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pdellape@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar

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## NOTA CIENTÍFICA

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**New records of *Blepharicnema splendens*  
(Calliphoridae: Calliphorinae, Luciliini) from  
Colombia**

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**AMAT, Eduardo\* and Marta WOLFF\*\***

\*Programa Inventarios de la Biodiversidad, Instituto de Investigación de recursos  
Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt, Claustro de San Agustín Villa de Leiva, Boyacá.  
Colombia; e-mail: ecamat@humboldt.org.co

\*\*Laboratorio Colecciones Entomológicas-GIEM, Universidad de Antioquia, Medellín,  
Colombia; e-mail: mwolff@matematicas.udea.edu.co

**Nuevos registros de *Blepharicnema splendens* (Calliphoridae:  
Calliphorinae, Luciliini)  
en Colombia**

■ **RESUMEN.** Se revisa la distribución geográfica del califórido *Blepharicnema splendens* Macquart, 1843, en Colombia. Se informan nuevos registros y se presenta un mapa de distribución de la especie en Suramérica.

**PALABRAS CLAVE.** Califórido. Mapa de distribución. Nuevos registros.

■ **ABSTRACT.** The distribution of the blow fly *Blepharicnema splendens* Macquart, 1843 in Colombia is revised, new records are reported, and a distributional map of the species is provided.

**KEY WORDS.** Blow fly. Distributional map. New records.

The Neotropical monotypic genus *Blepharicnema* was originally described by Macquart (1843) based on the single species *B. splendens* with unknown type locality. Townsend (1937) considered Colombia as a possible type locality. James (1970) listed it from Andean Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. The species was redescribed by Mariluis (1979) based on specimens of both sexes from Bolivia and Venezuela. Since then no geographical and ecological information has been added about this species.

*Blepharicnema splendens* is a robust fly, easily recognized by its appreciable size and the hairy legs. It is possibly the largest blowfly in the neotropics. Little is known about its biology, but it seems to be strongly attracted

by fish as bait as evidenced by the specimen labels and ours collections in field. Peris (1992) incorrectly indicated rain forest of Neotropical region as habitat, actually species distribution is restricted to Neotropical Andean mountains forest up to 2500 meter above level sea (Fig.1); according to the biogeographical classification of Morrone (2001) the species belongs to Andean Province. Pape *et al.* (2004) published the first check list of Colombian blowflies reporting only one record of *B. splendens* from Putumayo province. All specimens reviewed here were collected in relatively little disturbed natural habitats and the species shows no tendency toward synanthropic behavior. Immature stages still

remain undescribed.

Forty nine specimens of *Blepharicnema splendens* from seven provinces of Colombia were studied, the material examined is deposited in the following entomological collections: Universidad de Antioquia, Medellín, Antioquia (CEUA), Instituto Alexander von Humboldt, Villa de Leyva, Boyacá (IAvH), Universidad Nacional de Colombia Sede Medellín, Museo «Francisco Luis Gallego» (MEFLG) and Museo de Historia Natural, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Cundinamarca (MPUJ).

The redescription by Mariluis (1979) was used for species identification, the map was developed using DIVA-GIS version 4.5 (Hijmans *et al.* 2006), earlier records founded in literature and specimens from others zoology museums are also indicated on the map.

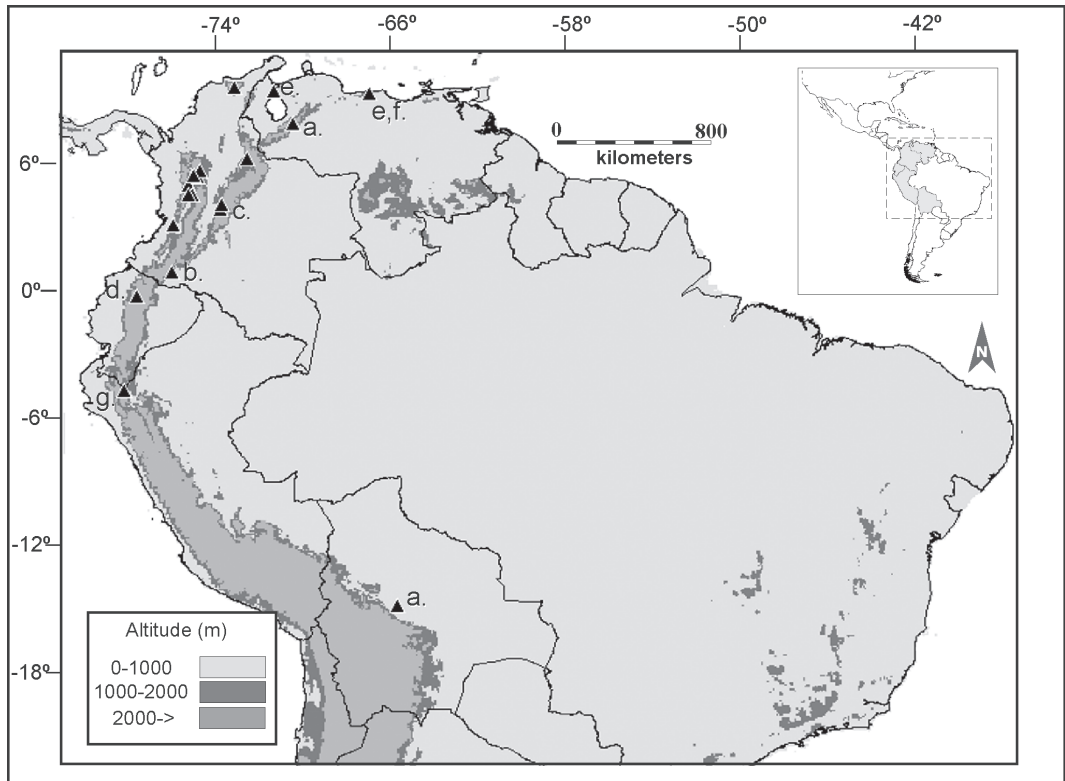
### New Records

**COLOMBIA. Antioquia:** Medellín, San Antonio de Prado, Vda El astillero. 2400m iii.2004 Pitfall. M Castaño.leg., 1 male, (CEUA). Medellín, San Antonio de Prado, Vda Potrerito. 2400m. 9.i.2002 Manual. M Castaño.leg., 1 female, (CEUA). El retiro. Sn Seb de la Castellana, Bosque Natural. 2500m 6.v.2004 Julio C. Saenz.leg., 1 female, (MEFLG). Andes, Vereda La secreta. 1800m 25.ix.2000 Potrero Red. F Villareal. Leg., 1 female, (MEFLG). Barbosa Vda Los charcos. 1200m 5.xi.2006 Jama al Vuelo D. Restrepo.leg., 1 female, (MEFLG). Andes. 1350 m Jama (en Cafetal) i.2002 S. Montoya.leg., 1 male, (MEFLG). **Caldas:** Manizales, Vda Las Palmas, Reserva Rio Blanco. (5°7'6''N 75°43'9''W). 2592m. 3.iv.2005. Manual. Forensic entomology field practice at CEUA. 2 males (CEUA). Manizales, Vda Las Palmas, Reserva Rio Blanco. 5°7'6''N 75°43'9''W. 2592m 4.iv.2005 Manual. Forensic entomology field practice at CEUA. 1 male, (CEUA). Manizales, Vda Las Palmas, Reserva Rio Blanco. (5°7'6''N 75°43'9''W). 2592m. 3.iv.2005. Van Somer Rydon. Forensic entomology field practice at CEUA. 2 females, (CEUA). **Cundinamarca:** Fusagasuga Ins Policia La

Aguadita, Vda Los Robles Finca La Carbonera. (04°24'52.6'' N 74°18'38.2'' W) 2470m 12.vii.2006 bait Trap (fish head) 10:00am F Forero.leg., 1 female, (IAVH). Parque Natural Chicaque. 2do transecto. 2200m M Velasco.leg., 2 females, 2 males, (MPUJ). Parque Natural Chicaque. 2200m 14.iv.2000 Manual. Eduardo G.leg., 1 female, (MPUJ). Parque Natural Chicaque. 2200m 14.iv.2000 S Ballesteros. 1 female (MPUJ). Parque Natural Chicaque. 2200m 14.iv.2000 J Sosa.leg., 1 male, (MPUJ). **Magdalena:** PNN Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, El Ramo. (10°48' N 73°39' W) 2500m malaise 30.iii.5.v.2001 J Cantillo. Leg., 2 females, (IAVH). **Risaralda:** Santuario de Fauna y Flora Otun-Quimbaya. 1890m. 7.v.2001 Van Somer Rydon, Baited with fish. Oak Forest. 4 females, (CEUA). **Santander:** Piedecuesta, Vda Cristales, Finca Rasgon, Bosque, 2290-2390m, 8-VIII-2001, Van Somer Rydon, baited with fish. Duque & Velez. leg., 6 males, (CEUA). Piedecuesta, Vda Cristales, Finca Rasgon, Bosque. 2290-2390m 8.viii 2001. Van Somer Rydon, baited with fish. Duque & Velez. Leg., 6 females, (CEUA). Piedecuesta, Vda Cristales, Finca Rasgon, Bosque. 2290-2390m 8.viii 2001 Pit fall, baited with fish. Duque & Velez. Leg., 2 females, (CEUA). Piedecuesta, Vda Cristales, Finca Rasgon, Bosque. 2290-2390m 8.viii 2001 Pit fall, baited with fish. Duque & Velez. Leg., 8 females, (CEUA). **Valle del Cauca:** PNN Farallones de Cali Cgto La Meseta (3°34' N 76°40' W) 2080m. Malaise 26.xi.10.xii.2003. S Sarria & M Losso. Leg., 1 female, (IAVH).

### Distributional records

The following specimens are deposited in Zoologisk Museum, Kovenhavns Universitet, Copenhagen, Denmark (ZMUC). Museu de Zoologia Univerisdade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil (MZUSP) Museu Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (MNRJ). Records found in literature from Walker (1858) in Ecuador, Mariluis (1979), Mariluis & Peris (1984) in Bolivia and Venezuela, and Amanzo *et al.* (2003) in Peru, are also indicated on the map.



**Fig. 1.** Distribution of *Blepharicnema splendens* Macquart, 1843 in South America. **a.** records from Mariluis & Peris, (1984); **b.** record from Pape *et al.* 2004; **c.** record from MNPI; **d.** record from Walker, 1858 cited by James, (1970); **e.** records from (ZMUC); **f.** record from (MZUSP); **g.** record from Amanzo *et al* (2003); New records without small letter.

**BOLIVIA. Cochabamba:** Chapare, 2000m Martínez. 1 male (Mariluis & Peris, 1984). **COLOMBIA Putumayo:** Mun Mocoa (1°4' N76°44' W) 1850m malaise 1-I-1999 7-I-1999, E Gonzáles.leg., 1 female (IAVH). **Cundinamarca:** Bogotá, III-1912. H. Apolinar. Leg., 1 female. H.S.Lopes det (MNRJ). **ECUADOR. Pichincha:** Quito. Synonym as *Cynomyia auriceps* Walker, 1858 cited by James (1970). **PERU. Cajamarca:** San Ignacio, Distrito de Namballe, Cuenca del Rio Chinchipe (5°10'44.3'»S 79°9'46.5"W) 2003, Trampa con cebo de res. Acosta, R. Leg., 1 (unknown sex). Huanta J. det (Amanzo *et al.* 2003). **VENEZUELA. Maracaibo:** Witzke leg. [No date] 1 female. (ZMUC). **Distrito Federal, Caracas,** Drews col. [no date] 3 females, (ZMUC). **Distrito Federal, Caracas,** Monte Avila, 2700m. 10-IX-1976, J. Kugler.leg., 1 female, 1 male (MZUSP). **Merida,** Santo Domingo,

Quebrada La Campana, VI-1975, Martínez.leg., 1 female (Mariluis & Peris, 1984).

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