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New species of *Plectropsyche* Ross 1947 (Trichoptera: Hydropsychidae: Hydropsychinae)

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Abstract

Two new species from Mexico and Central America of the genus *Plectropsyche* Ross are described and the male and female genitalia are figured. The only extant previous described species, *Plectropsyche hoogstraali* Ross and its synonym *Plectropsyche pitella* (Denning) from Mexico are studied. A map with the distribution of all known *Plectropsyche* species is presented and an illustrated key for the males of the extant species are included.

Key words: taxonomy, Mexico, Central America

Resumen

Se describen dos especies nuevas del género *Plectropsyche* Ross de México y Centroamérica y se ilustran los genitalia de los machos y las hembras. Únicamente se estudiaron las especies actuales previamente descritas para México, *Plectropsyche hoogstraali* Ross y su sinónimo *P. pitella* (Denning). Se incluye un mapa con la distribución de las especies así como una clave ilustrada de los machos del género.

Introduction

The genus *Plectropsyche* Ross 1947, with type species *Plectropsyche hoogstraali* Ross 1947, is considered to be closely related to the genera *Cheumatopsyche* Wallengren 1891 and *Potamyia* Banks 1900. The genus is endemic to the Neotropical Region of Mexico and Central America, and belongs to the family Hydropsychidae subfamily Hydropsychinae (Scheffer 2005; Geraci *et al.* 2005). Denning (1968) described the species *Cheumatopsyche pitella*, but later Gordon (1974) removed it from this genus and transferred it to the genus *Plectropsyche*, making the combination *Plectropsyche pitella* (Denning 1968). In recent years Wichard, *et al.* (2006), described a fossil species *Plectropsyche alvarezzi* from the middle Miocene Mexican amber of Simojovel, Chiapas, Mexico, increasing to three the number of species for the genus. Recently, Oláh & Johanson (2008) synonymized the genus *Plectropsyche* with the genus *Cheumatopsyche*, but Geraci, *et al.* (2010), based on molecular analysis, resurrected the genus *Plectropsyche* Ross. Therefore consistent with morphological evidence (Scheffer 2005) and molecular analysis (Geraci *et al.* 2010), we recognize *Plectropsyche* Ross as a valid genus. In addition to the species listed above we describe two more new species, one from México and one from Costa Rica and Panamá and, after careful study of their male genitalia, we consider *Plectropsyche pitella* (Denning 1968) as a **new synonym** of *Plectropsyche hoogstraali* Ross 1947.

Material and methods

The specimens studied were provided by Dr. Oliver S. Flint, Jr., of the National Museum of Natural History