

A NEW SPECIES OF *DASYBASIS* MACQUART FROM NW OF ARGENTINA
(TABANIDAE, DIPTERA, INSECTA)

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Female and male of Dasybasis diaguita n. sp. from high area of NW of Argentina is described and illustrated.

Key words: *Dasybasis diaguita* – Tabanidae – Neotropical

Dasybasis Macquart is a typical representative of world southern faune with transantarctic relationships. This genus is very well represented in Australia, New Zealand and South America (very few in New Guinea and Tasmania). In the Neotropical region are known 82 species included in 5 subgenus, distributed along the Andean area. It is very well represented in Argentina (47 spp.), Chile (34 spp.), decreasing to the North (Peru 13 spp., Ecuador 3 spp., Colombia and Venezuela 2 spp.).

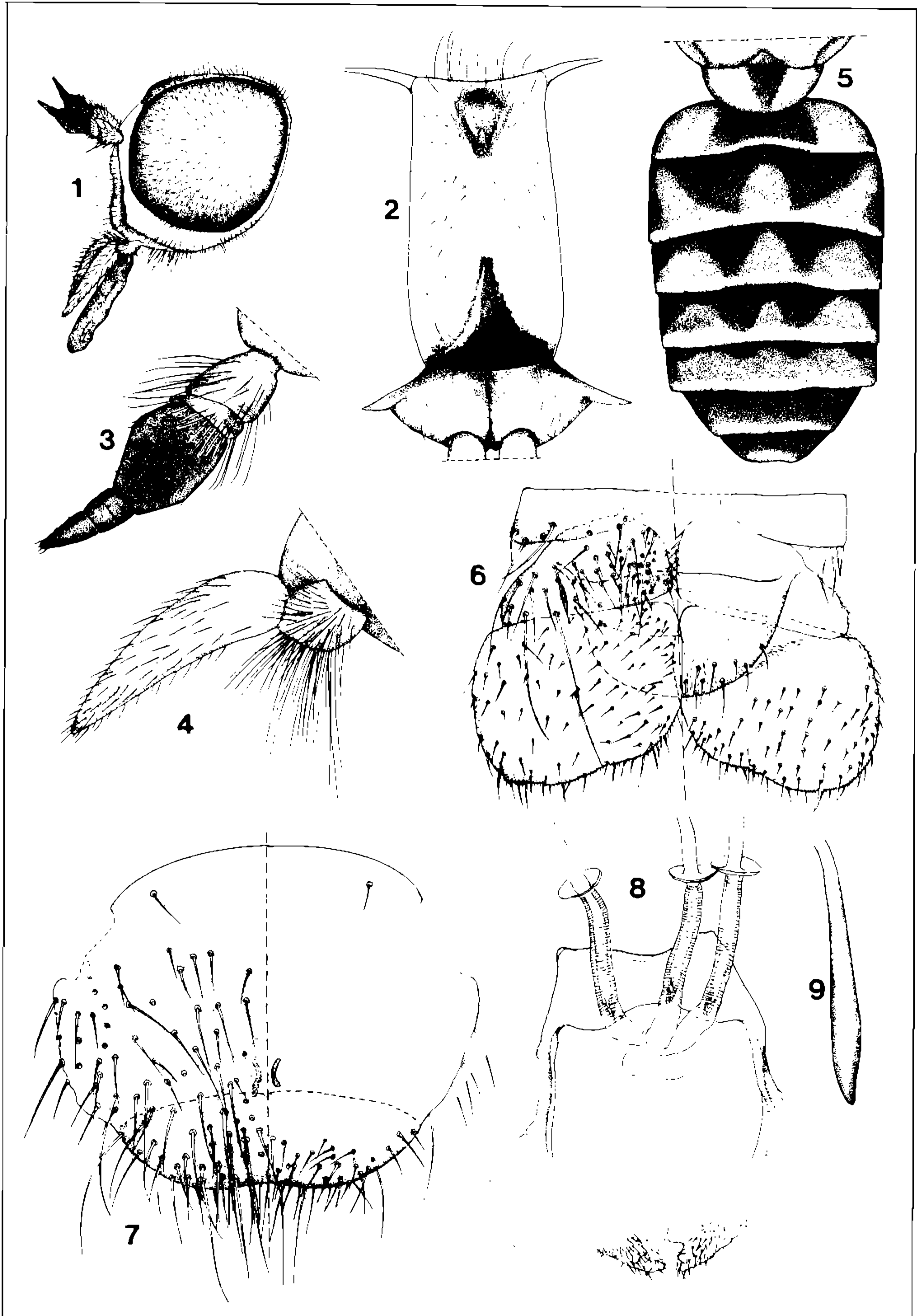
Continuing with the study of Neotropical *Dasybasis*, among specimens of a very high area, we find the following here described that has morphological and ornamental characters that permit to separate as a different taxon. It belongs to the typical subgenus (Coscarón & Philip, 1967), and the differences with closest species are explained. The material was kept in the Instituto Miguel Lillo (Tucumán, Argentina) collection. For descriptions was used the terminology used by Coscarón & Philip (1967).

Dasybasis diaguita n. sp.

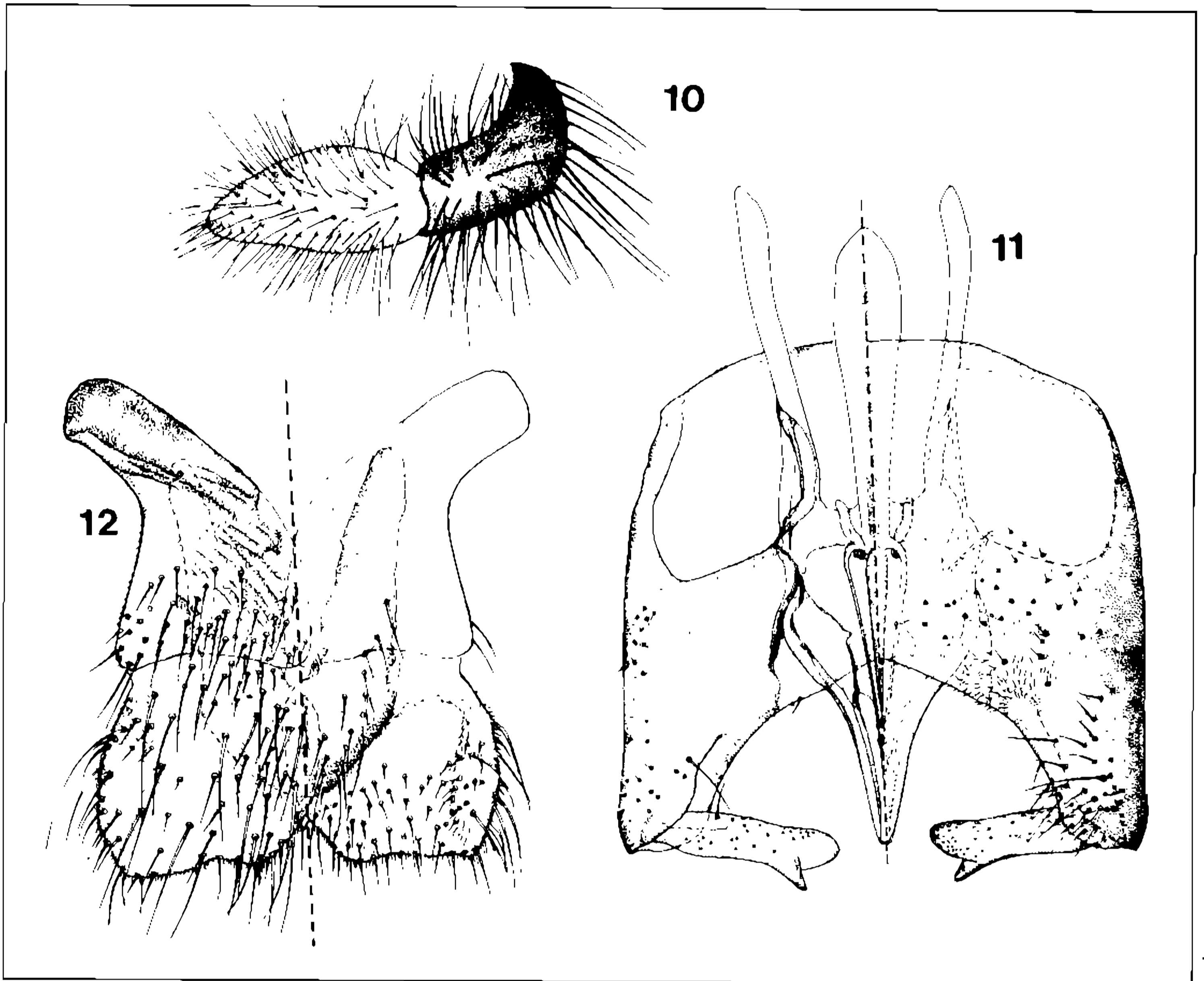
♀: Length 12,0-12,5 mm; wing 9,0-10,0 mm. Blackish eyes, greenish-violaceous relaxed; brown yellow sparsed hairs. Cefalic outline as shown in figure 1. Front, subcallus, genae and posterior border of head brown with yellowish gray pollinosity and hairs since black to yellowish-gray in accordance to the illumination. Front with small basal divergence; frontal index-1:2,2-2,3. Frontal callus shiny brown, arriving to eyes laterally, short, medially projected until 1/3 basal length (figure 2). Ocellar triangle darkish with vestigial ocelli. Antenna black with concolour hairs, scape and pedicel with gray pollinosity; antennal plate with a

blunt dorsal median angle (figure 3). Brown palp with white pollinosity; last segment with very small curvature, acute pointed distally (figure 4); hairs predominatly white or black in accordance to the specimens. Proboscis black, longer than palpi. Thorax and abdomen grayish black with pilosity since yellow to black in accordance the lighth position. Thorax with longitudinal grayish pale narrow stripes with yellowish-golden hairs, disposed: 1 median, 1 + 1 submedian and 1 + 1 lateral. Wing grayish hyaline with dark brown veins and black hairs, with short appendix on R₄. Basicoste bare, apex acute. Legs brownish darker in coxae, femora, apex of tibiae and tarsi. Abdomen with dark and yellowish gray-pale hairs, the light colored areas determining triangles on the posterior border of tergites as shown in figure 5. Genitalia: Cerci on posterior sight disposed in about 90° angle; mounted on slide wider than high with flat distal border, IX and X tergites well sclerotized, IX with abundant long hairs; hypoproct not pointed on free border (figure 6). VIII sternite not visible externally; on slide showing a wide base (figure 7). Genital fork with wide base and comb teeth well developed (figure 8). Spermatheca distally not capitate but well sclerotized.

♂: length 12,0-13,0 mm; wing 9,0-10,0 mm. Coloration very well associated with ♀. Head a little wider than thorax. Eyes blackish, unbanded, greenish on small facets and violaceous on larger facets areas; hairs more abundant than ♀. Ocellar tubercle present without ocelli. Antenna as ♀ but dorsal angle more prominent. Palpi whitish with white hairs; apical segment about two times longer than wide and acute pointed distally (figure 10). Ornamentation of thorax and abdomen as ♀, but clear areas of



Dasybasis diaguita n. sp. ♀. Fig. 1: head in side view. Fig. 2: front. Fig. 3: antenna. Fig. 4: palp. Fig. 5: abdomen in dorsal view. Fig. 6: IX and X tergites, cerci and hypoproct. Fig. 7: VIII sternite and gonapophysis. Fig. 8: genital fork. Fig. 9: spermatheca.



Dasybasis diaguita n. sp. ♂. Fig. 10: palp. Fig. 11: gonocoxite, gonostyli and aedeagus. Fig. 12: cerci, IX tergite and hypoproct.

abdominal tergites more evident in contrast with the median darkest integument on the anterior tergites. Genitalia: Gonocoxite no longer than wide at base; basal border with small curvature; gonostyli with abundant small hairs (figure 11). Cerci, IX tergite and hypoproct as shown in figure 12; cerci truncated distally.

Material examined: ARGENTINA, Tucuman, Cumbres Calchaquies, Huaca Huasi, 4,250 m, 25-x-1977, E. Dominguez col.: 1 ♀ holotype; same locality, 7-x-1978, Halloy col.: 1 ♂ paratype; Cumbres Calchaquies, Ciénaga Grande, 3,850 m, 20-x-1977, E. Dominguez col.: 1 ♀ paratype; Cumbres Calchaquies, El Infiernillo, 3,100 m, 10-x-1968, Stange-Willink cols.: 1 ♂ paratype. Holotype and one paratype ♂ in Instituto Miguel Lillo, University of Tucuman; one paratype ♀ and one paratype ♂ in Museo La Plata.

Distribution and bionomics: As *Dasybasis diaguita* is a horsefly species living in high places (is known between 3,100-4,250 m of altitude) it is not easy to collect for to feel sick (mal de puna). For this reason we don't know if it is a common species in mountains or high plateau area. Nothing we know about its bionomy.

Etimology: The work "diaguita" correspond to the name of indian people that lived in this area when arrived the Spaniard coloniers.

Discussion: In accordance to the exosomatic characters including genitalia, the new species described correspond to a group of species, predominantly from Patagonia and oriental andean region of Argentina ("precordillera" area), with generalized characters included in the typical subgenus *Dasybasis*. The closest species is *Dasybasis fornesi* Coscarón, also from

high areas, but lower than *diaguita* area. *D. fornesi* is bigger, with subquadrate callus and median projection very short, antennal plate more elongated, abdomen dorsally without typical triangles, ♀ genital cerci flattened in posterior sight and distal border more rounded; distal portion of spermathecae more capitate. *D. trita* Walker, a patagonian species, is close but has bigger size and has different front, ♀ VIII sternite and ♂ cerci shape. *D. subtrita* Coscarón & Philip, that was collected near *D. diaguita* area, shows differences in callus, front, antennal plate and cerci shape in ♀, and antennal plate and palp shape of ♂. *D. fumifrons* Coscarón & Philip show resemblance in callus shape, but is smaller species and has dif-

ferences in antenna, palp, genitalia cerci and VIII sternite morphology.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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