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Notes on Zonosemata Benjamin (Diptera: Tephritidae) and the status of Cryptodacus scutellatus Hendel (= Z. ica Steyskal syn. n.)

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Abstract

Based on a reexamination of the holotype, Cryptodacus scutellatus Hendel is found to be a valid Neotropical specific name, which is the senior synonym of Zonosemata ica STEYSKAL. It is transferred to Zonosemata, as Z. scutellata (Hendel), comb. n. Additional diagnostic information for this species, and host data for it and four other species of Zonosemata are presented and discussed.

Zusammenfassung

Aufgrund einer Überprüfung des Holotypus von Cryptodacus scutellatus HENDEL wird scutellatus als valider neotropischer Artname erachtet. C. scutellatus ist älteres Synonym von Zonosemata ica STEYSKAL und wird zu Z. scutellata (HENDEL) neu kombiniert. Zusätzliche diagnostische Angaben zu dieser Art und Wirts-Daten zu ihr und anderen Zonosemata-Arten werden präsentiert und diskutiert.

Hendel (1936) described *Cryptodacus scutellatus* from a single male from "NO-Brasilien, Natal" from the collection of H. Zerny. Aczél (1949) listed *scutellatus* in his catalog of Neotropical Tephritidae, but Foote (1967) stated that it was "not Neotropical", and that the type locality was an error, perhaps on the assumption that the type was from Natal, South Africa. As there are at least several localities in northeastern Brazil named Natal, and as no species fitting Hendel's description has been reported from Africa, the current status of *scutellatus* appeared to me to be questionable.

During a visit to the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, I therefore took the opportunity to study the holotype of scutellatus. It bears the following labels: "Nordost-Brasilien, Natal, 23. IX. 27, Zerny", "Type [red]", and "Cryptodacus sctuellata Hend. & F. Hendel det.", the last of which is mostly in Hendel's writing. Upon examination, the type proved to be a species of Zonosemata Benjamin, in fact it is conspecific with Z. ica Steyskal, syn. n., described from Colombia (Steyskal 1974). The holotype female and paratype of uncertain sex of ica, in the U.S. National Museum of Natural History (USNM), differ only slightly from the scutellata type. The dark thoracic markings are more distinct in the ica types,

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probably because they were originally preserved in alcohol, and the wing bands are fainter in the *scutellata* type.

STEYSKAL (1974) correctly placed this species in *Zonosemata*; *Z. scutellata* (Hendel), comb. n., possesses at least three derived characters found in *Zonosemata* but not in the two species of *Cryptodacus*, *obliquus* Hendel and *silvai* Lima. 1. The distiphallus is relatively simple, with the outside evenly sclerotized, appearing somewhat sack-like, and with little distinct internal sclerotization; 2. there are two large, elongate, weakly sclerotized spermathecae; and, 3. as stated by Hendel (1936), the first flagellomere has a small, acute, dorsoapical lobe. The first two characters are autapomorphies of *Zonosemata*. The last apomorphy is also found in *Rhagoletis* Loew, *Carpomya* Costa, *Myiopardalis* Bezzi, *Haywardina* Aczél, and *Cryptoplagia* Aczél, and may be a synapomorphy for all of these taxa. The surstylus of *scutellata* also is short and shaped as in other *Zonosemata* (Bush 1965), not elongate as in *Cryptodacus*, although the polarity of this character is unresolved. Finally, *scutellata* lacks the narrow, dark brown mark bordering Cu₁ between bm—cu and the dark band covering r—m, a synapomorphy for *C. obliquus* and *silvai*.

In addition to the types, I examined four males and four females of scutellata from the collections of the Instituto de Zoología Agricola, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Maracay and the USNM, collected by J. REQUENO from El Limon and Turmero, Estado de Aragua, Venezuela. Of these, two males and two females lack dark presutural scutal spots, and one male and one female have a katepisternal spot. Thus, the presence or absence of these spots does not appear to be a reliable diagnostic character for scutellata as suggested by STEYSKAL (1974). Specimens of vittigera (Coquillett), which appear to always possess dark katepisternal and presutural scutal spots, can be distinguished from scutellata by antennal length. The ratio of the length of the first flagellomere (measured on the mesal side) to the height of the face (measured to the ventral margin of the antennal sockets) is 0.75-0.87 (n = 8) in scutellata and 0.47-0.56 (n = 15) in vittigera. Additionally, scutellata differs from all other species of Zonosemata in wing pattern. In scutellata, the following typical parts of the pattern are absent or very faint: most of the apical costal band, which is normally visible only between the apices of R₄₊₅ and M; the anterior part of the band through dm-cu; and the accessory band. The apical costal band is sometimes weak in vidrapennis Bush, but in that species, all the wing bands are very narrow and cells r₄₊₅ and dm lack microtrichia between the bands (Bush 1965). The transverse bands are broad in scutellata and cells r₄₊₅ and dm are microtrichose.

The specimens of *scutellata* from Venezuela are labelled "en" or "ex fruto de huevo de gato", which according to Schnee (1973) is a common name used in Venezuela for two species of *Solanum*, *hirtum* Vahl and *hyporrhodium* A. Braun & Bouché. It is unclear from the labels whether these specimens were reared or just collected on fruit, but it is likely that at least one of these *Solanum* species is a host for *scutellata*. *Solanum elaeagnifolium* Cav. is the only known host of *Zonosemata vittigera* (Coquillett), and four species of *Solanum*, as well as

Capsicum, Lycopersicon, and Physalis species (all Solanaceae), have been reported as host plants for Z. electa (SAY) (WASBAUER 1972). There are also 3 males and 2 females of electa in the USNM collection that were reared from fruit of Solanum melanocerasum ALL., a new host record. These specimens are labelled: Mississippi, Oktibbeha Co., Osborn, viii. 1985 (emerged by 19. ix. 1985), G. Weathersby. An undetermined Rosa species has also been reported as a host for electa (WASBAUER 1972), but this record seems questionable, especially because a number of Rosa species are hosts of Rhagoletis basiola (OSTEN SACKEN), which is superficially very similar to Z. electa. I have seen the following specimens which indicate that the other species of Zonosemata also probably breed in Solanum: Z. cocoyoc Bush - Mexico, Morelos, Cuernavaca, 20. viii. 1983, T. H. Atkinson, "Hosp. Solanum sp.", 1 male (USNM), 2 males (Estación de Biología Chamela); Z. minuta Bush - Jamaica, St. Andrew, Long Mt., 26. vi. 1955, T. H. FARR, "at fruit of Solanum verbascifolium", 2 males (USNM); Z. vidrapennis Bush - Mexico, Veracruz, Jalapa, vi. 1955, Krauss, "on fruit Solanum", 1 male (USNM); Mexico, Veracruz, Jilotepec, 18. vii. 1983, Atkinson & Equihua, "Hosp. Solanum sp.", 1 male (Estación de Biología Chamela).

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