



CONTRIBUTION TO A GENERIC  
REVISION OF THE NEOTROPICAL  
MILESINAE (DIPTERA: SYRPHIDAE).

(Order No. 70-8636)

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A revised generic classification of the Neotropical Milesinae is proposed. Nine tribes, six subtribes and forty-two genera are recognized and keys to these taxa are provided. Detailed descriptions of the tribes and genera, along with a discussion of the new characters used, are included. The male genitalia and some of the other principal characters for almost all the genera are figured.

Zoogeography of the Neotropical milesine fauna is discussed. The gross statistics of the fauna are compared to those of other regions and these statistics indicate a long-isolated fauna. The distributional patterns and phylogenetic relationships of the Neotropical genera are also analyzed and these patterns and relationships support a Nearctic origin for almost all of the South American milesine flies. Continental Drift and its possible effect on the Neotropical fauna is also briefly reviewed. Finally the transition between the Nearctic and Neotropical milesine fauna is examined and this transition appears to consist of predominantly Neotropical groups that have moved northward, whereas only one Nearctic group has moved southward in the transitional zone.

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