PHYTOSEIID MITES FROM PUERTO RICO WITH
DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES
(ACARINA: MESOSTIGMATA)¹

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Many species of phytoseiids prey on phytophagous mites and a large
amount of work has been done on the group because of their possible
importance as biological control agents. Except for the records of Phytoseiulus
macropilis (Banks) and Amblyseius evansi Chant, however, the phyto-
seide that occur in Puerto Rico are unknown. This paper deals with the
Twenty-three species were collected, 14 of which are new to science.
Of the 9 described species, 6 also occur in Florida, and 1 each in Mexico,
Trinidad, and Tortola (a small island east of Puerto Rico). These 9 species
are listed below in this order with collection localities and plants on which
they were found:

Amblyseius (Amblyseius) largoensis Muma: Santurce on Cocos nucifera,
Mangifera indica, Calophyllum antillanum, and Hura crepitans; Ponce
on Spondias dulcis; Salinas on Cordia sebestena.

Amblyseius (Typhlodromipio) dentilis (DeL.): Santurce on Ipomoea
poyanthis.

Iphiseius quadripilis (Banks): Santurce on Laguncularia racemosa;
Rio Piedras on a melleaceous tree.

Phytoseiulus macropilis (Banks): Santurce on Desmodium tortuosum.
Galeondromus ammocetes (DeL.): Santurce on Hura crepitans; Ponce
on Guazuma ulmifolia.

Typhlodromina conspicua (Garm.): Coamo on Sterculia apetala and
Tetrazygia eleganoides; Juanaídas on Hura crepitans; Cayey Mt. (elev.
about 1800 ft.) on Cordia sulcata.

Typhlodromina acut dentia (DeL.): Coamo on Colubrina reclinata; Cayey
Mt on Myrica splendens, Cordia alliodora, and Polypodium phyllitida; El
Yunque (elev. about 2500 ft.) on Myrica deflexa.

Phytoseius (Pennaseius) bennettii DeL.: Rio Piedras on Conea tomentosa;
Cayey Mt on Osmia odorata.

?Amblyseius (Amblyseius) herbicola Chant: Santurce on Tabebuia
sp.; Rio Piedras on Furamea occidentalis, Lagerstroemia speciosa, Lantana
involuta, Psidium guajava, and Palicourea riparius; Sabana on Andira
inermis. Setae L₅ and L₆ of these specimens show considerable variation
in length. In some, on one side L₅ is as long as L₆, on the opposite side
L₅ is shorter than L₆; in some L₅ is scarcely shorter than L₆ (10:12) and
in others L₅ is distinctly shorter than L₆ (8:13).

In the descriptions, I have followed Garman (1948) when designating
setae of the body as his system for the phytoseiids is simple and brief; for
the macrosetae of the legs, I have used the symbols employed by Athias-
Henriot (1957). In several of the new species, the ventral cuticula of the

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specimens either stretched greatly or tore apart in the mounting process; in drawing these specimens the 3 principal shields are shown in their approximately normal position, but the platelets and setae of the ventrolateral area have probably been drawn much closer to each other than is normal for them. The descriptions and drawings are of holotype females unless otherwise indicated, and measurements are in microns. Leg measurements are from base of coxa to claw end of pretarsus and tarsal measurements include the pretarsus. The cervices of the spermathecae are all drawn to the same scale and the lengths given for them include the atria.

**Typhloseiopsis funiculatus**, new species

(Fig. 1)

*Typhloseiopsis funiculatus* is readily distinguished from *T. theodoliticus* DeL. by having the ventrianal shield fully developed, and from the species placed in this genus by Schuster and Pritchard (1963) by having L2-L4 minute. The male is unknown.

**FEMALE:** Dorsal shield practically smooth, 317 long, 190 wide with setae arranged as shown in Fig. 1. Lengths of setae as follow: L1 36, L2 8, L3 7, L4 8, L5 34, L6 9, L7 7, L8 66; D1 23, D2-D6 7; M2 36; S1 12; VL1 43. Sternal shield with 3 pairs of setae, but posterior margin not clear; ventrianal shield 94 long, 74 wide (near anterior margin); only 1 metapodal shield, 20 long. Chelicerae poorly oriented, fd about 27 long and apparently with 2 teeth near tip, md apparently with 3 teeth. Legs too bent to measure; tarsus I 122, IV 141; sge 16, II 23, III 28, IV 53, sti 29, st 49. Cervix about 18 long.

**Holotype:** Female, Coamo, P. R., 28 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on Gymnanthus lucida.

**Typhloseiopsis regularis**, new species

(Fig. 2)

*Typhloseiopsis regularis* is distinct from all other mites in this group in having a notch in the dorsal shield behind L6 and a very long L8.

**FEMALE:** Dorsal shield smooth, 332 long, 271 wide with setae arranged as shown in Fig. 2. Lengths of setae as follow: L1 42, L2 4, L3 10, L4 5, L5 105, L6 7, L7 7, L8 about 330; D1 30, D2-D6, 5-7; M2 110; S1 10, S2 8; VL1 63. Ventrianal shield 110 long, 72 wide (at level of anus); primary metapodal shield 20 long. Fd of chelicerae 28 long. Leg I 416, II 345, III 357, IV 462; tarsus I 160, IV 190; leg I- sge 60, sti 58, st 52 (proximal), 54 (distal); leg II- sge 47, sti 36, st 36; leg III- sge 58, sti 42, st 36; leg IV- sge about 125, sti about 75, st 54. Cervix 18 long.

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**PLATE I**

Fig. 1. *Typhloseiopsis funiculatus*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventrianal shields, part of leg IV, and cervix. Fig. 2. *Typhloseiopsis regularis*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventral shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, and cervix. Fig. 3. *Amblyseius (Typhlodromips) caobaec*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventral shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, and cervix. Fig. 4. *Amblyseius (Typhlodromips) caribbeana*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventral shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, cervix, and spermatodactyl. Fig. 5. *Amblyseius (Typhlodromus) yunquensis*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventrianal shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, and cervix.
De Leon: *Phytoseiid Mites from Puerto Rico*
Holotype: Female, Cayey Mountain, P. R., 28 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on *Mangifera indica*. Paratypes: 1 female, 2 nymphs collected with holotype.

_Amblyseius* (Typhlodromips) caoae, new species

(Fig. 3)

_Amblyseius* (T.) caoae resembles A. (T.) scyphus Schuster and Pritchard in having a cup-shaped cervix and differs from it chiefly in the shape of the ventrional shield and in having 3 macrosetae on leg IV. The male is unknown.

_Female_: Dorsal shield practically smooth, 300 long, 168 wide with setae arranged as shown in Fig. 3. Lengths of setae as follows: L1 19, L2 16, L3 18, L4 21, L5 22, L6 26, L7 22, L8 21, L9 49; D1 16, D2 16, D3 16, D4 15, D5 26, D6 14; M2 49; VL1 40. Ventrional shield 90 long, 86 wide. Primary metapodal shield 19 long. Fd of chelicerae 31 long. Leg I 284, II 223, III 220, IV 296; tarsus I 87, IV 108; no macrosetae on legs I-III; sge 34, sti 22, st 44. Cervix 7 long.

_Holotype_: Female, Rio Piedras, P. R., 24 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on *Swietenia mahagoni*.

_Amblyseius* (Typhlodromips) caribbeanus, new species

(Fig. 4)

_Amblyseius* (T.) caribbeanus is readily distinguished from all others in this group by the position of the pores of the ventrional shield.

_Female_: Dorsal shield smoothish with a few cicatrix-like markings, 285 long, 199 wide. Lengths of setae as follows: L1 21, L2 12, L3 16, L4 17, L5 17, L6 18, L7 16, L8 14, L9 39; D1 19, D2 12, D3 14, D4 14, D5 17, D6 8; M2 24; VL1 25. Ventrional shield 90 long, 83 wide (the preanal pores range in shape from circular to crescentic and in the holotype the pore on the left side is crescentic, the one on the right circular); primary and accessory metapodal shields apparently coalesced, 17 long. Fd of chelicerae 28 long (the drawing in Fig. 4 is of a paratype specimen). Leg I 272, II 230, III 226, IV 285; tarsus I 89, IV 99; no macrosetae on legs I-III; sge 9, sti 14, st 28. Cervix about 10 long.

_Male_: Resembles female; dorsal shield 242 long, 145 wide. Spermatodactyl with foot 20, shank 20 long.

_Holotype_: Female, El Yunque, P. R. (elev. about 2500 ft.), 26 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on *Psychotria bertierana*. Paratypes: 1 male, 1 female on *Chloa gundulchii*, locality and date as for holotype; 1 female, Croabas, P. R., 26 Aug. 1963, on *Rhizophora mangle*.

_Amblyseius* (Typhlodromips) yunquensis, new species

(Fig. 5)

_Amblyseius* (T.) yunquensis resembles A. (T.) primulae (Chant) from southern Florida, but is readily separated from it by the greater lengths of L1 and L4. The male is unknown.

_Female_: Dorsal shield practically smooth, 277 long, 165 wide, with setae arranged as shown in Fig. 5. Lengths of setae as follows: L1 38, L2 13, L3 21, L4 54, L5 11, L6 20, L7 17, L8 9, L9 39; D1 20, D2-D6 8-10; M2 33; VL1 36. Ventrional shield not clear, but with 3 pairs of setae; ventrional
shield 96 long, 51 wide; primary metapodal shield 16 long, accessory shield almost obsolete. Fd of chelicerae 29 long. Leg I 344, II 278, III 274, IV 393; tarsus I 118, IV 172; sgeI 24, II 24, III 21, IV 52. sti 30, st 57. Cervix 15 long.

*Holotype:* Female, El Yunque, P. R., 26 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on Clibodium erosum.

**Amblyseius (Typhlodromalus) congeae**, new species

(Fig. 6)

*Amblyseius (T.) congeae* resembles *A. (T.) peregrinus* Muma; it differs from that species in having L2 and L4 much longer and in the shape of the cervix.

**Female:** Dorsal shield 290 long, 108 wide, smooth, but with scattered "cloudy" areas; setae arranged as shown in Fig. 6. Lengths of setae as follow: L1 43, L2 18, L3 20, L4 61, L5 14, L6 32, L7 14, L8 10, L9 64; D1 28, D2 19, D3 11, D4 14, D5 15, D6 8; M2 51; VI 40. Sternal shield not clear, but with 3 pairs of setae; ventral shield 100 long, 58 wide (near anterior end); primary metapodal shield 18 long. Fd of chelicerae 28 long. Leg I 353, II 289, III 293, IV 429; tarsus I 112, IV 174; sgeI 29, II 25, III 24, IV 52, sti 31, st 57. Cervix about 15 long.

**Male:** Resembles female; dorsal shield 222 long, 156 wide. Spermatodactyl 21 long.


**Amblyseius (Typhlodromalus) rapax**, new species

(Fig. 7)

*Amblyseius (T.) rapax* very closely resembles *A. (T.) limonicus* Garman and McGregor as redescribed by Schuster and Pritchard (1963); it differs chiefly in size, in the relative lengths of the setae of the dorsal shield, in having a pore near M1, in dentition of chelicerae, and in the size of the spermatheca. The male is not known.

**Female:** Dorsal shield 310 long, 181 wide, with setae of the following lengths: L1 38, L2 11, L3 9, L4 63, L5 11, L6 14, L7 12, L8 10, L9 72 (weakly serrate); D1 26, D2-D4 7, D5 11, D6 9; M1 8, M2 11; VI 40. Peritreme ends at a point almost in front of D1. Ventral shield 101 long, 54 wide (near anterior end); primary metapodal shield 20 long, accessory not found. Fd of chelicerae 22 long. Leg I 380, IV 407; tarsus I 132, IV 190 (pretarsus 51); sgeI 36, II 28, III 33, IV 58, sti 37, st 76 (all tips tapering to slender points). Cervix about 20 long.


**Amblyseius (Euseius) ho**, new species

(Fig. 8)

*Amblyseius (E.) ho* closely resembles *A. (E.) hum* Pritchard and Baker; it differs from that species chiefly in the relative lengths of the anterolateral setae.
PLATE II

Fig. 6. *Amblyseius (Typhlodromalus) congoae*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventrianal shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, cervix, and spermatodactyl.

Fig. 7. *Amblyseius (Typhlodromalus) rapax*, n. sp. Chelicerae and cervix.

Fig. 8. *Amblyseius (Euseius) ho* n. sp. Dorsal and ventrianal shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, cervix, and spermatodactyl. 

Fig. 9. *Amblyseius (Euseius) subalatus*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventrianal shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, and cervix.

Fig. 10. *Nothoseius borinquensis*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventrianal shields, part of leg IV, cervix, and spermatodactyl.
De Leon: Phytoseiid Mites from Puerto Rico

FEMALE: Dorsal shield 320 long, 232 wide with setae and markings as shown in Fig. 7. Lengths of setae as follow: L1 25, L2 11, L3 14, L4 26, L5 9, L6 13, L7 14, L8 15, L9 59; D1 28, D2 7, D3 8, D4 11, D5 11; M2 11; V1 26. Sternal shield not clear; ventral shield 97 long, 72 wide; primary metapodal shield 22 long. Fd of chelicerae 23 long apparently with 2 small teeth near tip (drawing from a paratype specimen). Legs too bent to measure; tarsus IV 166 long; sgcI 21, II 24, III 28 (tips of all 3 setae bluntly pointed), sge IV 42, sti 26, st 49 (tips of all 3 setae capitate). Cervix 22 long.

MALE: Resembles female; dorsal shield 244 long, 181 wide. Spermatodactyl with foot 7 long, shank 17 long.

Holotype: Female, Coamo, P. R., 28 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on Colubrina reclinata. Paratypes: 1 female, 2 males collected with holotype; 1 female on Tetrazygia elegnoides and 1 male on Osmia ordorata, same date and locality as for holotype.

Amblyseius (Euseius) subalatus, new species

(Fig. 9)

Amblyseius (E.) subalatus is distinct from any other member of this group in having S2 on the dorsal shield and in having the dorsal shield abruptly narrowed at S2. In the type specimen S1 also appears to be on the dorsal shield as indicated in the drawing; in the paratype specimen the position of the setae is not clear, but they appear to be situated just off the dorsal shield. The male is unknown.

FEMALE: Dorsal shield 253 long, 166 wide with setae arranged as shown in Fig. 9. Lengths of setae as follow: L1 20, L2 23, L3 25, L4 27, L5 20, L6 21, L7 21, L8 21, L9 49; D1 25, D2 18, D3 17, D4 21, D5 18, D6 7; M1 21, M2 21; S1 22, S2 21; V1 28. Ventral shield 78 long, 52 wide; metapodal shield 14 long, no accessory shield seen and several of the other usual platelets absent. Fd of chelicerae 21 long. Leg I 277, II 216, III 222, IV 333; tarsus I 100, IV 130; sgcI 10, II 11, III 14 (these setae about as long and scarcely coarser than the other setae of respective segments and all tapering to sharp points), IV 25, sti 10, st 29. Cervix 23 long.

Holotype: Female, Juana Dias, P. R., 28 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on Catherexylon fruticosum. Paratype: 1 female collected with holotype.

Nothoseius, new genus

Phytoseiid mites with dorsal shield bearing 4 anterolaterals, 4 posterolaterals, 2 median, and 5 dorsal setae (D5 absent) arranged as shown in Fig. 10; S1 on interseptal membrane in female, on dorsal shield in male, S2 absent in both sexes; some setae of dorsal shield greatly enlarged and strongly serrate. Female with a somewhat transparent crescent-shaped body attached by anterior and posterior ends at mid-line of dorsal shield. Ventral surface with characters of family. Legs long and slender. No other genus has this combination of characters.

Type of genus: Nothoseius borinquensis, new species.
Nothoseius borinquensis, new species

(Fig. 10)

**FEMALE:** Dorsal shield 288 long, 165 wide, not fully covering body and with VL1 on dorsal surface of body posterior of dorsal shield; setae of dorsal shield arranged as shown in Fig. 10. Lengths of setae as follow: L1 38, L2 25, L3 15, L4 91, L5 56, L6 11, L7 32, L8 98; D1 33, D2 9 (serrate), D3 10, D4 9, D6 (absent), D6 10 (serrate); M1 10, M2 79; S1 37; VI.1 67. Crescent-shaped body 45 long, the anterior end attached on midline at a point about even with setae L6 (in the holotype and 1 paratype the body lies on the left of the mid-line, in 2 others on the right of the mid-line). Sternal shield with 3 pairs of setae, posterior margin not clear. Ventralial shield 105 long, 56 wide; primary metapodal shield 26 long. Chelicerae not clear, fd about 27 long with about 8 small teeth, md with about 4 small teeth. Leg I 299, II 271, III 254, IV 413; tarsus I 95, IV 163 (pretarsus 22); no macrosetae on legs I-III; agc 13, sti 13, stb 17, sta 22. Cervix 7 long.

**MALE:** Resembles female, but lacks crescent-shaped body; dorsal shield 226 long, 153 wide. Spermatodactyl with foot 12 long, shank 14 long.

**Holotype:** Female, Salinias, P. R., 28 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on Rhynchosia reticulata. **Paratypes:** 2 females, 1 male, collected with holotype; 2 females, 2 males, Cayey Mountain, 28 Aug. 1963, on Cordia sulcata. The female appears to be ooviparous as one of them contained an egg with an almost fully developed larva.

*Amblyseius* (Ricoseius) *loxocheles*, new sub-genus and new species

(Fig. 11)

This mite does not fit any of the established sub-genera because it has 3 pairs of setae lateral of the ventrolateral setae and leg IV with a macroseta on tibia only. The long setae of the dorsal shield, many of which are capitulate, and the very heavy chelicerae are also distinctive. *Ricoseius* is proposed as a name for mites with these general characters with *A (R.) loxocheles* as type.

**FEMALE:** Dorsal shield smooth 320 long, 260 wide, with setae arranged as shown in Fig. 11. Setae of the following lengths: L1 80, L2 49, L3 130, L4 157, L5 63, L6 98, L7 85, L8 162, L9 140; D1 35, D2 50, D3 50, D4 157, D5 162, D6 9; M1 32, M2 168; S1 60, S2 77; VI.1 107; seta anterolateral of metapodal shield 80, setae lateral of VL1; anterior seta 73, posterior seta 140. Sternal shield with posterior margin not clear, but apparently as indicated by dashed line in drawing; ventralial shield 139 long, 76 wide (at about level of anus); only 2 pairs of ventriliateral setae; primary metapodal shield 25 long, accessory shield absent. Fd of chelicerae 30 long 11-12 very small teeth. Leg I 387, II 320, III 326, IV 420; tarsus I 132, IV 152; genua I III each with a capitulate seta 19, 15, and 20 long respectively; the 2 large capitulate setae of genu IV 25 and 22 long (the proximal seta the longer), capitulate seta of tibia 20 long, sti 42, the 2 capitulate setae of basitarsus 22 long. Cervix 38 long.

**Holotype:** Female, Cayey Mt., P. R., 28 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on Cordia alliodora.
Fig. 11. *Amblyseius (Ricoseius) loxocheles*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventral shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, and cervix. Fig. 12. *Paraphytoseius sanlarcensis*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventral shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, cervix, and spermatodactyl. Fig. 13. *Phytoseius (Phytoseius) woodburyi*, n. sp. Part of leg IV and cervix. Fig. 14. *Amblyseius inflatus*, n. sp. Dorsal and ventral shields, chelicerae, part of leg IV, and cervix.
Paraphytoseius Swirski and Shechter

Type: *P. multidentatus* Swirski and Shechter, by original designation and monotypy.


Paraphytoseius santarcensis, new species

(Fig. 12)

*Paraphytoseius santarcensis* resembles *P. multidentatus* Swirski and Shechter very closely; it differs from the description and drawing of that species in having a notch on the margin of the dorsal shield near L4, the dorsal shield with 10 pairs of pores, the large setae longer, and genu IV with 2 short, rod-shaped setae.

FEMALE: Pale white as if immature; dorsal shield smooth 288 long, 170 wide with setae arranged as shown in Fig. 12. Lengths of setae follow: L1 98, L2 9, L3 11, L4 132, L5 9, L6 109, D1 36, D2 7, D3 5, D4 9, D5 (absent), D6 5; M2 81; S1 52, S2 36; VL1 85. Ventrianal shield about 105 long, 58 wide (near anterior margin) (a paratype specimen has 2 pairs of preanal setae); primary metapodal shield 27 long, no accessory shield observed. Fd of chelicerae 22 long. Leg I 339, II 287, III 284, IV 490; tarsus I 108, IV 199; no macrosetae on legs I-III; sge 31, sti 40, stb 49, sta 36. Cervix of spermatheca 7 long (drawing from paratype).

MALE: Resembles female; dorsal shield 204-230 long, 136 wide (3 males). Spermatodactyl with foot 6 long, shank about 11 long.

Holotype: Female. Santurce, P. R., 5 Sept. 1963 (D. De Leon), on Hibiscus tiliae, Paratypes: 3 males, 6 females collected with holotype; 1 female on Hura crepitans, other data as for holotype.

These mites were common on *H. tiliae* with 10 or more per leaf (the leaves are large—about 7 inches across) and no other mites were seen on the leaves. A pair appeared to be mating with the male on the back of the female for a period of about 30 seconds and then the male left the female; before this period the male clung to the female, struggled to get on her back and appeared to be aggressive, after this period the male ignored her. With the pairs of *Amblyseius* and *Phytoseius* that I have seen and thought were mating the male was beneath the female and ventral side up.

Phytoseius (Phytoseius) woodburyi, new species

(Fig. 13)

*Phytoseius woodburyi* resembles *P. macroplus* (Banks) as redescribed by Chant and Athias-Henriot (1960), differing from their description chiefly in the relative lengths of the setae of the dorsal shield and in the size and shape of the macrosetae. The male is not known.

FEMALE: Dorsal shield 280 long, 147 wide with setae of the following lengths: L1 32, L2 14 (smooth), L3 29, L4 10 (smooth), L5 117, L6 73, L7 74; D1 31, D2-D4 0, D6 (absent), D7 (all "D" setae smooth); M2 88; S1 44; VL1 45 (all setae pectinate except as indicated). Ventrianal shield
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91 long, 36 wide (near anterior end) with 3 pairs of preanal setae; metapodal shield 33 long, about 3.5 wide, accessory shield missing. Fd of chelicerae 23 long, dentition not clear, but apparently with 2 sub-apical teeth, md with 1 tooth. Legs too bent to measure; tarsus IV 161 long; no macrosetae on legs I-III; sge 8, sti 44, stb 21, sta 24. Cervix about 5 long. Holotype: Female, Cayey Mountain, P. R., 28 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on Acrocladiadium salicifolium. The mite is named in honor of Dr. R. O. Woodbury, Botanist, Agricultural Experiment Station, Rio Piedras, who kindly identified practically all of the plants from which mites were collected.

Amblyseius inflatus, new species

(Fig. 14)

Amblyseius inflatus resembles A. rossellus (Chant), but the long setae are much longer, the peritreme is normal, and the genital shield is enlarged posterolaterally. The male is unknown.

FEMALE: Dorsal shield smooth, slightly brownish, moderately sclerotized, 309 long, 290 wide with setae arranged as shown in Fig. 14. Lengths of setae as follow: L1 46, L2 21, L3 7, L4 159, L5 10, L6 10, L7 8, L8 8, L9 175; D1 42, D2-D6 5 (D5 absent); M2 175; S1 21; VL1 90. Venteranal shield 127 long, 119 wide; primary metapodal shield 31 long. Fd of chelicerae 48 long. Leg I 513, II 374, III 382, IV 510; tarsus I 188, IV 200; sge I 49, II 45, III 65, IV about 125, sti 87, st 85. Cervix 20 long.

Holotype: Female, Sabana, P. R., 30 Aug. 1963 (D. De Leon), on Clidemia strigosa.

The types and paratypes of the new species are in the author's collection.

LITERATURE CITED


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