



Figs. 4-5. Secondary genitalia, with the penis extracted, of Venezuelan *Micrathyria ocellata dentiens*: (4) holotype of *M. "carlota"* (the anterior lamina being somewhat damaged); — (5) same specimen as in Fig. 2.

completed. The secondary genitalia, including the penis, have also been compared with those of some males of *ocellata dentiens*, but no differences have been detected. What can be said is that the holotype of *carlota* has a very dark pterothorax, with well developed metallic blue reflections, and with the yellow areas considerably reduced. The colour pattern is, however, fairly variable in *ocellata dentiens*. A similarly dark male was caught at Caruachi, Bolívar. On the other hand, I have checked a male specimen from El Limón, Aragua, which has very extended pale areas on the pterothorax. This male is still considerably paler than one belonging to the so-called *ocellata quicha* Calv., from Minatitlan, Veracruz, Mexico.

Due to the lack of consistent differences, either structural or in colour pattern, between *carlota* Needham and *ocellata dentiens* Calvert, I propose to place *carlota* Needham into synonymy with *ocellata dentiens* Calvert.

I am thankful to Professor Dr M.J. WESTFALL, Jr. for the permission to quote from his above mentioned correspondence.

J. De Marmels, Departamento e Instituto de Zoología Arícola, Facultad de Agronomía, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Apartado 4579, Maracay 2101-A, Venezuela.

THE INDENTITY OF *ARGIA SAALASI* VALLE, 1942 (ZYGOPTERA: COENAGRI-ONIDAE)

A. saalasi Valle, which was described from material of southern Californian origin, has long been considered a mere synonym of either *A. agrioides* Calv. or *A. nahuana* Calv. (D.R. Paulson, pers. comm.; M.J. Westfall, Jr., pers. comm.). However, the true identity of *A. saalasi* has not been discussed in the literature.

The material on which K.J. VALLE (1942, *Annls ent. fenn.* 8:163-166) based his somewhat conditional description is to be found in the Zoological Museum of the University of Helsinki. It contains:

- Lectotype (here designated): ♂ labelled: "Riverside, Cal./U. Saalas [leg.]/188b/Mus. Zool. H:fors Spec. typ. No 6558 *Argia saalasi* Valle/*Argia saalasi* Valle ♂ det. Valle". — Part of legs lacking, blue colour well preserved.
- Paralectotypes (here designated): ♀ labelled: "Riverside, Cal./U. Saalas [leg.]/187b/Mus. Zool. H:fors Spec. typ. No 6559 *Argia saalasi* Valle/*Argia saalasi* Valle ♀ det. Valle". — Head, prothorax and middle legs lacking.
- ♀ labelled: "Riverside, Cal./U. Saalas [leg.]/189b/Coll. K.J. Valle/*Argia saalasi* Valle ♀ det. Valle". — Head, prothorax and legs lacking.

According to VALLE (1942; cf. above) the specimens were collected on July 7, 1928.

I have studied the specimens using L.K. GLOYD's (1958, *Occ. Pap. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich.* 593:1-23) criteria of differentiating *A. agrioides* and *A. nahuana* and compared them with material of both sexes from California, kindly sent by Dr D.R. Paulson. It became evident that *A. saalasi* is conspecific with *A. nahuana*. The latter was originally described as a variety of *A. agrioides*, but was raised to specific status by GLOYD (1958; cf. above).

I am grateful to Dr D.R. PAULSON (Univ. Washington, Seattle) for valuable information and for sending material for comparison, and to Mr VESA VARIS (Zool. Mus., Univ. Helsinki) for permission to check the types of *A. saalasi*.

M. Hämäläinen, Department of Agricultural and Forest Zoology, University of Helsinki, SF-00710 Helsinki, Finland.