



THE FIRST RECORD OF *MACROGYNOPLAX* ENDERLEIN (PLECOPTERA: PERLIDAE) FROM THE COLOMBIAN AMAZONAS

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ABSTRACT

The stonefly genus *Macrogynoplax* is reported for the first time from Colombia based on a single female specimen collected in the Amazonas region. The specimen is described under an informal designation and compared with similar members of the genus.

Keywords: *Macrogynoplax*, Plecoptera, Colombia, New record

INTRODUCTION

Macrogynoplax is a small genus of fourteen, relatively uncommon stonefly species known from Brazil, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela (Bispo et al. 2005; Froehlich 1984, 2003; Ribeiro-Ferreira & Froehlich 1999; Ribeiro & Rafael 2005; Stark 1996; Stark & Zwick 1989; Zwick 1973). The group is distinctive by virtue of a greenish yellow adult pigment pattern and a zone of unpigmented ommatidia on the inner margins of the compound eyes; in addition, both males and females have distinctive genitalic features which are useful in recognizing the various species.

Recently, while sorting samples of Colombian *Anacroneuria*, we discovered a single *Macrogynoplax* female collected by Alejandra Currea-Dereser in the Amazonas region of Colombia. Although the specimen may be distinct from females of known species, we are reluctant to propose a new species based on the limited data available from a single female. Therefore, we are providing information about this specimen in order to report the presence of this unusual genus in Colombia, and to encourage

others who might have the opportunity to collect specimens from this region to do so. The specimen is deposited in the Museo de Entomología de la Universidad del Valle, Cali (MEUV).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Macrogynoplax sp. CO-1

(Figs. 1-3)

Material examined. Colombia: Caquetá, Amazonia, Parque Nacional Natural Chiribiquete, Quebrada La Piscina, Cuenca Rio Mesay, Estacion Puerto Abeja, 0° 04' 16" N, 72° 26' 48" W, 310 m, light trap, December 2001, A. Currea-Dereser, 1 ♀ (MEUV).

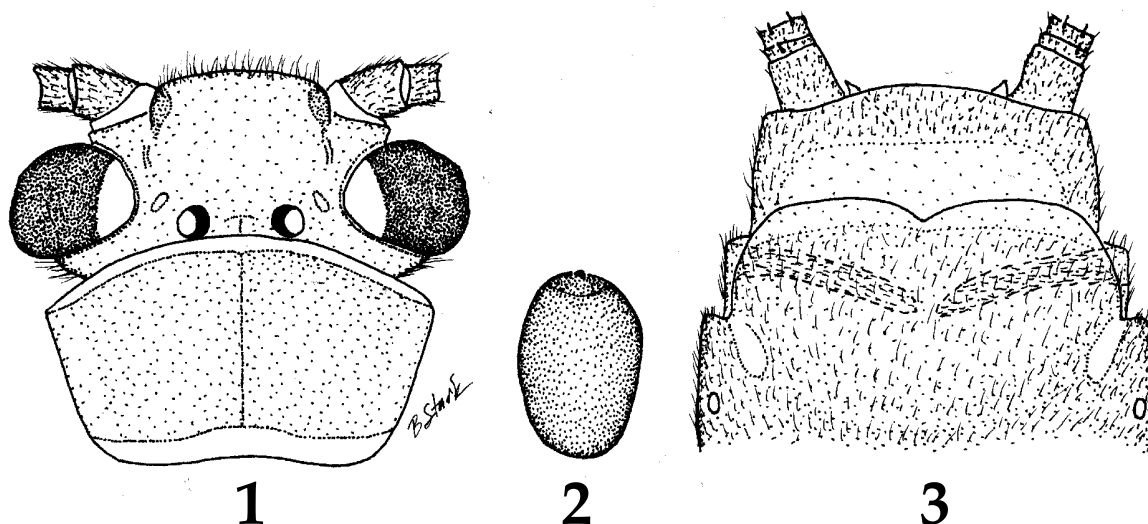
Adult habitus. General color pale white in alcohol. Head and pronotum without distinctive dark areas except lappets of head pale brown. Eyes with large area of unpigmented ommatidia on inner margins (Fig. 1). Wing membrane transparent, veins brown. Legs entirely pale, no dark apical band on femora.

Female. Forewing length 13 mm. Subgenital plate large and bulging mesally, posterior margin reaches

beyond posterior margin of sternum 9; posterior margin almost truncate but with a small mesal notch; marginal area of plate hairless (Fig. 3). Sternum 9 under plate bearing a pair of lightly sclerotized,

hairy, bar-like structures. Sternum 10 with a large anterior membranous zone.

Egg. Outline oval, collar small and nipple like (Fig. 2). Chorion smooth.



Figs. 1-3. *Macrogynoplax* sp. CO-1 structures. 1. Head and pronotum, 2. Egg, 3. Female terminalia.

Comments. Two currently known *Macrogynoplax* species have a female subgenital plate which extends beyond the posterior margin of sternum 9. *Macrogynoplax pulchra* Ribeiro-Ferreira & Froehlich is known from the Brazilian Amazonas, Reserva Florestal Adolpho Ducke (Ribeiro-Ferreira & Froehlich 1999), whereas *M. guyanensis* Enderlein is known from Guyana (Zwick 1973). Females of the latter species have a broadly rounded subgenital plate and appear to be distinct from this specimen, but females of the former species have a subgenital plate that is quite similar to this species (see Fig. 12 in Ribeiro-Ferreira & Froehlich 1999). In addition, because there are several species whose females are unknown, male specimens are needed to confirm the status of the Colombian population.

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