

A new range extension for *Erythromelana distincta* Inclan (Tachinidae)

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The blondeline genus *Erythromelana* Townsend is widely distributed in the Neotropical Region, being recorded from southern Mexico to northern Argentina. The genus can be recognized within Central America using the keys of Wood (1985) and Wood & Zumbado (2010). Fourteen species, 11 of them newly described, were recognized in the recent revision of the genus by Inclan & Stireman (2013). The species of interest here, *E. distincta* Inclan (Fig. 1), can be recognized from all other *Erythromelana* species by its black and yellow abdominal coloration and the presence of setae on the dorsum of vein R_1 . *Erythromelana distincta* was described from 38 specimens ranging from Costa Rica to southern Brazil; more specifically, it was recorded from Costa Rica, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru and Brazil (red dots in Fig. 2). It was reported to occur at low to mid elevations (Napo, Ecuador, 250 m; Puntarenas, Costa Rica, 1600 m).

In a recent visit to the Texas A&M University Insect Collection (College Station, Texas), I found a single specimen of *E. distincta* from Mexico. The specimen was collected at the Biological Station "Los Cedros" in Gomez Farias, Tamaulipas (blue dot in Fig. 2). The single label of this specimen reads: "Mexico: Tamps. Est. Biol./ Los Cedros, Gomez Farias/ 350 m, VII-27-30-1993/ J. B. Woodley & K. Wilse/ 93/022, yellow pan trap" (slash lines indicating line breaks). This is the only specimen of *E. distincta* known from Mexico and represents the most northern record of the species. Additionally, this is the first specimen of this species collected by a yellow pan trap.

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Figure 1. Lateral view of a female *Erythromelana distincta* Inclan.

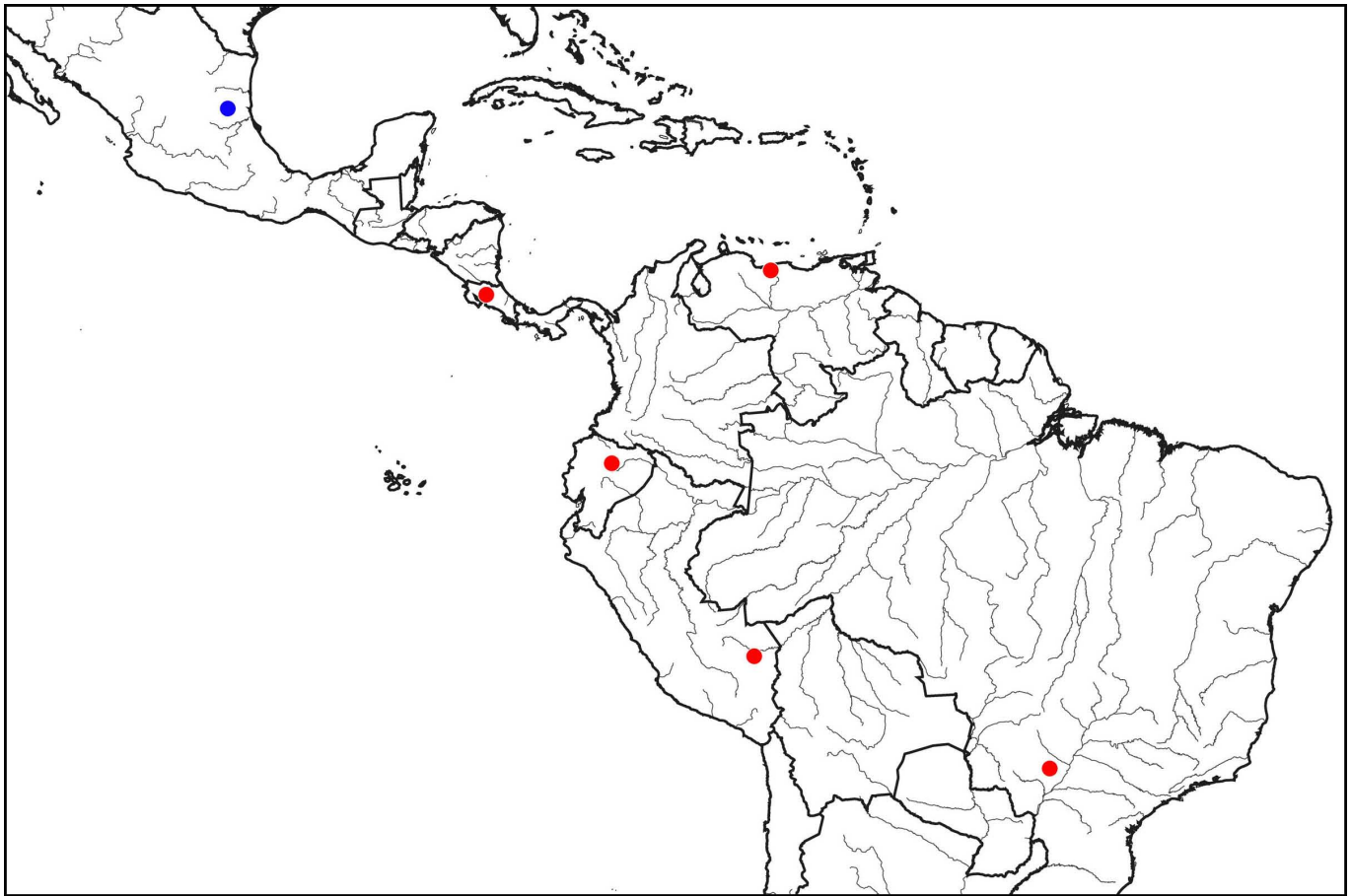


Figure 2. Known distribution of *Erythromelana distincta* Inclan. Red dots indicate previously known locality records and the blue dot indicates the new record from Mexico.

References

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