A new U.S. record for a secondary fruit infester, *Neosilba batesi* (Curran) (Diptera: Lonchaeidae)

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A lonchaeid fly, *Neosilba batesi*, first described by Curran in 1932 from Guatemala, is here reported in Florida as of September 1994, a new U.S. record. Five larvae found infesting avocado fruit were reared to adults. The authors first identified the adults and our initial determination was confirmed by Dr. Al Norrbom of the Systematic Entomology Laboratory, USDA, Washington, D.C. A number of other specimens were subsequently collected and are recorded here as well. The species is probably a secondary invader of fruit, following initial attack by *Anastrepha* fruit flies, as observed in several other lonchaeid species (Curran, 1932; McAlpine and Steyskal, 1982; Souza et al., 1983).

Neosilba batesi is polyphagous, now having been recorded from fruit of *Mangifera indica* L. (mango) and seedpods of *Inga* (Curran, 1932); fruit of *Citrus sinensis* (L.) (sweet orange), *Carica papaya* L. (papaya), *Guilielma gasipaes* (*Bactris gasipaes* H.B.K.) (peach palm), and *Persea americana* Mill. (avocado) (McAlpine and Steyskal, 1982). The recorded geographic range of *N. batesi*, including areas of possible recent introduction, is Colombia, Panama and Mexico (McAlpine and Steyskal, 1982), Guatemala (Curran, 1932), and now Florida.

Neosilba batesi joins congeners *N. nigrocaerulea* (Malloch) and *N. perezi* (Romero and Ruppel) as confirmed residents of Florida (McAlpine and Steyskal, 1982). The genus *Neosilba* is readily recognized by its setulose lunule, plumose arista, and calypteres fringed with long blackish setae. Species are nearly impossible to differentiate from each other without examining genitalia. At this juncture, the reader is encouraged to reference the excellent treatment and illustrations of *Neosilba* specifically, and Lonchaeidae generally, in McAlpine and Steyskal (1982).

Specimen Data: FLORIDA: Dade Co., Hialeah, IX-1994, D. Chalot, 3 males, 2 females, reared from larvae in avocado fruit wound; 28-X-1994, Roberto Erb, 1 male, 2 females ex McPhail trap; 3-XI-1994, Roberto Erb, 3 specimens ex McPhail trap; 10-XI-1994, Roberto Erb, 9 specimens ex McPhail trap.

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