



## STILETTO FLIES (INSECTA: DIPTERA: THEREVIDAE) FROM PARAGUAY, WITH TWO NEW RECORDS

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**Abstract.-** A checklist of the 13 species of Therevidae (Insecta: Diptera) recorded from Paraguay, together with brief discussions about their geographical distributions is presented. Complete label data and photographs of the three species (two of them new to Paraguay) housed in the collection of the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay are also provided.

**Key words:** *Diptera, Therevidae, Neotropical Region, Paraguay, checklist, new records*

**Resumen.-** Se presenta el listado de las 13 especies de Therevidae (Insecta: Diptera) reportadas del Paraguay, junto con breves discusiones sobre sus distribuciones geográficas, así como datos completos de especímenes y fotografías de las tres especies (dos de ellas nuevas para el Paraguay) depositadas en la colección del Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay.

**Palabras clave:** *Diptera, Therevidae, Región Neotropical, Paraguay, listado, reportes nuevos.*

Therevidae is a moderately diverse family of asiloid flies (Insecta: Diptera), with more than 1100 species worldwide (Webb *et al.*, 2013). Therevid larvae are known to predate on other insects in loose friable substrates (from leaf litter to dry sand) (Gaimari & Webb, 2009), while adults, are typically found on flowers or drinking at water edges (Marshall, 2012). They are rather infrequently collected insects present in a wide variety of habitats, though they seem to be commoner in arid scrub habitats (Gaimari & Webb, 2009; Marshall, 2012). Up to now, 6 genera and 11 species of Therevidae are known from Paraguay (Webb *et al.*, 2013), which surely represents just a part of the unrealized diversity of the country, especially taking into account that most of the records are based on unique isolated collectings made during the first quarter of the 20th century and mostly restricted to the localities of Asunción, San Bernardino and Villarrica. The Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay (MNHNPY) has few holdings of therevid specimens, coming from just three localities, yet they extend the records to the Paraguayan Chaco and add one genus and two

species to the national list. This paper presents an updated list of the species of Therevidae recorded from Paraguay and gives complete data and habit photographs for the material housed in the MNHNPY.

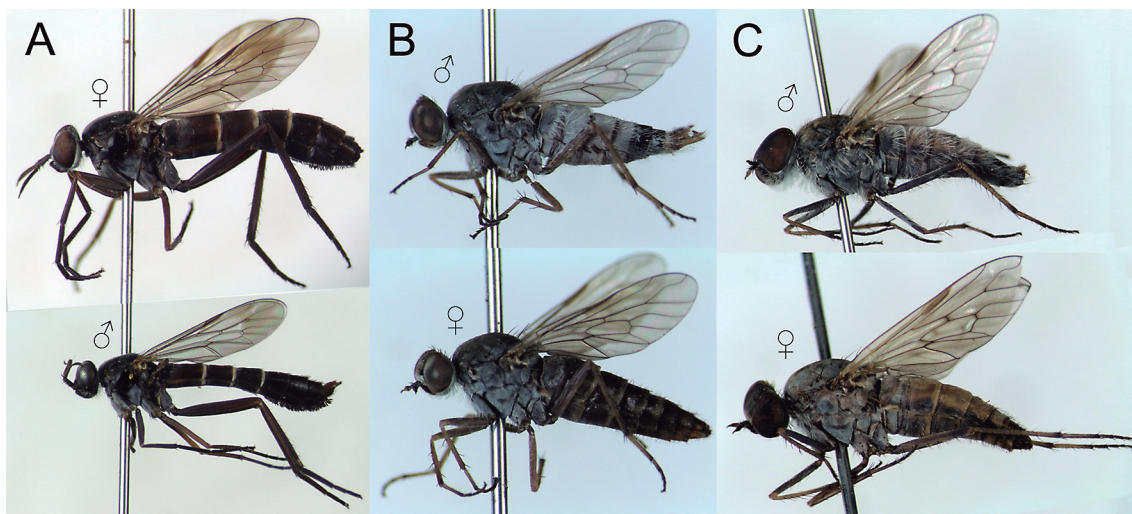
### FAMILIA THEREVIDAE

#### Subfamily Phycusinae

#### *Ataenogera abdominalis* Kröber, 1914

Previously known from western **Argentina** (south from San Luis and Mendoza north to Salta), **Bolivia** (El Beni y Santa Cruz), **Brasil** (Paraná) and **Paraguay** (Cordillera, San Pedro). There are seven specimens in the MNHNPY collection with the following data:

PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, Zona Administración, 6.viii.1994 (*B. Garcete*) [1 male and 2 females]; PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, on decaying armadillo, 6.viii.1994 (*B. Barrios*) [1 female]; PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, on decaying cactus along path near the administration house, 7.viii.1994 (*B. Barrios*) [1 male]. PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque



**Figura 1.** Species deposited in the National Natural History Museum of Paraguay. A) *Ataenogera abdominalis* Kröber. B) *Brachylinga clausa* (Kröber). C) *Notiothereva argentina* Webb.

Nacional Teniente Enciso, Siracua, 8.viii.1994, close to a pond (*B. Barrios*) [1 male]; PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, Zona Siracua, 7.viii.1994 (*B. Garcete*) [1 male].

Individuals of this species are apparent mimics of some small species of Pompilidae (Hymenoptera: Vespoidea) (pers. observations), and walk around waving their forelegs as they were wasp antennae.

#### Subfamily Therevinae

##### *Anolinga longiventris* (Kröber, 1911)

Only known from San Bernadino (Cordillera) in Paraguay.

##### *Brachylinga clausa* (Kröber, 1929)

Previously recorded from western Argentina (south from Neuquén north to Salta) and eastern Bolivia (Tarija and Santa Cruz). The MNHNP collection has 11 specimens as follows:

PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, Siracua, close to a pond, 8.viii.1994 (*B. Barrios*) [3 males and 6 females]; PARAGUAY: CHACO: Parque Nacional Defensores del Chaco, Madrejón, 11.ix.1982 (*H. Ferreira & F. Colmán*) [1 female]. PARAGUAY:

BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, Zona Administración, 7.viii.1994 (*B. Garcete*) [1 female].

This is a **new record** to Paraguay.

##### *Brachylinga ornata* (Kröber, 1911)

Recorded from north-eastern, central and south-eastern **Brazil**, as well as from **Paraguay** without a specific locality.

##### *Cerocatus analis* (Kröber, 1911)

A species known just from Cordillera department, **Paraguay**.

##### *Cerocatus beckeri* (Kröber, 1911)

Known from **Argentina**, **Brazil**, **Peru** and **Paraguay** (Cordillera).

##### *Cerocatus femoratus* (Kröber, 1911)

Described from an unknown locality in **Paraguay**.

##### *Cerocatus kroeberi* (Cole, 1960)

This species ranges from **Costa Rica** to **Uruguay**. In **Paraguay** it has been recorded from San Bernardino [Cordillera] (under the name *scutellaris* Loew, by Kröber, 1914) and Villar-

rica [Guairá] (Cole 1960).

***Cerocatus politus* (Kröber, 1911)**

This species is known from **Argentina**, **Bolivia**, **Brasil** (Paraná) and **Paraguay** (Cordillera).

***Cerocatus raspui* Hauser, 1913**

It was originally described from **Paraguay**, without further data, as *Phycus rufiventris* Kröber (1911).

***Notiothereva argentina* Webb, 2005**

The known distribution of this species is from Catamarca to Salta in **Argentina**. Seven specimens are deposited in the MNHNPY:

PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, on decaying cactus along path near the administration house, 7.viii.1994 (*B. Barrios*) [1 male]; PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, Siracua, close to a pond, 8.viii.1994 (*B. Barrios*) [3 females]; PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, Zona Administración, 7.viii.1994 (*B. Garcete*) [2 males]. PARAGUAY: BOQUERÓN: Parque Nacional Teniente Enciso, Zona Siracua, 7.viii.1994 (*B. Garcete*) [1 female].

These specimens from Paraguay constitute a **new record**.

***Penniverpa megaplex* Webb, 2008**

This species ranges from Catamarca to Salta in **Argentina** and Santa Cruz in **Bolivia**. There is also an old record from Asunción, **Paraguay**.

**Subfamily Xestomyzinae**

***Henicomys flava* Lyneborg, 1972**

This species is widely distributed through Amazonian, central and eastern **Brazil**. It is also recorded from **Argentina** (Jujuy), **Bolivia** (Beni) and **Paraguay** (Alto Parana).

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