

## A new species of *Diaphania* Hübner, 1818 from Ecuador (Lepidoptera: Crambidae: Spilomelinae)

ROGER VILA<sup>1</sup>, FRANCISCO PIÑAS<sup>2</sup> & JOSÉ A. CLAVIJO<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, U.S.A. [rvila@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:rvila@fas.harvard.edu)

<sup>2</sup> Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Departamento de Ciencias Biológicas, Quito, Ecuador

<sup>3</sup> Museo del Instituto de Zoología Agrícola Francisco Fernández Yépez, Facultad de Agronomía, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Maracay, Apdo. 4579, Aragua, 2101A, Venezuela. [clamiche@telcel.net.ve](mailto:clamiche@telcel.net.ve)

### Abstract

*Diaphania yurakyana* n. sp. (Lepidoptera: Crambidae: Spilomelinae) is described from the tropical rainforest of Ecuador. This species is closely related to *D. argealis* (Walker, 1859), *D. interpositalis* (Hampson, 1912), and *D. novicialis* (Schaus, 1912). The female, immature stages, and larval host-plant are unknown.

### Resumen

Se describe *Diaphania yurakyana* n. sp. (Lepidoptera: Crambidae: Spilomelinae) de la región tropical de Ecuador. Esta especie es cercana a *D. argealis* (Walker, 1859), *D. interpositalis* (Hampson, 1912) y *D. novicialis* (Schaus, 1912). La hembra, las fases inmaduras, y la planta nutricia de la larva son desconocidas.

**Key words:** Crambidae, Spilomelinae, *Diaphania*, taxonomy, new species, Cucurbitaceae, Ecuador, Neotropical, South America

### Introduction

The genus *Diaphania* Hübner, 1818 includes about 100 described species, distributed mainly in the Neotropical region (Clavijo 1990; Munroe 1995). Three are considered pests of cucurbitaceous crops (Clavijo *et al.* 1995). All species of *Diaphania* share a simple bicolored wing pattern with a combination of black or brown, and white or yellow. The forewing costa and usually the distal forewing margins are dark, with a contrasting pale portion in the middle of the wing (Clavijo 1990; Arias & Clavijo 2001). The purposes of