



An illustrated key to the soldiers of *Cyranotermes* Araujo with a new species from Amazonia (Isoptera: Termitidae: Nasutitermitinae)

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Abstract

Until now, the Neotropical termite genus *Cyranotermes* was known from three species: *C. timuassu* Araujo, *C. glaber* Constantino, and *C. caete* Cancellato. In this paper a new species, *Cyranotermes karipuna*, **n. sp.**, is described and illustrated from imago, worker, and soldier castes, along with its nest. It is also provided an illustrated identification key to species of *Cyranotermes*, a map with the occurrence of all species, and the first description of the imago caste of *Cyranotermes*, based on the first description of the imago of *C. timuassu*, and the imago of the new species.

Key words: termites, taxonomy, South America, nest, imago

Introduction

The Nasutitermitinae genus *Cyranotermes* was originally described by Araujo (1970), based on the soldier caste of *C. timuassu*, the type species. Mathews (1977) redescribed the genus, adding the description of the worker caste, and new data about the biology and the nest. Fontes described the mandibles and the digestive tube of the worker of *C. timuassu*, including the enteric valve (1987a, b).

Cancellato (1987) described *C. caete*, with illustrations of the soldier and worker mandibles, adding a description and drawings of the nest of *C. timuassu*.

Constantino (1990) described *C. glaber*, with illustrations of the soldier, worker (head, mandibles, and enteric valve), and the nest. In the same work the author included a description of the nest of *C. caete* and an illustrated key for the three species of the genus.

In the current paper, we describe a new species, *C. karipuna* **n. sp.**, from Brazilian Amazonian forest, with details of the imago, soldier, work mandible, and nest. We also provide an illustrated identification key to species of *Cyranotermes* based on the soldier caste, a map with the records of the species, and the description of the imago of *C. timuassu*.

Material and methods

The material used for comparisons and photographs are all paratypes, except for the imago of *C. timuassu*. All the material is deposited in the Isoptera collection of the Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP). The respective lot numbers are indicated in parenthesis and comprise the following samples (all from Brazil): *C. timuassu*: Distrito Federal, Brasília, Fazenda Água Limpa, 28.xii.1953, R.L. Araujo col. (6868, imagoes, soldiers, and workers), Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, 14.ix.1976, R.L. Araujo col. (4233, soldiers and workers). *C. caete*: Pará, Serra dos Carajás, vii–viii.1985, R. Constantino col. (8711, soldiers and workers). *C. glaber*: Amapá, Macapá, 28.x.1984, R. Constantino col. (9221, soldiers and workers).