

# A new species of *Calloconophora* Dietrich (Hemiptera, Membracidae) from the semi-arid region of northeastern Brazil<sup>1</sup>

Antonio José Creao-Duarte<sup>2</sup> & Rembrandt Romano D. A. Rothéa<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Departamento de Sistemática e Ecologia. Centro de Ciências Exatas e da Natureza, Universidade Federal da Paraíba, Campus I. 58059-900 João Pessoa-PB. creaoduarte@yahoo.com.br

<sup>3</sup>CNPq fellowship. rradr@terra.com.br

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**ABSTRACT.** A new species of *Calloconophora* Dietrich (Hemiptera, Membracidae) from the semi-arid region of northeastern Brazil<sup>1</sup>. A new species of treehopper, *Calloconophora gaudencia* sp. nov., from Araruna, Paraíba State, is described and illustrated.

**KEYWORDS.** Aconophorini; Caatinga; Homoptera; Membracinae; Taxonomy.

**RESUMO.** Uma nova espécie de *Calloconophora* Dietrich (Hemiptera, Membracidae) do semi-árido do nordeste do Brasil. *Calloconophora gaudencia* sp. nov., coletada em Araruna-PB, é descrita e ilustrada.

**PALAVRAS-CHAVE.** Aconophorini; Caatinga; Homoptera; Membracinae; Taxonomia.

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*Calloconophora* Dietrich (in Dietrich & Deitz, 1991) is a genus closely related to *Aconophora* Fairmaire, 1846 and *Guayaquila* Goding, 1920. The main character that distinguishes it from the others is the basal half of forewings entirely and densely punctuate. In McKamey's (1998) catalogue, 17 species are recorded, all restricted to the Neotropical region, being distributed from south of Mexico to Argentina. In the present work a new species is described based on specimens collected in the municipalities of Araruna and São José dos Cordeiros, both located in a semi-arid region (Caatinga) in the State of Paraíba.

The abbreviations mentioned in the text are: DSE - Departamento de Sistemática e Ecologia; UFPB - Universidade Federal da Paraíba.

## *Calloconophora gaudencia* sp. nov. (Figs. 1a, b, c)

Measurements (in mm). Female/male. Body length: 8.95/6.65; pronotum length: 7.92/5.50; pronotum height: 3.72/2.30; forewing length: 5.70/4.60; head width: 3.09/2.61; head height: 1.14/1.11; distance between humeral angles: 3.49/2.93.

**Diagnosis.** Male with anterior process short, more or less triangular; aedeagus U-shaped, corona with two projections turned cephalad, gonopore membrane projected and without microtrichia. Female with anterior process well developed, in lateral view falciform, parallel-sided, apex rounded.

**Holotype male.** Color. Head, pronotum, thorax, and abdomen reddish brown. Margin of pronotal horn black. Forewings with membrane smoky-hyaline, slightly yellow, with maculae on second apical cell and on anterior edge of limbus. Legs, except coxa and trochanter, yellow.

Body densely pubescent, including forewings. Head twice as wide as long; ocelli closer to eyes than to each other; posclypeus deflected downwards, without transversal fold. Pronotum, in lateral view, with anterior process short, subtriangular, projected upwards and forwards, with laminate margins. Posterior process gradually tapering, apex not exceeding 5th apical cell. Metopidium with two supraocular callosities. Forewings with basal half entirely and densely punctate. Legs with pro- and mesothoracic tibiae subfoliaceous; setal formula of posterior tibia 4-5: 7-8:0. Abdomen with transverse carina on sternum IV. Genitalia: aedeagus U-shaped, with median carina on anterior face, apex not elevated, corona with two projections directed cephalad; gonopore membrane produced and without microtrichia.

**Female.** Pronotal horn well developed, in lateral view, falciform, margins distinctly laminate, parallel-sided, about three times longer than wide, apex rounded.

**Comments.** This species is similar to *Calloconophora rubricornis* Dietrich, 1991, especially the female, in having the anterior process almost as long as the posterior process, and distinctly laminate. The male, on the other hand, presents the anterior process very short, represented by a triangular-laminar projection above the metopidium. The apex of aedeagus is not elevated, and the gonopore membrane projected.

**Host plant.** The specimens were collected on *Mimosa* sp. (Leguminosae, Mimosaceae).

**Etymology.** The species is named in honor of Dr. Rogéria Gaudencia do Rêgo (UFPB).

**Holotype male.** “Parque Estadual, Pedra da Boca / Araruna, Paraíba/22-23.X.2003 / Rothéa & O. Souza” (UFPB/DSE). Paratypes: 35 males and 27 females (UFPB/DSE) and 5 males and 5 females (DZUP with same data as holotype); 4 females, “Fazenda. Almas, São José dos Cordeiros / Paraíba (7° 28' S 36° 53' W) / 03-04.V.2003 / Rothéa, R. Col.” (UFPB/DSE).

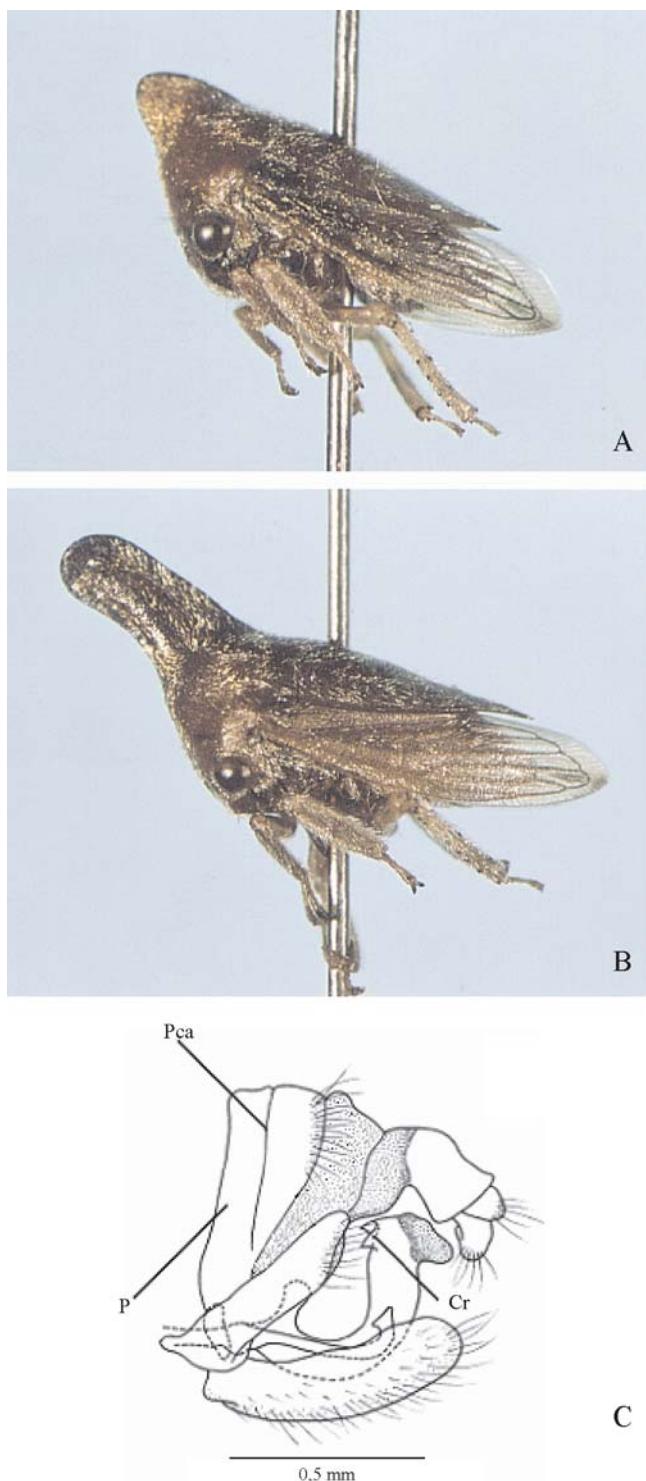


Fig 1. *Calloconophora gaudencia* sp. n. A - Holotype male; B - Paratype female; C - Male genitalia; Cr - corona; P - Pygofer; Pca - Pygofer carina.

## REFERENCES

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