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A new species of *Astemma* from Argentina (Heteroptera: Largidae: Larginae)

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ABSTRACT

A new species of genus *Astemma* is described from Argentina. A photograph of habitus and illustration of male genitalia are included.
Key words. Heteroptera, Largidae, *Astemma,* new species

INTRODUCTION

The Largidae occur in all major zoogeographic regions, but are more diverse in the tropics and subtropics (Schuh & Slater, 1995). Little is known about the biology of most species in this group (Yonke, 1991), recently Coscarón *et al.* (2004) described and illustrated instars of *Largus rufipennis* Laporte based on specimens from Ibera watershed (Corrientes, Argentina).

The genus *Astemma* Lepeletier & Serville comprises six species of Neotropical distribution. This genus is characterized by long body, pedunculate eyes, strongly declivent head, head and pronotum with many long black setae, and profemora armed ventrally.

During a field trip to Col. C. Pellegrini (28°32'S 57°09'W), San Martín department, Corrientes province, we collected a male specimen of this genus that is here described as a new species. The holotype is deposited at Museo de La Plata, Argentina.

Astemma sanmartini n. sp.
Figs. 1-5

Description.— Fig. 1. Total length: 8.48 mm. Head length: 1.60 mm. Head width: 1.97 mm. Head black, covered with fine, semi adpressed, silvery hairs intermixed with black long erect setae. Interocular space: 1.23. Antenna black, except segment I basally brown. Antennal length: seg. I, 2.23 mm; seg. II, 1.03 mm; seg. III, 0.70 mm; seg. IV, 1.77 mm. Rostrum brown, reaching the mesocoxae. Rostral length: seg. I, 0.75 mm; seg. II, 0.75 mm; seg. III, 0.83 mm; seg. IV, 0.48 mm. Pronotum and scutellum covered with similar pubescence and black setae as on head. Anterior pronotal lobe black, posterior pronotal lobe brown with dark punctures. Humeral angles rounded. Length of anterior and posterior pronotal lobe: 1 mm, 1.1 mm, respectively. Width of anterior and posterior pronotal lobe: 2 mm, 2.83 mm respectively. Scutellum black, punctate. Hemelytra with short, semi-adpressed and erect short silvery hairs; clavus brown, corium creamish except lateral margin and a transverse broad band dark brown, membrane creamish with two transverse bands dark brown. Legs bicolored: coxae, trochanters and

femora, orange; apex of femora, tibiae and tarsi dark brown; covered with short and long whitish hairs. Profemora slightly incrassate with three spines on distal half. Pleurae dark brown, with silvery hairs, acetabular area and metapleurae lighter. Metapleural scent gland auricle protruding and contrastingly orange. Abdomen bicolored, each pregenital segment brown anteriorly and creamish posteriorly; finally adpressed pilosity. Abdominal length: 4.43 mm. Abdominal width: 2.67. Male genitalia: Pygophore (figs. 2, 3) dark brown, pilose, dorsal aperture as seen in fig. 2. Parameres (figs. 4, 5) strongly curved.

Types.— Holotype male, Corrientes, Coll. C. Pellegrini, 05-V-2002, coll. Dellapé.

Distribution.— Argentina, Corrientes province.

Discussion.— This is the fifth genus of this family recorded from Argentina, in addition to *Acinocoris* Hahn, *Largus* Hahn, *Stenomacra* Stal and *Thaumastaneis* Kirkaldy & Edwards.

This species run to couplet 2 in Brailovsky & Barrera's (1993) key to the species of *Astemma.* This species and *Astemma pallidula* Brailovsky & Barrera are the only ones in the genus with rounded humeral angles (the rest have acute humeral angles), and the new species can be easily distinguished by the coloration pattern of the hemelytra, as *A. pallidula* has uniformly pale yellow clavus and corium.

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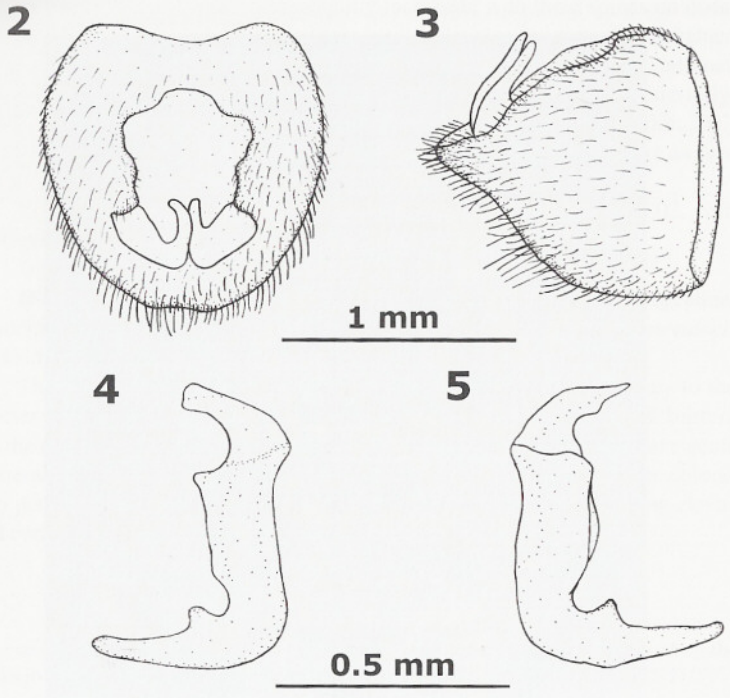
Fig. 1. *Astemma sanmartini*, habitus.



Figs. 2-5. *Astemma sanmartini*, male genitalia. 2, pygophore, dorsal view; 3, pygophore, lateral view; 4, right paramere, inner view; 5, right paramere, outer view.