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## A new species of *Alapona* DeLong (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Gyponini) from Amazonas State, Northern Brazil

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Gyponini is the largest tribe of Iassinae, comprising 1,080 species in 53 genera (Freytag & Sharkey 2002, Engel & Takiya 2012). The tribe is restricted to the New World, with 75% of genera endemic to the Neotropical and 8% endemic to the Nearctic Region (Nielson & Knight 2000). *Alapona* DeLong (1980) is a poorly known Neotropical genus, previously known from a single species from Peru, *A. elabora* DeLong, 1980, described based on a single specimen. In this paper, a new species, *Alapona modesta* **sp. nov.**, is described based on a single male specimen collected in Northern Brazil, which is deposited in the Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia (INPA), Manaus, Brazil. Considering that approximately 32% of the genera of the tribe are monotypic, we consider this a valid contribution.

For the analysis of the genital structures, the abdomen was removed and placed in hot 10% KOH, following Oman (1949). Genitalia were washed for 5–10 minutes in hot water and placed on a concave slide with glycerin for examination and preparation of photographs. After being photographed, the genitalia were stored in a small vial with glycerin and pinned below the specimen. Photographs were taken with a camera attached to a Leica stereomicroscope, using the image stacking software CombineZP. The morphological terminology follows mainly Dietrich (2005), except for the head sclerites (Hamilton 1981, Mejdalani 1998). The terms for the leg chaetotaxy follow Rakitov (1997).

All characteristics known to vary among gyponine genera are given in the revised diagnosis for *Alapona*. However, because specimens of the type-species were not available for study, features assumed to be diagnostic for the genus but not yet verified to occur in the type-species are marked with an asterisk (\*). Characters of the external morphology considered taxonomically important are included in the species description.

### *Alapona* DeLong, 1980

**Diagnosis.** Body (Fig. 13) brown with small black or dark brown maculae on head, pronotum and forewings; body not strongly dorsoventrally flattened; transocular width (Fig. 1) narrower than maximum pronotum width; each ocellus (Fig. 1) closer to adjacent eye than to midline and equidistant from anterior and posterior margins; crown-frons transition (Fig. 3) thick, not foliaceous, with longitudinal striae; forewing without supernumerary veins\* (Fig. 4); hind leg with femoral setal formula 2-2-1\*, tibia row PD with approximately twice as many cucullate setae as in AD\*; AD with 2-4 intercalary setae between cucullate macrosetae\*, first tarsomere as long as combined length of two distal tarsomeres\*; aedeagus (Figs 11, 12) dorsal apodemes well developed, forming a single structure expanded laterally (resembling a pair of wings) and without processes (= paraphyses *sensu* DeLong 1980).

**Notes.** According to DeLong (1980), *Alapona* is related to *Ponana* Ball, 1920 and can be distinguished from other Gyponini genera by the following characteristics: (1) head narrower than pronotum; (2) anterior margin of crown slightly produced and thick; (3) ocelli closer to eyes than to median line of crown; and (4) aedeagus without paraphyses, dorsoventrally broadened, with a broad platelike structure resembling a pair of wings. However, characters 1 and 2 occur in several Gyponini genera, whereas character 3 may vary among species in a single genus. Furthermore, as stated in the original description of *Alapona* (DeLong 1980), the type-species is superficially similar to species of *Ponana* and *Polana*. Therefore, most of the external diagnostic characteristics given above cannot separate most species of these