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TAXONOMIC AND GEOGRAPHIC NOTES ON SOME HALICTINE BEE SPECIES (HYMENOPTERA: HALICTIDAE)

As part of ongoing investigations on the halictine bees, a number of taxonomic changes have cropped up which require attention and are accordingly dealt with here. I have also taken this opportunity to provide further information on the distributions of some species which were previously known from only a few geographically restricted specimens.

The following abbreviations are used for frequently mentioned institutions: American Museum of Natural History, New York, J. G. Rozen, Jr. (AMNH); The Natural History Museum, London, G. Else and S. Lewis (BMNH); Cornell University Insect Collection, Ithaca, J. K. Liebherr (CUIC); Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, J. Casevitz-Weulersse (MNHN); Division of Entomology (Snow Entomological Collections), Natural History Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence, R. W. Brooks (KSEM); and the Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, F. Koch (ZMHB).

TRIBE AUGOCHLORINI MOURE

Andinaugochlora joannisi (Vachal), **new combination**

Halictus joannisi Vachal, 1904, p. 20, 24.

Augochlora joannisi (Vachal); Michener, 1951, p. 1126.

Corynura (*Callochlora*) *joannisi* (Vachal); Moure and Hurd, 1987, p. 214.

Discussion: The lectotype female of the species is located in the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale "Giacomo Doria", Genoa (designated by Moure and Hurd, 1987) while the 3 males Vachal used in his description are in the MNHN. This species was previously recorded from Ecuador (Pifo and Riobamba) and known only from the type series.

New records: COLOMBIA, San Lorenzo Mts., Forest Station, 13 March 1976, on composite (9 males, CUIC). 1 male, same information as previous males, except found in wood (CUIC). VENEZUELA, Aragua, 3 km W. Colonia Tovar, 10 March 1995, 2,300 m, R. W. Brooks, #075, ex: flying along bank (6 males, KSEM). PERU, Lima Prov., Canta, 2,800 m, 26 June 1954, C. D. Michener (1 male, KSEM).

Ariphanarthra palpalis Moure

Ariphanarthra palpalis Moure, 1951, p. 137.

Discussion: The genus *Ariphanarthra* is represented solely by the type species and is distinguished by the elongated maxillary palpi which in repose can reach the apex of the metasoma. This species has been previously recorded from southern Brazil and Paraguay. Herein I provide new locality information which greatly extends the range of this species.

New records: ARGENTINA, Misiones, 23–29 January 1986, L. E. Peña (1 female, AMNH). COLOMBIA, Caqueta, Yuruyaco, 73 km SW Florencia, 1 February 1979, M. Cooper, B.M. 1979-106 (1 male, BMNH). PERU, Dept. Loreto, 1.5 km N Teniente Lopez, 2°35.66'S 76°6.92'W, 18 July 1993, 210–240 m, R. Leschen, #117, flight intercept trap (1 female, KSEM). PERU, Loreto, Boqueron Abad, 19 October 1962, J. M. Schunke, B.M. 1962-683 (1 female, BMNH).

Augochlora (Oxystoglossella) thalia Smith

Augochlora thalia Smith, 1879, p. 46.

Halictus continens Vachal, 1911, p. 42, 47. NEW SYNONYMY.

Halictus eucnemis Vachal, 1911, p. 49. NEW SYNONYMY.

Discussion: The type of *Augochlora thalia* is in the BMNH, while those of *Halictus continens* and *H. eucnemis* are located in the MNHN. This is a common species of *Augochlora* ranging from southern Brazil to Costa Rica.

Augochloropsis (Paraugochloropsis) aenigma, new name

Rivalisia metallica Strand, 1921, p. 270.

Augochloropsis (Paraugochloropsis) metallica (Strand); Eickwort, 1969a, p. 519.

Preoccupied by *Augochloropsis metallica* (Fabricius), 1793.

Etymology: The new specific epithet is the Latin word *aenigma*, meaning “inexplicable”, and is a reference to the uncertain taxonomic status of the species.

Discussion: In synonymizing the genus *Rivalisia* Strand with *Augochloropsis* Cockerell, Eickwort (1969a) created the new combination *Augochloropsis metallica* (Strand). Although Eickwort noted at the time that the name was preoccupied in *Augochloropsis* by *A. metallica* (Fabricius), he suggested that the species might be a junior synonym of *A. argentina* (Friese) and, despite retaining *A. metallica* (Strand) as a valid species of the genus, did not propose a new name for it. Moure and Hurd (1987) followed Eickwort's assessment of the species in their catalog of Western Hemisphere halictid bees and did not propose any official taxonomic changes (neither synonymy nor a new name). Thus, there are still two *metallica* species in *Augochloropsis*, and since there is little reason at this time to consider Strand's species a synonym of *A. argentina*, the above name change is proposed.

Augochloropsis (Paraugochloropsis) vesta (Smith)

Augochlora vesta Smith, 1853, p. 78.

Halictus nigriscopis Vachal, 1903, p. 127. NEW SYNONYMY.

Halictus pendens Vachal, 1903, p. 128. NEW SYNONYMY.

Discussion: The type of *Augochlora vesta* is in the BMNH while both Vachal types can be found in the MNHN. This species is commonly found from Ecuador and Venezuela north to Mexico.

Halictillus glabrescens (Cockerell), **new combination**

Halictus glabriventris Friese, 1916, p. 561. Preoccupied by *Halictus glabriventris* Crawford, 1907, p. 21.

Halictus glabrescens Cockerell, 1926, p. 219. Replacement name for *Halictus glabriventris* Friese, 1916.

Halictillus glabriventris (Friese); Eickwort, 1969b, p. 658.

Discussion: The name and generic placement of this species has been of considerable confusion. The taxon was originally described by Friese (1916) as a species of *Halictus* and was recently treated as a synonym of *Dialictus spinolae* (Reed) in a catalog of Western Hemisphere halictid bees (Moure and Hurd, 1987). Dr. Frank Koch (ZMHB) has recently examined the type specimens of *Halictus glabriventris* Friese for me, and the species belongs in the augochlorine genus *Halictillus*. The assignment of this species to *Halictillus* was noted earlier by Eickwort (1969b), although Eickwort did not examine the type series. As if this mild confusion were not enough, almost all authors (except Moure and Hurd, 1987) have overlooked that *glabriventris* is preoccupied in *Halictus*, and in fact, that Cockerell (1926) had already provided a replacement name for the species as *H. glabrescens* (erroneously listed by Moure and Hurd, p. 131, as having been originally designated *Chloralictus glabrescens* Cockerell). The correct name and combination is given above.

The biology of this species has been discussed by several authors under a variety of names: Claude-Joseph (1926) as *H. galbriventris*; Sakagami and Michener (1962) as *Lasioglossum aricense* (Schrottky); and Eickwort (1969b) and Eickwort and Sakagami (1979) both as *Halictillus glabriventris*.

Neocorynura cercops (Vachal), **resurrected combination**

Halictus cercops Vachal, 1904, p. 124, 139.

Neocorynura cercops (Vachal); Moure, 1944, p. 69.

Corynura (Callochloa) cercops (Vachal); Moure and Hurd, 1987, p. 213.

Discussion: The lectotype of Vachal's species is located in the MNHN and was officially designated by Moure and Hurd (1987). This species is neither a *Halictus* nor a *Corynura* species. It was correctly placed in *Neocorynura* by Moure (1944), where to it is here returned.

TRIBE HALICTINI THOMSON

Zonalictus bluthgeni, **new name**

Halictus andreniformis minor Blüthgen, 1929, p. 35. Preoccupied by *Halictus minor* Morawitz in Fedchenko, 1876, p. 233.

Zonalictus minor (Blüthgen); Michener, 1978, p. 515.

Etymology: The specific epithet is a patronymic honoring Dr. Paul Blüthgen (1880–1967). A brief account of Dr. Blüthgen's life is given by Königsmann (1970).

Discussion: The original specific epithet, despite its placement in *Zonalictus*, is preoccupied through primary homonymy. The holotype female is in the ZMHB.—*Michael S. Engel, Department of Entomology, Comstock Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853.*

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