



## Revision of the genus *Stichelia* Zikán (Riodinidae: Riodiniinae: Symmachiini), with the description of a new species from southern Brazil

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### Abstract

A new species from southern Brazil, *Stichelia catarinensis* **sp. nov.**, is described and lectotypes for *Charis dukinfieldia* Schaus, 1902 and *Phaenochitonina bocchoris suavis* Stichel, 1911 are designated. *Phaenochitonina bocchoris suavis* Stichel, 1911 **syn. nov.** is considered synonymous with *Amarynthia bocchoris* Hewitson, 1876. Two species groups are recognized: "cuneifascia" species group, including *S. cuneifascia* and *S. catarinensis* **sp. nov.**, and "bocchoris" species group, including *S. bocchoris*, *S. dukinfieldia* and *S. pelotensis*. Additionally, a taxonomic dichotomous key and morphologic illustration for the species of the genus are provided.

**Key words:** Concealed Androconial Scales, *Phaenochitonina*, *Miconia*, Melastomataceae

### Introduction

*Stichelia* Zikán, 1949 is a Neotropical genus of Symmachiini riodinids restricted to the southern and southeastern regions of the South America, with four species recognized (Callaghan & Lamas 2004). The genus is included in the tribe Symmachiini on the basis of the presence of concealed androconial scales (CAS) on the anterior margins of the abdominal segments four and five in males, as two patches of medium width and with an uneven posterior edge (Hall & Harvey 2002). *Stichelia* was erected by Zikán (1949) based mainly on the presence of non-erectile androconial hairs in the dorsal hind wings and further distinguished from *Pterographium* Stichel, 1910, *Phaenochitonina* Stichel, 1910 and *Pirascia* Hall & Willmott, 1996 by Hall and Willmott (1996) by the following set of characters: prothorax red or dark brown; black or dark ground color, with dark brown markings basally and oblique orange bands from the costal to the outer or inner margin of the forewing or both wings; evenly scattered alar androconia (ALA, Hall & Harvey 2002) on the posterior half of the hindwing and abdomen entirely dark brown; male genitalia with uncus broad and short; ventral projection of the tegumen without projections; saccus short, with a spiny posterior projection (pedicel, *sensu* Hall & Willmott 1996) and valva flattened dorso-ventrally and heavily sclerotized, fused above the aedeagus. Based on that set of characters and the presence and distribution of CAS, species originally included in *Stichelia* by Zikán (1949) as *Papilio sagaris* Cramer, 1775 and *Papilio cingulus* Stoll, [1790] were transferred to *Pirascia* and *Phaenochitonina*, respectively (Hall & Willmott 1996); and *Phaenochitonina almeidai* Zikán, 1946 was further transferred to *Symmachia* Hübner, [1819] by Callaghan and Lamas (2004). While some species are common and widespread, as *S. bocchoris* (Hewitson, 1876) and *S. dukinfieldia* (Schaus, 1902), some species are rather rare in collections and the few known specimens are only known from a small number of collecting sites, as *S. cuneifascia* (Zikán, 1946) and *S. pelotensis* Biezanko, Mielke & Wedderhoff, [1979] (Zikán 1946, 1949; Biezanko *et al.* [1979]). Their immature stages are still completely unknown, although there is a single host plant record for one species on the Melastomataceae (Beccaloni *et al.* 2008). This paper aims to describe a new species, *S. catarinensis* **sp. nov.**, to provide diagnosis, taxonomic information, illustrations of the imagoes, male and female genitalia, an up-to-date distributional map and a dichotomous identification key to the species of the genus.