

long as the basal face, obliquely raised but scarcely diverging caudad. Infradental lamellae low but well expressed. Inferior propodeal plates subangulate above and below.

Petiole and postpetiole as shown in Fig. 2. The former strongly pedunculate in front, with a differentiated node which, in profile, presents the anterior, ascending surface at right angle to the somewhat sloping dorsal face. Spongiform appendages voluminous: the postero-lateral part on node greatly expanded with a deep, oval cavity within that opens toward the side; the ventral longitudinal spongiform crest broadened and bifurcate behind. Postpetiole with likewise voluminous postero-lateral and ventral spongiform appendages, which also present the circular or oval holes as shown in Fig. 2. Tergum I of gaster with a narrow spongiform anterior border. Sternum I with a thick pad of spongiform hairs.

The paratype is exactly alike the holotype, the meristic variation is already indicated above in parentheses.

TYPES. BRAZIL, *Pará State*: Iriboca nr. Belém, Pirelli plantation, August 15, 1962, W. L. Brown leg. 1 worker (BF-18, holotype: WWK); idem, Utinga, tract near Belém, August 12, 1962, W. L. Brown leg. 1 worker (BF-11, paratype: MCZ). Both from berlesates of forest floor cover.

DISCUSSION

The mandibles of *cosmostela* present two intercalary teeth in the apical fork and two distinct preapical teeth, characters which bring it to couplet 42 of Brown's key (1962: 257-264) of the Neotropical species of *Strumigenys*, where it must be differentiated from *xenognatha*, *tococae* and *fairchildi*.

The differences from *xenognatha* (probably a parasitic species, still known only in the female caste) are as follows: second (proximal) preapical tooth of mandibles

smaller than first (distal) and much closer to the latter; head less elongate with shorter mandibles (cf. indices), the frontal carinae more abruptly turned laterad behind the antennal origin; spongiform appendages much more voluminous and extensive, with the already described oval or circular cavities, and encircling completely the postpetiolar node; basidorsal costulae present on gaster; all hairs thin, arched or flexuous; stiff, claviform or remiform hairs completely absent.

Both *tococae* and *fairchildi* are significantly larger in size (head and thorax length well over 0.75 mm), have a narrower, more elongate head (cephalic index under 80), much larger eyes with many facets, well-developed inferior propodeal teeth, less voluminous and less distinctly excavate spongiform appendages on petiole and postpetiole; the tergum I of gaster is either entirely longitudinally striolate (*fairchildi*) or having the basidorsal costulae extended farther backwards over at least one third of tergum length (*tococae*).

In spite of a certain resemblance with the *connectens*-group, the present species seems to belong to the *tococae*-group on account of the mandibular dentition and the well-developed spongiform appendages.

The species is named after its elaborate petiolar and postpetiolar appendages.

Strumigenys deltisquama Brown

Strumigenys deltisquama Brown, 1955:
99-101, fig. 1a-b (worker; Panama
Canal Zone: Barro Colorado Island).

New locality record: MEXICO, *Jalisco*: La Manzanilla, 12 mi. northwest of Barra de Navidad, palm forest on beach, November 23, 1973, A. Newton leg., workers (berlesate collection; MCZ, WWK).

This handsome species, strikingly marked by its dense cover of large, deltoid hairs, was known from types only. The present record shows that its territory