NEW HOST PLANT RECORD FOR TOXOTRYPANA CURVICAUDA (DIPTERA: TEPHRITIDAE)

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The papaya fruit fly, Toxotrypana curvicauda, has been considered to date a strictly monophagous species infesting wild and cultivated papaya (Carica papaya L.). Castrejón-Ayala (1987) reported infestations in another Caricaceae, Jucuriti muricata A.D.C. (= Pileus mexicana) in the State of Morelos, Mexico. Baker et al. (1944) reported that T. curvicauda also infested a plant locally known as "talayote" or "talayotillo" but never provided any precise botanical identification.

Here we report T. curvicauda infestations on Gonolobus sorodius A. Gray (Asclepiadaceae), locally known as "pancoleote." We collected 32 larvae of T. curvicauda infesting 6 fruit of G. sorodius during October, 1990 in Yautepé (Barranca Honda, San Isidro), Morelos, Mexico. Larvae, pupae and adults emerging from the larvae were sent to Vicente Hernandez (Instituto de Ecología, A.C., Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico) for taxonomic identification. Voucher specimens have been placed in the permanent insect collections of the Instituto de Ecología, A.C. and the Centro de Desarrollo de Productos Bioticos del Instituto Politécnico Nacional. Taxonomic identification of G. sorodius was carried out by the Dept. of Botany at the Universidad de Morelos in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Our findings reported here confirm the report by Castrejón (1987), who also recovered T. curvicauda (not confirmed at the time) from G. sorodius fruit.

Based on our findings, T. curvicauda should not be considered henceforth a monophagous insect.

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REFERENCES CITED
