project of the California Academy of Sciences, resulted in the discovery of one new genus *Agallidwipa* **gen. nov.** (type-species: *A. biramosa* **sp. nov.**) with three new species, *A. biramosa* **sp. nov.**, *A. bispinosa* **sp. nov.** and *A. webbi* **sp. nov.** and three new species of the genus *Igerna* Kirkaldy, *I. delta* **sp. nov.**, *I. flavocosta* **sp. nov.** and *I. malagastica* **sp. nov.** Two new combinations proposed are *Agallidwipa pauliana* (Evans) **comb. nov.** (from genus *Agalliana* Oman) and *Igerna neosa* (Webb) **comb. nov.** (from genus *Stonasl* White), a species previously recorded from Aldabra Islands. A previous record of *Igerna bimaculicollis* (Stål) from Madagascar is shown most likely to be a case of misidentification. All the taxa are described and illustrated. Keys to species of Agalliini from Madagascar are included along with notes on the distinction between *Agalliana* and *Agallidwipa*.

Key words: Auchenorrhyncha: new genus: taxonomy: morphology: leafhopper.

Introduction

Leafhoppers of Madagascar have been of great interest from a zoogeographical point of view, and have attracted the attention of a few leafhopper workers. Evans (1953, 1959) studied the leafhopper fauna of the Island. Freytag & Knight (1966) dealt with the Idiocerinae of Madagascar. Recently Krishnankutty & Dietrich (2011a, 2011b) dealt with the species of Mileewinae and Idiocerinae from the island.

The only previous report of Agalliini from Madagascar was that of Evans (1953), who identified one species as *Igerna bimaculicollis* (Stål) and described another as new: *Agalliana pauliana* Evans.

The recent Terrestrial Arthropods of Madagascar inventory project conducted by the California Academy of Sciences (CAS) and Tsimbazaza Botanical and Zoological Park (PBZT) has revealed that large numbers of Malagasy leafhopper species remain to be described (e.g., Krishnankutty & Dietrich 2011b).

Material and methods

Morphological terminology follows Oman (1949), Davis (1975) and Rakitov (1998). Specimens studied are from material collected during the Terrestrial Arthropod Inventory of Madagascar project conducted by CAS and PBZT. Holotypes are deposited in CAS, as well as part of the paratypes, and the remaining material in the Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign, Illinois (INHS).