



Revision of *Neodischistus* Painter, 1933 (Diptera, Bombyliidae, Bombyliinae)

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Abstract

The Neotropical genus *Neodischistus* Painter has a distribution restricted to South (Brazil and Argentina) and Central America (Panama). The genus is composed of two previously described species that are herein revised: *N. currani* Painter and *N. collaris* Painter. One new Brazilian species is described: *N. marstoni* **sp. nov.** Illustrations of the external morphology of adults and male and female terminalia are also included. An identification key to the species is presented and a short discussion about species distributions is added.

Key words: *Neodischistus currani*; *Neodischistus collaris*; *Neodischistus marstoni* **sp. nov.**; Neotropical; taxonomy; beeﬂies

Introduction

Bombyliidae, or beeﬂies, are one of the largest families of Diptera, including more than 4500 species (Evenhuis & Greathead, 1999). Bombyliidae are worldwide in distribution, found nearly everywhere except in the colder areas of the north and south (McAlpine, 1981). Despite this great diversity, the Neotropical region is still poorly studied with only 450 recorded species. (Evenhuis & Greathead, 2003)

The Neotropical genus *Neodischistus*, herein revised, is composed of small, dark brown ﬂies with shining bluish black mesonotum and tergites, subapical stylus and patches of silver scales on each side of the face, just below the insertion of the antennae.

Painter (1933) erected the genus *Neodischistus* to include two new species: *N. currani*, found in the Canal region of Panama and Santiago del Estero, Argentina and *N. collaris*, found in Tucuman, Argentina and Aquidauana, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brasil.

Based on material deposited in the “Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP), São Paulo (Brazil) but without examination of types, Marston (1961) redescribed *N. currani* and the female of *N. collaris*. This author also described the male of the latter species and described and illustrated the male terminalia of both known species.

Hull (1973) divided the Bombyliinae in 11 tribes, and placed *Neodischistus* among the Dischistini. He also presented a redescription of the genus and included it in the identification key of Bombyliinae.

Bowden (1985) presented a new classification for the tribes of Bombyliinae, reducing the 11 initially proposed by Hull (1973) to just two: Bombyliini and Dischistini. The genus *Neodischistus* was kept among the Dischistini.

Evenhuis & Greathead (1999) moved *Neodischistus* to the Bombyliini following the results obtained by Yeates (1994). Yeates (1994) proposed, for the first time, a classification of the Bombyliidae based on cladistic analysis. The results showed that the “Dischistini” is not a monophyletic group.

Analyzing material deposited in the MZUSP collections, including the specimens previously examined by Marston (1961), and in the Department of Zoology of the “Universidade Federal do Paraná” (DZUP), Paraná (Brazil), together with the examination of the Holotype of *N. collaris*, the authors were able to find large