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Description of four new species of *Ninyas* from Venezuela, a key to the known species and some new records (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Geocoridae)

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BRAILOVSKY H. 2013: Description of four new species of *Ninyas* from Venezuela, a key to the known species and some new records (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Geocoridae). In: KMENT P., MALENOVSKÝ I. & KOLIBÁČ J. (eds.): Studies in Hemiptera in honour of Pavel Lauterer and Jaroslav L. Stehlík. *Acta Musei Moraviae, Scientiae biologicae* (Brno) **98(2):** 395–406. – Four new species of *Ninyas* Distant, 1882 (Geocoridae), *N. nigricans* sp.nov., *N. reclusus* sp.nov., *N. solitarius* sp.nov. and *N. stehliki* sp.nov., all from Venezuela, are described. New distributional records for *N. distanti* Montandon, 1907 from Peru and *N. torvus* Distant, 1893 from Venezuela are added. A key to the 14 known species of *Ninyas* is included. Sexually dimorphic features are commented upon.

Keywords. Insecta, Hemiptera, Heteroptera, Lygaeoidea, Geocoridae, *Ninyas*, new species, new records, key, dimorphism, Venezuela, Neotropical Region

Introduction

The genus *Ninyas* Distant, 1882 is currently classified in the family Geocoridae, superfamily Lygaeoidea (HENRY 1997). Members of this genus are small to medium-sized (3–5.5 mm) and are recognized by: "polished" body; eyes pedunculate, reniform, transversely straight, and remote from anterior angles of pronotum; portion of head bearing eyes extending laterally and constricted; ocellus closer to medial line; claval commissure well defined; outer and inner margins and apical third of clavus punctate; corium with a row of punctures along margin adjacent to clavus and another row of punctures extending from base approximately through central area and curving towards apex of corium.

All the species of *Ninyas* are similar in shape and are variable in colour, and in addition to the variation in colour there is a striking difference in some populations in the degree of opacity of the corium. Most specimens have a transparent corium but in some the corium is completely opaque. Members of this genus are usually taken by beating from trees and shrubs (BARANOWSKI & SLATER 2005).

Ninyas currently contains 10 described species widely distributed in the Neotropical region including the West Indies (Great and Lesser Antilles): *N. deficiens* (Lethierry, 1881) (Bahama Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe Island, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and St. Lucia); *N. distanti* Montandon, 1907 (Brazil); *N. dominicanus* Baranowski, 2005 (Dominican Republic); *N. humeralis* Barber, 1947 (Cuba); *N. obrieni* Baranowski, 2005 (Puerto Rico); *N. punctatus* Baranowski, 2005 (Martinique); *N. solubilis* Distant, 1893 (Panama); *N. strabo* Distant, 1882 (Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Hispaniola, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, and Puerto Rico); *N. torvus*

Distant, 1893 (Panama); and *N. woodruffi* Baranowski, 2005 (Dominican Republic) (Baranowski & Slater 2005; Barber 1939, 1947; Barber & Ashlock 1960; Distant 1882, 1893; Froeschner 1999; Montandon 1907; Slater 1964).

Ninyas has not been previously recorded from Venezuela. In the present paper four new species are described and in addition *N. torvus* is here cited for the first time from Venezuela, and *N. distanti* from Peru. A key to all known species is included and comments on sexual dimorphism are added.

Materials and methods

The material examined is deposited in the following collections:

AMNH . . . . . American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA
BMNH . . . . . Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom
HNHM . . . . . Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary
IZAV . . . . . Instituto de Zoología Agrícola, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Maracay, Edo. Aragua, Venezuela
TAMU . . . . . Texas A & M University (College Station), Texas, USA
UCDC . . . . . University of California, Davis, Bohart Museum of Entomology, California, USA
UNAM . . . . . Instituto de Biología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México City, México
USNM . . . . . Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., USA

Taxonomy

Ninyas stehliki sp.nov. (Fig. 10)

Type material. Holotype: ♂, **Venezuela: Estado de Aragua:** Parque Nacional Rancho Grande, Estación de Biología, 1,100 m a.s.l., 16.vi.1983, C. Bordon (UNAM). Paratypes: **Venezuela: Aragua:** Rancho Grande, 20 km NW of Maracay, 1,100 m a.s.l., at lights, 23.vii.1976, 1 ♂, M. H. Sweet (TAMU); Rancho Grande, 1,300 m a.s.l., 14.vii.1979, 1 ♂, R. O. Schuster and A. Grigarick (UCDC); Rancho Grande, 1,100 m a.s.l., 20.ix.1949, 1 ♂ 1 ♀, F. Fernandez and P. Fenives (IZAV); Rancho Grande, 1,100 m a.s.l., 1.iv.1966, 1 ♂ 1 ♀, J. and B. Bechyne (IZAV); Rancho Grande, 1,100 m a.s.l., 7.vii.1976, 1 ♀, J. Gonzalez (IZAV); Rancho Grande, 1200–1400 m a.s.l., 13.viii.1988, 4 ♀♀, C. W. and L. O'Brien and G. J. Wibmer (UNAM); Villa de Gura, Est. Exp. Cataurito, 1.000 m a.s.l., 19.vi.1985, 2 ♂♂ 1 ♀, 16.i.1980, 1 ♀, J. L. Garcia (IZAV); Portachuelo, 1,120 m a.s.l., 14.viii.1988, 2 ♀♀, C. W. and L. O'Brien and G. J. Wibmer (UNAM); El Limon, 850 m a.s.l., 23.ix.1970, 1 ♀, J. and B. Bechyne (IZAV). **Carabobo:** Canoabo, 19.iii.1969, 1 ♂ 1 ♀, J. and B. Bechyne (IZAV); San Esteban (Las Quiguas), 184 m a.s.l., 5.–13.xi.1974, 1 ♀, J. Salcedo, R. Dietz and J. L. Garcia (IZAV).

Description. A relatively large species, up to 5 mm; elongate, parallel-sided, lateral corial margins weakly emarginate.

Male. Dorsal coloration. Head including the space behind eyes completely light pale yellow; eyes dull reddish; ocellar tubercle dull to light reddish; antennal segment I light pale yellow, segment II light brown, III with anterior half light brown and posterior half light pale yellow, and IV light brown with basal third light pale yellow. Anterior and posterior lobes of pronotum light pale yellow; darkened area restricted to a series of

punctures behind collar and a second transverse series behind callar area; posterior lobe with irregular, coarse, castaneous punctures; humeral angles with a light brown macula. Scutellum castaneous, heavily punctate except for an elevated, Y-shaped, yellowish-white callose area occupying much of scutellar disk. Clavus castaneous, opaque; corium transparent with a faint castaneous tinge; apical margin of corium with an incomplete brown band; hemelytral membrane transparent with a faint castaneous tinge, and with basal angle dark brown. Connexival segments and abdominal terga light pale yellow.

Ventral coloration. Including rostral segments (apex of IV light reddish), and legs (last tarsal segment light brown) light pale yellow; pro-, meso-, and metapleura with castaneous punctures; middle third of abdominal sterna with a faint castaneous tinge.

Structure. Head gently downward-sloping, slightly more than two times wider across eyes than long; clypeus extending just beyond middle of antennal segment I; rostrum reaching posterior third of mesosternum or anterior third of metasternum. Pronotum trapezoidal, bilobate; lateral margin of anterior lobe convex; lateral margins of posterior lobe straight; humeral angles obtuse; posterior margin almost straight. Hemelytral membrane extending markedly beyond apex of last abdominal segment.

Sculpture. Dorsal surface glabrous; head ventrally glabrous; thorax with a few erect hairs; femora moderately pilose with short, semi-erect setae; tibiae with long, erect setae; middle third of abdominal sternite III to VII covered with long, erect, dense and heavily compact setae. Head and abdomen impunctate. Thoracic pleura coarsely punctate.

Female. Coloration. Similar to male holotype. Dorsal abdominal segments and genital plates light pale yellow with faint castaneous tinge. Sculpture similar to male holotype except the middle third of abdominal sternite III to VII with short, scattered, semi-erect setae.

Variation. i) Antennal segment II light pale yellow and IV yellow with apical third light brown. ii) Rostral segments I–II light pale yellow, and III–IV light brown. iii) Acetabulae yellowish white. iv) Mesosternum castaneous. v) Pro-, meso-, and metapleura with reddish-brown punctures.

Measurements (mm). One male first, then one female. Body length 5.28, 5.30; head: length 0.72, 0.78, width (including eyes) 1.56, 1.62, preocular distance 0.40, 0.45, interocellar distance 0.44, 0.47; length of antennal segments: I – 0.32, 0.32, II – 0.64, 0.68, III – 0.60, 0.60, IV – 0.76, 0.64; pronotum: maximum length of anterior lobe 0.32, 0.29, maximum length of posterior lobe 0.64, 0.72, maximum width of anterior lobe 1.20, 1.20, maximum width of posterior lobe 1.56, 1.68; scutellum: length 0.72, 0.76, width 0.76, 0.84; length of claval commissure 0.32, 0.36.

Differential diagnosis. *Ninyas distanti* (Fig. 2) known from Brazil and *N. torvus* (Fig. 12) from Panama are species longer than 4.5 mm, sharing with *N. stehliki* sp.nov. the scutellum bearing an elevated and complete Y-shaped, yellowish-white callose area occupying much of scutellar disk, and the hemelytral membrane conspicuously extending beyond the apex of last abdominal segment and without a dark stripe running through the middle.

In *N. stehliki* sp.nov. (Fig. 10) described from Venezuela, the dorsal surface of head including the space behind eyes, and the anterior and posterior lobe of pronotum are light

pale yellow, the basal angle of the hemelytral membrane is dark brown, and the humeral angles bear a light brown macula.

In *N. distanti* the dorsal surface of head is dark brownish with apical portion pale light yellow, the anterior lobe of pronotal disk is entirely dark brownish-black, the posterior lobe bears a quadrate dark brown spot, the basal angle of the hemelytral membrane is castaneous-transparent, and the humeral angles are yellow without light brown macula.

In *N. torvus* the dorsal surface of head is pale reddish, the anterior lobe of the pronotum is pale reddish and laterally pale yellow, the middle third of the posterior lobe bears a quadrate, pale reddish spot, the basal angle of the hemelytral membrane is castaneous-transparent, and the humeral angles are yellow without light brown macula.

In addition, the dorsal abdominal segments of *N. stehliki* sp.nov. are entirely light pale yellow, while in the other two species those are yellow with black marks.

Etymology. I take this opportunity to name this species in honour of Dr. Jaroslav L. Stehlík, the distinguished Czech hemipterist, in recognition of his great entomological work, particularly on Largidae and Pyrrhocoridae.

Distribution. Known only from Venezuela (Aragua and Carabobo).

Ninyas nigricans sp.nov. (Fig. 4)

Type material. Holotype: ♀, **Venezuela: Carabobo:** Güique**,** 23.ii.1968, J. and B. Bechyne (IZAV).

Description. Small species, less than 3.50 mm; elongate, ovoid, lateral corial margins distinctly emarginate.

Female. Dorsal coloration. Head including the space behind eyes completely light pale yellowish-castaneous; eyes and ocellar tubercle light reddish; antennal segments I–III pale yellowish castaneous and IV pale yellowish castaneous with apical third pale brown. Anterior and posterior lobe of pronotum light pale yellowish-castaneous; darkened area restricted to a series of punctures behind collar and a second transverse series behind callar area; posterior lobe with irregular, coarse, dark castaneous punctures; humeral angles with a light brown macula. Scutellum dark reddish-brown with apex pale yellowish-castaneous; impunctate except lateral margins with a row of punctures. Clavus and corium pale yellowish-castaneous; apical margin of corium with an incomplete brown band; hemelytral membrane transparent with a faint castaneous tinge. Connexival segments pale yellowish-castaneous; terga pale yellowish-castaneous with irregular dark marks.

Ventral coloration. Including rostral segments and legs pale yellowish-castaneous; pro-, meso-, and metapleura with dark castaneous punctures; mesosternum and genital plates dark reddish brown.

Structure. Head gently downward-sloping, broad, more than two times as wide across eyes than long; clypeus reaching apex of antennal segment I; rostrum reaching anterior third of metasternum. Pronotum trapezoidal, bilobate; lateral margin of anterior lobe convex; lateral margins of posterior lobe straight; humeral angles obtuse; posterior

margin straight. Hemelytral membrane slightly extending beyond apex of last abdominal segment.

Sculpture. Dorsal surface glabrous; head ventrally glabrous; thorax almost glabrous; femora moderately pilose with short, semi-erect setae; tibiae with long, erect setae; abdominal sternites III to VII covered with short to medium-sized, scattered, semi-erect setae. Head and abdomen impunctate. Thoracic pleura coarsely punctate.

Male. Unknown.

Measurements (mm). Body length 3.35; head: length 0.48, width (including eyes) 1.24, preocular distance 0.30, interocellar distance 0.20; length of antennal segments: I – 0.16, II – 0.40, III – 0.36, IV – 0.48; pronotum: maximum length of anterior lobe 0.24, maximum length of posterior lobe 0.48, maximum width of anterior lobe 0.80, maximum width of posterior lobe 1.20; scutellum: length 0.52, width 0.56; length of claval commissure 0.19.

Differential diagnosis. *Ninyas nigricans* sp.nov. (Fig. 4) is different from all other known species of *Ninyas* in having the scutellar disk dark reddish-brown with apex pale yellowish-castaneous and lacking a Y-shaped callose area. In the other known taxa the scutellum is pale yellow with complete or incomplete Y-shaped yellowish-white callose area occupying much of scutellar disk.

Etymology. Latin participle *nigricans* (= blackened). The specific name refers to the dark reddish-brown scutellum.

Distribution. Known only from Venezuela (Carabobo).

***Ninyas reclusus* sp.nov.** (Fig. 7)

Type material. Holotype: ♂, **Venezuela: Aragua:** Choroni, 1,600 m a.s.l., 2.ii.1970, J. and B. Bechyne (IZAV).

Description. A relatively large species, up to 5 mm; elongate, parallel-sided, lateral corial margin emarginate.

Male. Dorsal coloration. Vertex and posterior portion of head, including the space behind eyes, lustrous black; frons and clypeus lustrous orange; eyes and ocellus pale reddish; antennal segment I pale yellowish-orange with apical border pale reddish, segment II dark castaneous with apical third brown, III with anterior half brown and posterior half castaneous orange, and IV dark brown with basal third castaneous orange. Anterior lobe of pronotum lustrous brown with frontal angles and a wide median transverse band, pale yellow; posterior lobe pale yellow with punctures, and two quadrate spots lateral to middle line lustrous brown; humeral angles with pale lustrous brown macula. Scutellum dark reddish-brown, heavily punctate, except for an elevated, Y-shaped, yellowish-white callose area occupying much of scutellar disk. Clavus dark lustrous brown with basal third pale yellow; corium opaque, pale yellowish-white with dark brown punctures; apical margin of corium with an incomplete dark brown band; hemelytral membrane transparent with a faint castaneous tinge. Connexival segments pale yellow; abdominal terga dark brown with middle third of segments V–VI, and lateral margins of segments VI–VII pale yellow.

Ventral coloration. Dark lustrous blackish-brown with following areas pale yellow: rostral segments I–IV (apex of IV brown), lateral area of head including the buccula, collar, anterior and posterior border of prothorax, metathoracic peritreme, all acetabula, legs, posterior angle of metathorax, and pleural margin of abdominal sterna III–VII.

Structure. Head gently downward-sloping, slightly more than two times wider across eyes than long; clypeus extending just beyond mid-point of antennal segment I; rostrum reaching posterior third of metasternum. Pronotum trapezoidal, bilobate; lateral margin of anterior lobe convex; lateral margins of posterior lobe straight; humeral angles obtuse, posterior margin almost straight. Hemelytral membrane conspicuously extending beyond apex of last abdominal segment.

Sculpture. Dorsal surface glabrous; head ventrally and thorax glabrous; femora and tibiae with long, erect setae; middle third of abdominal sternites III to VII covered with long, erect, dense and heavily compact setae. Head and abdomen impunctate. Thoracic pleura coarsely punctate.

Measurements (mm). Body length 5.20; head: length 0.76, width (including eyes) 1.64, preocular distance 0.38, interocellar distance 0.29; length of antennal segments: I – 0.28, II – 0.68, III – 0.56, IV – 0.76; pronotum: maximum length of anterior lobe 0.34, maximum length of posterior lobe 0.62, maximum width of anterior lobe 1.20, maximum width of posterior lobe 1.56; scutellum: length 0.74, width 0.76; length of claval commissure 0.27.

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Ninyas reclusus* sp.nov. is related to *N. dominicanus*, the two sharing the vertex and posterior portion of head including the space behind eyes lustrous black, and frons and clypeus lustrous orange to yellow, the humeral angles with a pale brown macula, and the hemelytral membrane without median dark stripe.

Ninyas reclusus sp.nov. (Fig. 7) is longer than 5 mm, and distinguished by having the posterior margin of pronotum yellow with humeral angles and middle third brown, the middle third of pronotal disk with a yellow longitudinal band, and the clavus dark lustrous brown with the basal third pale yellow. *N. dominicanus*, described from the Dominican Republic, is shorter than 4.10 mm, the posterior margin of pronotum has a brown transverse band, the middle third of the pronotal disk features a brown longitudinal band, and the clavus is dark brown.

Etymology. Latin adjective *reclusus, -a, -um*; the specific name refers to the hidden nature of this species.

Distribution. Known only from Venezuela (Aragua).

***Ninyas solitarius* sp.nov.** (Fig. 8)

Type material. Holotype: ♂, **Venezuela: Territorio Federal Amazonas:** Cerro de la Neblina, Camp X, 1690 m a.s.l., 0°54′N-60°2′W, 12.ii.1985, W. E. Steiner (USNM).

Description. Small species, less than 3.50 mm long; more or less quadrate, lateral corial margins distinctly emarginate.

Male. Dorsal coloration. Head including the space behind eyes completely light pale yellow; eyes dull reddish; antennal segments I–II pale yellow, segment III–IV pale castaneous orange. Anterior and posterior lobes of pronotum light pale yellowish-white; darkened area restricted to a series of castaneous punctures behind collar and a second transverse series rearwards of callar area; posterior lobe with irregular, coarse, castaneous punctures; humeral angles with brown macula. Scutellar disk with irregular, coarse, dark castaneous-to-brown punctures; middle line with wide, longitudinal, yellowish-white callose area, and basally with the lateral angles dark brown. Clavus yellowish-white, opaque; corium yellowish-white, opaque, with endocorium mostly transparent; apical margin of corium yellowish white, with only the apical angle brown; hemelytral membrane transparent with a faint castaneous tinge. Connexival segments pale yellowish-castaneous; abdominal terga dark brown, except terga V–VI mostly yellowish.

Ventral coloration. Head, rostral segments (apex of IV pale brown), collar, acetabula, coxae, trochanter, tibiae, tarsi, posterior margin of metapleura, and metathoracic scent gland peritreme, pale yellowish-white; femora pale orange with basal third pale yellowish-white; mesosternum blackish-brown; prosternum, metasternum, propleura and mesopleura yellowish white with punctures dark castaneous; metapleura dark castaneous orange; evaporatorium dark brown; abdominal sterna III–VII dark orange with pleural margin yellowish-white; genital capsule dark orange.

Structure. Head almost flat, not downward-sloping, more than two times as wide across eyes than long; clypeus extending just beyond mid-point of antennal segment I; rostrum reaching posterior third of metasternum. Pronotum trapezoidal, bilobate; lateral margin of anterior lobe convex; lateral margins of posterior lobe straight; humeral angles obtuse; posterior margin almost straight. Hemelytral membrane extending markedly beyond apex of last abdominal segment.

Sculpture. Dorsal surface glabrous; head ventrally and thorax glabrous; femora and tibiae pilose with long, erect setae; middle third of abdominal sternites III to VII covered with long, erect, dense and heavily compact setae. Head and abdomen impunctate. Thoracic pleura coarsely punctate.

Measurements (mm). Body length 3.26; head: length 0.52, width (including eyes) 1.32, preocular distance 0.32, interocellar distance 0.24; length of antennal segments: I – 0.22, II – 0.36, III – 0.36, IV – 0.56; pronotum: maximum length of anterior lobe 0.24, maximum length of posterior lobe 0.48, maximum width of anterior lobe 0.96, maximum width of posterior lobe 1.24; scutellum: length 0.52, width 0.56; length of claval commissure 0.18.

Female. Unknown.

Differential diagnosis. *Ninyas solitarius* sp.nov. (Fig. 8) is related to *N. deficiens* (Fig. 1). Both species have the head dorsally, including the space behind eyes, completely pale yellow, the humeral angles with brown macula, the hemelytral membrane without dark median irregular stripe, the scutellar disk with wide, longitudinal, yellowish-white callose area, and both are small species, measuring less than 3.60 mm.

In *N. solitarius* sp.nov. the clavus is yellowish-white, opaque, the corium yellowish-white, opaque, except for endocorium transparent, and apical margin of corium

yellowish-white, opaque, with only the apical angle brown. In *N. deficiens*, recorded from West Indies, the clavus is dark castaneous, the corium transparent, and the apical margin of the corium has an incomplete brown band.

Ninyas strabo (Fig. 11) is also related to the new species but the space behind its eyes is dark brown.

Etymology. Latin adjective *solitarius*, *-a*, *-um* (= solitary), as this species is known only from a single male.

Distribution. Known only from Venezuela (Territorio Federal del Amazonas).

Ninyas distanti Montandon, 1907 (Fig. 2)

Ninyas distanti Montandon, 1907: 293–295.

Type material examined. Holotype ♂: **Brazil: Goyas:** Itahy (HNHM).
New records. Peru: Junin: San Ramón de Pangoa, 40 km SE Satipo, 750 m a.s.l., 7.iii.1972, 1 ♂, R. T. & J. C. Schuh (AMNH); Satipo**,** xi.1942, 1 ♂, Paprzycki (UNAM).

Diagnosis. A large species, up to 5 mm, parallel-sided, characterized by head dorsally light pale yellow with vertex and posterior portion entirely lustrous black; scutellum black with a complete, Y-shaped, yellowish-white callose area occupying much of scutellar disk; pronotal lobe lustrous black to brown with lateral margins yellow; humeral angles without black or dark brown spot; and apical angle of corium with wide brown area.

Distribution. Recorded from Brazil (Montandon 1907) and Peru.

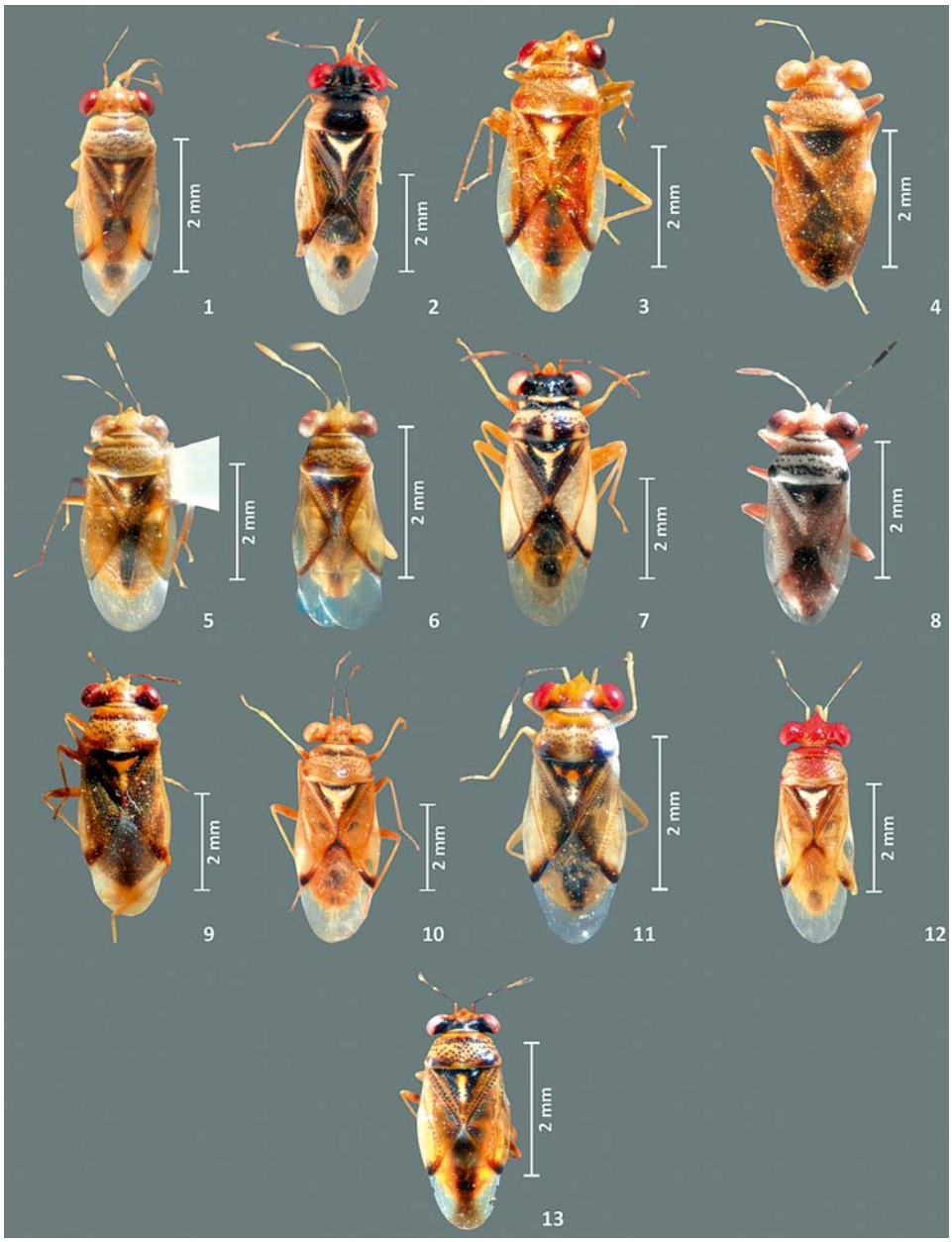
Ninyas torvus Distant, 1893 (Fig. 12)

Ninyas torvus Distant, 1893: 388–389.

Type material examined. Paratype: **Panamá:** Bugaba, 900–1500 ft, 1 ♂, Champion lgt. (BMNH).
New records. Venezuela: Distrito Federal: Chichiriviche, Petaquire, 27.i.1977, 1 ♂, 1 ♀, C. J. Rosales and L. J. Joly (IZAV, UNAM).

Diagnosis. A large species, up to 4.5 mm, parallel-sided, with lateral corial margin emarginate and characterized by hemelytral membrane without dark stripe running through the middle; humeral angles of pronotum with brown macula; head dorsally including the space behind eyes pale reddish; pronotum pale yellow, with punctures reddish-brown to pale castaneous, and with middle third of anterior lobe and a quadrate and wide longitudinal band running across the middle third pale reddish; scutellum with a complete, Y-shaped, yellowish-white callose area occupying much of scutellar disk; and apical corial margin with incomplete brown band.

Distribution. Previously known from Panama (Volcan de Chiriqui, David and Bugaba) (Distant 1893). It is recorded here for the first time from Venezuela.



Figs. 1–13. Habitus of *Ninyas* spp. 1 – *N. deficiens* (Lethierry, 1881), ♂; 2 – *N. distanti* Montandon, 1907, ♂; 3 – *N. humeralis* (Barber, 1947), ♀; 4 – *N. nigricans* sp.nov., ♀; 5 – *N. obrieni* Baranowski, 2005, ♀; 6 – *N. punctatus* Baranowski, 2005, ♂; 7 – *N. reclusus* sp.nov., ♂; 8 – *N. solitarius* sp.nov., ♂; 9 – *N. solubilis* Distant, 1893, ♀; 10 – *N. stehliki* sp.nov., ♀; 11 – *N. strabo* Distant. 1882, ♀; 12 – *N. torvus* Distant, 1893, ♂; 13 – *N. woodruffi* Baranowski, 2005, ♂.

Key to the species of *Ninyas* Distant, 1882

Modified from Baranowski & Slater (2005):

1 Hemelytral membrane with a distinct dark median longitudinal stripe. 2
– Hemelytral membrane sometimes with infuscated areas, but never with a complete dark stripe running the entire length of the membrane. ... 3

2 Humeral angles of pronotum with a red macula; head dorsally, including the space behind eyes, completely pale yellow (Fig. 3). .... ***N. humeralis* (Barber, 1947)**
– Humeral angles of pronotum lacking red macula; head dorsally pale yellow with vertex and posterior portion lustrous black (Fig. 13). .... ***N. woodruffi* Baranowski, 2005**

3 Head pale reddish; anterior lobe of pronotum almost entirely pale reddish (Fig. 12). ..... ***N. torvus* Distant, 1893**
– Head completely pale yellow or pale yellow with vertex and posterior portion black; anterior lobe of pronotal disk pale yellow with or without black transverse band or mostly black. 4

4 Head dorsally pale yellow with the space behind eyes or interocular part entirely black. 5
– Head dorsally including the space behind eyes completely pale yellow. 9

5 Head dorsally pale yellow except the space behind eyes black. 6
– Head dorsally black with apical third including the clypeus pale yellow. 7

6 Abdominal sterna III to VII pale yellow; antennal segment IV yellow with apical third pale brown (Fig. 11). ..... ***N. strabo* Distant, 1882**
– Abdominal sterna III to VII dark brown with pleural margin pale yellow; antennal segment IV pale brown (Fig. 9). .... ***N. solubilis* Distant, 1893**

7 Scutellum black with a median yellowish-white vitta that is not expanded laterally toward apical third. .... ***N. dominicanus* Baranowski, 2005**
– Scutellum black with an elevated, Y-shaped, callose yellowish-white area. 8

8 Humeral angles of pronotum without black spot; antennal segment IV yellow; anterior lobe of pronotal disk brown; posterior pronotal lobe brown with lateral margins yellow (Fig. 2). .... ***N. distanti* Montandon, 1907**
– Humeral angles of pronotum with brown spot; antennal segment IV dark brown with basal third castaneous orange; anterior lobe of pronotal disk brown with frontal angles and a median, transverse, wide,

band pale yellow; posterior pronotal disk yellow with punctures and two quadrate spots lateral to middle line brown (Fig. 7). .... ***N. reclusus*** **sp.nov.**

9 Humeral angles of pronotum without brown macula (Fig. 5); apical corial margin without dark coloration. ... ***N. obrieni*** **Baranowski, 2005**

– Humeral angles of pronotum with brown spot; apical corial margin partly brown. 10

10 Scutellum dark reddish brown with apex yellowish-castaneous (Fig. 4). ..... ***N. nigricans*** **sp.nov.**

– Scutellum pale to dark brown with a complete or incomplete Y-shaped, yellowish-white callose area occupying much of the scutellar disk. 11

11 Brown band on apical corial margin complete (Fig. 6). .... ***N. punctatus*** **Baranowski, 2005**

– Brown band on apical corial margin incomplete. 12

12 Total length of body longer than 5 mm (Fig. 10). ..... ***N. stehliki*** **sp.nov.**

– Total length of body less than 4 mm. 13

13 Apical margin of corium with an incomplete brown band; clavus dark to pale castaneous (Fig. 1). ..... ***N. deficiens*** **(Lethierry, 1881)**

– Apical margin of corium yellowish-white opaque, with only the apical angle brown; clavus yellowish-white opaque (Fig. 8). .... ***N. solitarius*** **sp.nov.**

Sexual dimorphism

Sexual dimorphism has not previously been reported in the genus *Ninyas*. During this revision, in which 13 of 14 known species were examined, it was noticed that in males the middle third of abdominal sternites III to VII is covered with a dense pilosity of long, silvery, erect and densely adpressed hairs; whereas on females the pilosity in that area consists of short hairs, sparse and semi-decumbent to completely decumbent. This dimorphism in pilosity might indicate a possible sensory function during the courtship and mating or it could be related to substrate recognition.

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