Seven new species of *Lachesilla* (Psocodea: ‘Psocoptera’: Lachesillidae), in the group *forcepeta* from the Amazon Basin

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**ABSTRACT**

Seven new species of *Lachesilla* in the group *forcepeta*, from the Amazon Basin in Brazil, Colombia and Peru, are here described and illustrated: *L. amacayacuensis* sp. n. (type locality: Colombia, Amazonas, Leticia, Amacayacú); *L. bulbosiforceps* sp. n. (type locality: Peru, Cuzco); *L. cuzcoensis* sp. n. (type locality: Peru, Cuzco); *L. marabaensis* sp. n. (type locality: Brasil, Pará, Marabá, Serra Norte); *L. pilosiforceps* sp. n. (type locality: Brasil, Pará, Oriximiná, Rio Trombetas); *L. pilosipenna* sp. n. (type locality: Peru, Cuzco); *L. squamiforceps* sp. n. (type locality: Colombia, Amazonas, Leticia). The Amazon Basin is the second most rich world area for species of *Lachesilla*.

**KEY WORDS:** Brazil, Colombia, neotropics, Peru, taxonomy.

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**Sete espécies novas de Lachesilla Westwood (Psocodea: ‘Psocoptera’: Lachesillidae) do grupo *forcepeta* da Bacia Amazônica**

**RESUMO**

São descritas e ilustradas sete espécies de *Lachesilla* do grupo *forcepeta*, provenientes da bacia amazônica do Brasil, Colômbia e Peru: *L. amacayacuensis* sp. n. (localidade-tipo: Colômbia, Amazonas, Leticia, Amacayacú); *L. bulbosiforceps* sp. n. (localidade-tipo: Peru, Cuzco); *L. cuzcoensis* sp. n. (localidade-tipo: Peru, Cuzco); *L. marabaensis* sp. n. (localidade-tipo: Brasil, Pará, Marabá, Serra Norte); *L. pilosiforceps* sp. n. (localidade-tipo: Brasil, Pará, Oriximiná, Rio Trombetas); *L. pilosipenna* sp. n. (localidade-tipo: Peru, Cuzco); *L. squamiforceps* sp. n. (localidade-tipo: Colômbia, Amazonas, Leticia). A região amazônica é a segunda mais rica em número de espécies de *Lachesilla*.

**PALAVRAS CHAVE:** Brasil, Colômbia, região Neotropical, Peru, taxonomia.
INTRODUCTION

*Lachesilla* is one of the most speciose and morphologically diverse genera of the order Psocoptera, with 283 species described throughout the world, and about 100 more waiting description, assigned phenetically in 17 species groups; the largest of these is *forcepeta*, with 86 described species, distributed in U.S.A.-Canada (12 species), Mexico (22 species), Central America (19 species), Caribbean (16 species), South America (44 species), and Africa (five species). For a diagnosis of the group see Mockford (1993) and García Aldrete (2008). The purpose of this work is to describe seven additional species of *Lachesilla* in the group *forcepeta*, found within the Amazon Basin.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Twelve specimens were available for study, ten of which were dissected in 80% ethyl alcohol, and their parts (head, wings and legs, and genitalia) were mounted on slides in Canada Balsam. Standard measurements, given in µm, were taken with a filar micrometer, whose measuring unit is 136 µm for wings, and 53 µm for other parts (see García Aldrete 2008). Color was recorded by placing whole specimens, before dissection, in 80% ethyl alcohol, illuminated with white cold light at 80X. The location of the types, indicated in each description, is as follows: CNIN (Colección Nacional de Insectos, Instituto de Biología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México, D. F.), ICN (Instituto de Ciencias Naturales, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia), INPA (Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, Manaus, Amazonas, Brasil).

RESULTS

*Lachesilla amacayacuensis* sp. n. ♂

(Figs. 1-4)

Differential diagnosis. Distal halves of claspers slender, blunt ended, bearing distally on outer edge a field of thin, elongate scales. Differing from *L. squamiforceps* sp. n. (described below), the other species in the group with a distal field of scales in the claspers in that, in the latter, the distal halves of the claspers are stout, pointed, the hypandrium is deeper, more angular, and the forewing veins Rs-M are joined by a short crossvein (compare figures 3 and 28, and 1 and 26 in this paper).

Color. Body pale brown. Compound eyes black, ocelli hyaline, with ochre centripetal crescents. Mx3-Mx4 more pigmented than the basal palpomeres. Tergal lobes of meso- and metathorax dark brown. Wings hyaline, veins brown. Abdomen whitish, with dark brown subcuticular rings, less pigmented ventrally.

Morphology. Forewing pterostigma long, almost rectangular, wider posteriorly; veins Rs-M fused for a very short distance, areola postica broadly triangular, apically rounded; hindwing Rs-M fused for a distance (Fig. 1). Hypandrium almost trapeziform, with posterolateral corners rounded and setae as illustrated (Fig. 3). Claspers (Fig. 3), basally narrow, widening towards distal end of proximal half, with a field of 17-19 setae, two posterior ones longer than the others; distal half slender, curved outwards, with an apical field of slender scales on inner edge. Phallosome apodeme long, stout (Fig. 3) ending distally in two broad, triangular, membranous lamellae. Paraprocts broad (Fig. 4), with setae and pigmented area as illustrated and circular sensory fields with 17-18 trichobothria on basal rosettes and a marginal trichobothrium without basal rosette. Epiproct (Fig. 2), wide, narrow, slightly concave anteriorly and rounded posteriorly, bearing a field of setae on distal half. Clunium slightly projected over the area of the epiproct.


Etymology. The specific name is a toponym that refers to the type locality: Amacayacú.
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Lachesilla bulbosiforceps sp. n. ♂

(Figures 5-8)

Differential diagnosis. Distal halves of claspers ante-apically widened, each clasper ending in a short, truncate, sclerotized cylinder. Forewing veins, including Cu2, bearing a row of distinct setae; surface of pterostigma also with setae. Differing from L. pilosipenna sp. n. (described below), in that, in the latter, the distal halves of the claspers are elongate, slender, distally dilated, and the hypandrium is narrower than in L. bulbosiforceps (compare figures 7 and 23 in this paper).

Color. Body reddish brown. Compound eyes black, ocelli hyaline, with ochre centripetal crescents. Tergal lobes of meso- and metathorax dark brown; episterna of meso- and metathorax ochre, distinctly more pigmented than epimera. Wings hyaline, veins brown, vein R1, bordering the pterostigma strongly pigmented. Abdomen whitish, with ochre subcuticular rings, less pigmented ventrally.

Morphology. Compound eyes large, protruding laterally. Forewing with small setae on pterostigma and veins; veins Rs-M joined by a short crossvein, areola postica wide, rounded apically; hindwing veins Rs-M fused for a distance (Fig. 5). Hypandrium broad, almost trapeziform, with postero-lateral corners rounded and setose as illustrated (Fig. 7); claspers stout proximally, with a field of 20-25 setae, two posterior ones larger than the others; distal part short, swollen distally, ending in a short, strongly sclerotized truncate projection (Fig. 7); phallosome apodeme long, slender, ending distally in two broad membranous lamellae (Fig. 7). Paraprocts (Fig. 8), broad, setose and pigmented as illustrated, with sensory fields circular, bearing 13-14 trichobothria on basal rosettes, and a marginal trichobothrium without basal rosette. Epiproct (Fig. 6), wide, almost straight anteriorly, rounded posteriorly, with a field of setae on distal half. Clunium slightly projected over the area of the epiproct.


Etymology. The specific name, a noun in apposition, refers to the distal swelling of the male claspers. Lachesilla cuzcoensis sp. n. ♀

(Figures 9-12)

Differential diagnosis. Wings wide, short. Forewing areola postica rounded, almost straight posteriorly. Subgenital plate straight posteriorly. Pigmented area of epiproct widely concave anteriorly. Differing from its sister species L. ruizabreorum García Aldrete (2004), in that, in the latter the forewing areola postica is triangular, the subgenital plate is decidedly concave posteriorly, the pigmented area of the epiproct is very narrowly concave anteriorly, and the clunium is projected posteriorly over the area of the epiproct (compare figures 9-11 in this paper, with figures 33-35 in García Aldrete 2004).

Color. Body brown. Compound eyes black, ocelli hyaline, with ochre centripetal crescents. Wings reddish brown, veins brown, vein R1 bordering pterostigma, ochre. Abdomen whitish, with dark brown subcuticular rings, less pigmented ventrally.

Morphology. Forewing pterostigma short, almost rectangular, wider posteriorly, veins Rs-M diverging from a point, areola postica medium-small, tall, rounded apically; hindwing veins Rs-M fused for a distance (Fig. 9). Subgenital plate (Fig. 11) broad, almost straight posteriorly, uniformly pigmented, setae as illustrated. Gonapophyses (Fig. 12) large, broad, with inner edge straight and outer edge curved, blunt ended, setose. Spermapore (Fig. 12) large, in center of ninth sternum, surrounded by large, triangular pigmented area. Paraprocts (Fig. 10) semi-elliptic, unpigmented posteriorly, with setae as illustrated; sensory fields circular, with 11 trichobothria on basal rosettes and a marginal trichobothrium without basal rosette. Epiproct broadly triangular (Fig. 10), with a field of setae on distal half.

Figures 5-8 - Lachesilla bulbosiforceps sp. n., male. 5. Fore- and hind- wings. 6. Epiproct. 7. Hypandrium, claspers and phallosome apodeme. 8. Left paraproct. Scales in mm. Figures 6-8 to common scale.
Seven new species of *Lachesilla* (Psocodea: Psocoptera: Lachesillidae), in the group *forcepeta* from the Amazon Basin


Etymology. The specific name is a toponym that refers to Cuzco, where the holotype was collected.


Morphology. Forewing pterostigma long, almost rectangular, wider posteriorly; veins Rs-M fused for a short distance, areola postica wider than tall, apically rounded; hindwing veins Rs-M fused for a distance (Fig. 13). Hyandrium (Fig. 15) wide, slightly concave anteriorly and projected posteriorly in the middle to form a short, distally blunt cone. Claspers robust, proximally elliptic, bearing two large setae; distal portion stout, curved, wider in the middle, terminally acuminate, with a broad, distally jagged projection in the middle of inner edge; phallosome apodeme short, slender, widening distally to end in a single, broadly triangular membranous area (Fig. 15). Paraprocts (Fig. 14), broad, elliptic, with setae and pigmented area as illustrated, with sensory fields circular, bearing 11 trichobothria on basal rosettes and a marginal trichobothrium without basal rosette. Epiproct (Fig. 16) broad, almost trapeziform, with the antero-lateral corners projected, and a transverse, sclerotized band near posterior border; a field of setae on each postero-lateral corner, a group of setae in the middle, anterior to the sclerotized band, and

**Lachesilla marabaensis** sp. n. ♀

(Figures 13-16)

Differential diagnosis. Hyandrium projected posteriorly in the middle to form a small cone. Distal halves of claspers stout, distally pointed, with a small protuberance on outer edge, in the middle, and at the same level, with a distinct jagged projection on inner edge. Epiproct almost trapeziform, with antero-lateral corners slightly projected, and with a transverse, sclerotized band next to posterior border. Such a combination of characters is unique among the other species of the group (see Discussion below).
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![Image of figures](Figures 17-20 - Lachesilla pilosiforceps sp. n., male. 17. Fore- and hind-wings. 18. Right paraproct. 19. Hypandrium, claspers and phallosome apodeme. 20. Epiproct. Scales in mm. Figures 18-20 to common scale.)

*a* transverse line of setae mesally. Clunium slightly projected posteriorly over the area of the epiproct, with the border strongly sclerotized.


**Etymology.** The specific name is the toponym of Marabá, the type locality of this species.

**Lachesilla pilosiforceps** sp. n. ♀

(Figures 17-20)

**Differential diagnosis.** Distal halves of claspers slender, slightly dilated distally, bearing a field of small spines on inner edge. This species is close to *L. spiniforceps* García Aldrete, from Tambopata, Peru, also in the Amazon basin, the latter has a field of medium long spines ante-apically on each clasper.

**Color.** Body pale brown, compound eyes black, ocelli hyaline, with ochre centripetal crescents. Mx3 and Mx4 dark brown, more pigmented than basal palpomeres. Tergal lobes of meso- and metathorax dark brown. Wings hyaline, veins pale brown. Abdomen with dark brown subcuticular rings, less pigmented ventrally.

**Morphology.** Forewing pterostigma almost rectangular, wider posteriorly; veins Rs-M diverging from a point, areola postica wide, tall, apically rounded; hindwing veins Rs-M fused for a distance (Fig. 17). Hypandrium (Fig. 19) trapeziform, slightly concave posteriorly, with postero-lateral corners rounded, and setae as illustrated. Proximal half of claspers (Fig. 19), narrow at base and widening posteriorly, with a field of 18-20 setae, two of them much longer than the others; distal half of claspers curved outwards, with apex dilated and a field of fine setae along outer surface; phallosome apodeme long, slender, distally divided to form two broad, wide, almost triangular lamellae (Fig. 19). Paraprocts robust (Fig. 18), setose and pigmented as illustrated, with sensory fields circular, bearing 12-13 trichobothria issuing from basal rosettes and a marginal trichobothrium without basal rosette. Epiproct almost semicircular (Fig. 20), with field of setae on distal half. Clunium slightly projected posteriorly over the area of the epiproct.


**Etymology.** The specific name, a noun in apposition, refers to the setae on the claspers of this species.

**Lachesilla pilosipenna** n. sp. ♀

(Figures 21-25)

**Differential diagnosis.** Wings slender, elongate; forewing with distinct setae on all veins and pterostigma. Distal halves of claspers elongate, curved, distally dilated. See also differential diagnosis of *L. bulbosiforceps* sp. n., for differences between these two species.

**Color.** Body pale brown. Compound eyes black, ocelli hyaline, with reddish brown centripetal crescents. Tergal lobes of meso- and metathorax dark brown, pleura with dark brown spots above the coxae. Wings hyaline, veins brown. Abdomen whitish, with dark brown subcuticular rings, less pigmented ventrally.

**Morphology.** Compound eyes large, protruding laterally (Fig. 25). Wings long, slender, forewing with small setae on veins, pterostigma elongate, almost rectangular, wider posteriorly; veins Rs-M diverging from a point, areola postica almost twice as wide as tall, rounded apically; hindwing veins Rs-M fused for a distance (Fig. 21). Hypandrium (Fig. 23) wide, setose, almost trapeziform, concave posteriorly and extended anteriorly as illustrated. Claspers with proximal half robust, with sides parallel, bearing a setal field of 18-20 setae, two posterior much longer than the others; distal half stout, curved outwards, with apex distinctly dilated (Fig. 23). Phallosome apodeme stout, distally ending in two large, triangular, membranous lamellae (Fig. 23). Paraprocts broad, with setae and pigmented area as illustrated; sensory fields circular, with 13 trichobothria on basal rosettes and
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a marginal trichobothrium without basal rosette (Fig. 24). Epiproct (Fig. 22), almost semicircular, with pigmented area as illustrated and setal field on distal half. Clunium slightly projected posteriorly over the area of the epiproct.


Etymology. The specific name, a noun in apposition, refers to the setae on the forewing veins.

See also differential diagnosis of L. amacayacuensis sp. n., for differences between these two species.

Color. Body pale brown. Compound eyes black, ocelli hyaline, with ochre centripetal crescents. Mx3 and Mx4 more pigmented than the basal palpomeres. Tergal lobes of meso- and metathorax dark brown.  Wings hyaline, veins brown. Abdomen whitish, with dark brown subcuticular rings, less pigmented ventrally.

Morphology. Forewing pterostigma almost rectangular, wider posteriorly, veins Rs-M diverging from a point; areola postica almost twice as wide as tall, apically rounded; hindwing veins Rs-M fused for a distance (Fig. 26). Hypandrium narrow (Fig. 28), long, almost trapeziform, setose as illustrated, with anterior border concave, projected in the middle; claspers robust, proximal half broad, with a field of 12-14 setae, two posterior longer than the others; distal half robust, curved outwards, distally with a compact field of elongate, slender scales; paraprocts broad, setose and pigmented as illustrated, sensory fields circular, with 13 trichobothria on basal rosettes and a marginal trichobothrium without basal rosette (Fig. 29). Epiproct (Fig. 27), concave anteriorly, rounded posteriorly, pigmented as illustrated and with a setal field on distal half. Clunium slightly projected posteriorly over the area of the epiproct.

Lachesilla squamiforceps n. sp. ♂
(Figures 26-29)

Differential diagnosis. Distal halves of claspers quite stout, curved outwards, distally pointed, bearing distally a field of slender scales. Hypandrium trapeziform, straight posteriorly, wide antero-posteriorly, transversely narrow. See also differential diagnosis of L. amacayacuensis sp. n., for differences between these two species.

Color. Body pale brown. Compound eyes black, ocelli hyaline, with ochre centripetal crescents. Mx3 and Mx4 more pigmented than the basal palpomeres. Tergal lobes of meso- and metathorax dark brown.  Wings hyaline, veins brown. Abdomen whitish, with dark brown subcuticular rings, less pigmented ventrally.

Morphology. Forewing pterostigma almost rectangular, wider posteriorly, veins Rs-M diverging from a point; areola postica almost twice as wide as tall, apically rounded; hindwing veins Rs-M fused for a distance (Fig. 26). Hypandrium narrow (Fig. 28), long, almost trapeziform, setose as illustrated, with anterior border concave, projected in the middle; claspers robust, proximal half broad, with a field of 12-14 setae, two posterior longer than the others; distal half robust, curved outwards, distally with a compact field of elongate, slender scales; paraprocts broad, setose and pigmented as illustrated, sensory fields circular, with 13 trichobothria on basal rosettes and a marginal trichobothrium without basal rosette (Fig. 29). Epiproct (Fig. 27), concave anteriorly, rounded posteriorly, pigmented as illustrated and with a setal field on distal half. Clunium slightly projected posteriorly over the area of the epiproct.

Figures 21-25 - Lachesilla pilosipenna sp. n., male. 21. Fore- and hind- wings. 22. Epiproct. 23. Hypandrium, claspers and phallosome apodeme. 24. Right paraproct. 25. Front view of head, proximal end omitted. Scales in mm. Figure 24 to scale of figure 22.

Lachesilla squamiforceps n. sp. ♂
(Figures 26-29)

Differential diagnosis. Distal halves of claspers quite stout, curved outwards, distally pointed, bearing distally a field of slender scales. Hypandrium trapeziform, straight posteriorly, wide antero-posteriorly, transversely narrow.

Figures 21-25 - Lachesilla pilosipenna sp. n., male. 21. Fore- and hind- wings. 22. Epiproct. 23. Hypandrium, claspers and phallosome apodeme. 24. Right paraproct. 25. Front view of head, proximal end omitted. Scales in mm. Figure 24 to scale of figure 22.

Measurements (of holotype ♂, those of paratype ♂ in parenthesis). FW: 2377 (2221), HW: 1772 (1678), F: 481 (490), T: 918 (930), t1: 345, t2: 95, atr: 23, Mx4: 109 (106), fl: 239 (255), IO: 372 (345), D: 203 (221), d: 137 (142), IO/D: 1.83 (1.56), PO: 0.67 (0.64).


Etymology. The specific name, a noun in apposition, refers to the field of scales on the claspers of this species.

**DISCUSSION**

*Lachesilla curuoensis* keeps a sister group relationship with *L. ruizabreorum* García Aldrete, known only from Misiones, Argentina, quite distant from the type locality of the former, and incorrectly assigned originally to species group pedicularia (see García Aldrete 2004). The similarity in size and shape of the gonapophyses of both species is remarkable; they differ in wing venation and genital details as follows (see also differential diagnosis of the former): the forewing areola postica in the former is apically rounded, not as slanted and triangular as in the latter; the subgenital plate in *L. curuoensis* is not posteriorly concave and the whole sclerite is uniformly pigmented (the pigmented area is anteriorly cleft in *L. ruizabreorum*), besides, the clunium is not as projected posteriorly over the area of the epiproct in the former, as it is in the latter.

*Lachesilla amacayacuenensis* and *L. squamiforcipetis* are close in that they share having a field of scales distally on the surface of the claspers, and both are close to *L. pilosiforcipetis*, that presents a field of setae ante-distally on the claspers. The structural plan of the male genitalia in group forcipetis has proven to be quite successful, and the ornamentation of the claspers with scales, setae, spines or small denticles, add to the enormous variation observed in the group: *L. asperiforcipetis* García Aldrete, from Mexico, Guatemala and Nicaragua, and several related undescribed species from southern Mexico, present a dense field of microspines on the surface of the claspers; the distal end of the claspers in *L. spiniforcipetis* García Aldrete, from the Tambopata Reserved Zone in the Peruvian Amazonia present a field of medium-long spines, and *L. yanomamii* Mockford, from Roraima, Brazil, *L. yanomamiioides* García Aldrete, from Mexico, Guatemala and Trinidad, and *L. graciilis* García Aldrete, from SE U. S. A., Mexico, Belize and Guatemala, have a row of fine denticles along the inner edge of the distal half of the claspers (García Aldrete 1988, 1996, 2001, 2008; Mockford 1991). The function of these ornaments is unknown, although presumably, they could play a role in mating, or in close distance species recognition.

*Lachesilla dilatiforcipetis* García Aldrete (1996) from Puerto Rico and Dominican Republic, and *L. pentaoideas* García Aldrete (2008) from the Tambopata Reserved Zone, together with *L. marabaensis*, constitute a group of related species, having in common stout claspers with mesal projections on the inner side of the distal half; in the three species the claspers are basally rounded, the phallosome apodeme ends in a single membranous area, and the hypandrium is projected posteriorly in the middle in *L. marabaensis* and *L. pentaoideas*, and is broadly triangular in *L. dilatiforcipetis*.

*Lachesilla bulbosiforcipetis* and *L. pilosipenna* share having distinct setae in the pterostigma and forewing veins, including Cu₂ and A, and are the only known species in the group forcipetis to present this character. Setae on forewing veins are extremely rare in species of *Lachesilla*, this character has only been observed in three species, out of the 283 described in the genus, and in two of the 17 species groups presently recognized in it: the two species of group *palmarica* (García Aldrete 1981) (*L. cecilioides* García Aldrete and *L. palmarica* García Aldrete, both from Mexico), and in one species of group *pedicularia* (*L. hirsuta* Lienhard 2002 from Thailand); *L. marginata* New and Thornton (1975), from Mato Grosso, Brazil, has setae on the forewing margin.

The species here dealt with rise to 97 the number of described species of *Lachesilla* in continental South America, they rise to 290 the number of described species of *Lachesilla* in the world, and rise to 93 the number of described species in the group forcipetis. As there are 50 known undescribed species from Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru, all in the Amazon Basin and already represented in my collection, it results that 101 species occur in it, making the Amazon Basin the second most rich area for species of *Lachesilla*, with seven species groups there represented (*andra, forcipetis, fuscipalpis, palmera, pedicularia, riegelii, slera*). The richest area for *Lachesilla* is Mexico, about 3.5 times smaller than the Amazon Basin, with 164 species and 14 species groups represented (*andra, centralis, cerorma, corona, forcipetis, fuscipalpis, magnifica, palmarica, pedicularia, q, riegelii, rufa, slera and texcocana*).

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Seven new species of *Lachesilla* (Psocodea: *Psocoptera*: Lachesillidae), in the group *forcepeta* from the Amazon Basin

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