

**A NEW SPECIES OF AZYA MULSANT FROM BRAZIL  
(COLEOPTERA, COCCINELLIDAE) FEEDING ON PULVINARIA  
PARANAENSIS HEMPEL (HOMOPTERA, COCCIDAE) ON  
ILEX PARAGUARIENSIS ST.HIL. (AQUIFOLIACEAE) <sup>1</sup>**

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ABSTRACT. *Azya ilicis* sp.n. from Brazil, is described. The new taxon is integrated into the most recent key to species.

KEY WORDS. Coleoptera, Coccinellidae, *Azya*, Homoptera, Coccidae, new species

The genus *Azya* Mulsant contains thirteen Neotropical species. Most of them are of potential importance for biological control and have been introduced to other regions of the world. A new species from Bituruna and Cruz Machado, Paraná State, Brazil, was found feeding voraciously on *Pulvinaria paranaensis* Hempel, 1929 from *Ilex paraguariensis* St.Hil., an important crop in southern Brazil. Gordon (1980) listed several scales as hosts of *Azya*, but *Pulvinaria paranaensis* Hempel is here recorded for the first time. In this paper the newest member of the genus is described and a detailed morphological study of the male and female genitalia is presented and illustrated. The new taxon is integrated into Gordon's key to species.

The following acronyms are used for the institutes where the material is deposited: (DZUP) Coleção de Entomologia Pe. J.S. Moure, Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil; (MZSP) Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil.

***Azya ilicis* sp.n.**

Figs 1-4

**Holotype.** Male, length 3.33mm, width 3.00mm. Form oval. Dorsal surface black, clothed with dense, semi-decumbent white and short pubescence, with a large discal spot composed of black hairs, not reaching humeral callus and extending a little beyond the mid-length of elytron (Fig. 1). Venter black except mouths parts, legs and abdomen yellow. Abdomen with postcoxal lines incomplete, extending downwards almost to hind margin of 1st sternum. Genitalia with basal lobe shorter

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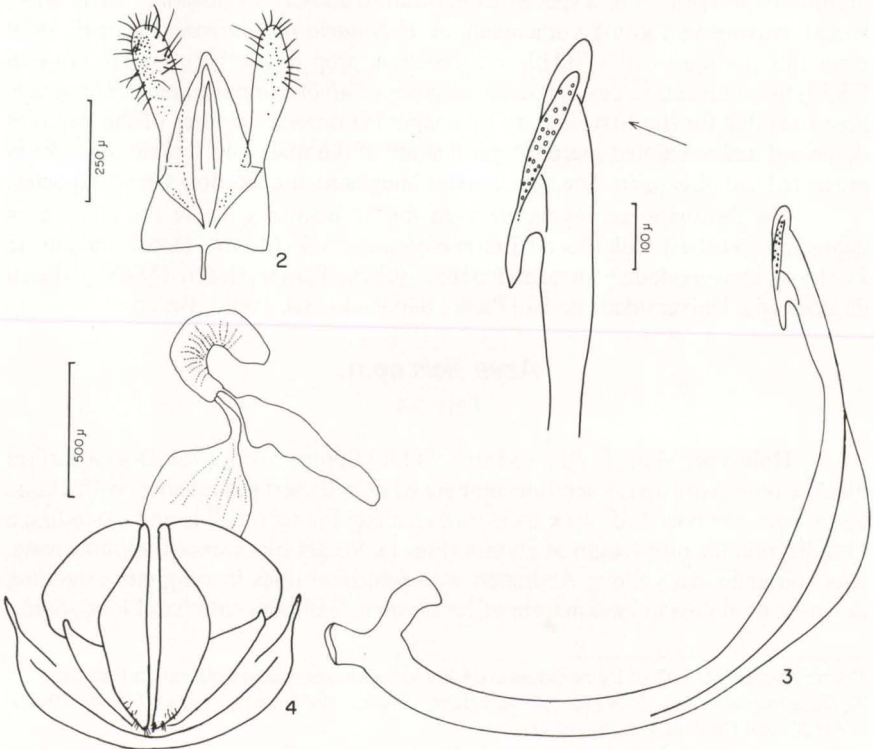
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Fig. 1. *Azya ilicis* sp.n. Holotype.



Figs 2-4. *Azya ilicis* sp.n.. (2) Basal lobe; (3) siphon; (4) female genitalia.

than paramere, broad at base, abruptly narrowing at apex, paramere narrow at base with short pubescence (Fig. 2); apex of siphon with a ventral flap before apex (Fig. 3).

Female. Similar to male. Genitalia with apex of spermathecal capsule broader than base; genital plate elongate, triangular (Fig. 4).

Type material. Holotype male, BRAZIL, Paraná: Bituruna, 2-XII-1992, Klobukoski leg. (DZUP). Paratypes, same data as holotype: 3 males, 2 females (DZUP); 2 males, 1 female (MZSP). Cruz Machado, 2 males, 3 females, 27-XI-1991, Kocekoski leg. (DZUP); 1 male, 2 females (MZSP).

Variation. Length 2.92mm to 3.58mm; width 2.58mm to 3.33mm.

Remarks. This species is similar in appearance to *A. scutata* Mulsant, 1850 but in *A. ilicis* the discal spot only extends a little beyond the mid-length of elytron; the basal lobe is broad at base; the apex of paramere is broad, and the apex of siphon has a large flap at base. In *A. scutata* the discal spot extends over 2/3 of the elytral length; the basal lobe is thin; the apex of paramere is equal to the basal width, and the siphon has a thickened area near apex.

The key to species of *Azya* in GORDON (1980) should be modified as follows to include the new species:

10. Elytron with coarse punctures intermixed with fine punctures on disc; body narrowed apically; Peru . . . . . *satipoi*
- Elytron without coarse punctures on disc; body round . . . . . 11
11. Elytral spot extending over 2/3 of the elytral length . . . . . *scutata*
- Elytral spot extending only a little beyond middle of elytral length . . . *ilicis* **sp.n.**
12. Dorsum covered with brown pubescence, appearing glabrous . . . . . *exuta*
- Dorsum covered with dense, white pubescence . . . . . 13
13. Dorsal pubescence long; Mexico . . . . . *mexicana*
- Dorsal pubescence short; Colombia . . . . . *murilloi*

## REFERENCES

- GORDON, R.D. 1980. The tribe Azyini (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae): historical review and taxonomic revision. **Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc.** **106**: 149-203.