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New Central American and Mexican *Enoclerus* Gahan (Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae): Part II

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Abstract

The following nineteen new species are described: *Enoclerus anctus*, *E. hespenheidei* and *E. citricornis* from Costa Rica; *E. boquete* and *E. opitzi* from Panamá; *E. skillmani*, *E. melissae* and *E. urbanus* from Costa Rica and Panamá; *E. mcnallyi*, *E. fibrillatus*, *E. toledoi*, *E. boblloydi*, *E. chamelae*, *E. mocho*, *E. albidulus* and *E. crinitus* from México; *E. gilli* and *E. regnadkcin* from Guatemala; *E. cavei* from El Salvador. In addition, *E. silbermannii aeternitatis* **n. subsp.** is described from El Salvador and Costa Rica. The biogeography of the genus in México and Costa Rica is discussed, based on life zone and habitat records for 95 species.

Key words: Clerid fauna, taxonomy, mimicry, biogeography, endemism, habitat, cloud forest, tropical deciduous forest, pine–oak forest, México, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Panamá

Introduction

This paper is the second part of a project devoted to the description of new *Enoclerus* species from México and Central America. As I stated in the first part (Rifkind 2002), classification of this speciose and diverse genus is complicated by several factors, not the least of which is the paucity in collections of representative specimens of many species. Indeed, several of the new species I propose in this paper are based on a single example or a pair only. I recognize that this is never an ideal situation, but I believe that the imperative to catalog as completely as possible the fauna of little known or threatened habitats overrides our normally justified reticence toward single specimen descriptions. That said, I have tried to be judicious in selecting for description only forms that are sufficiently distinct from their nearest congeners as to leave no doubt that their populations represent the degree of phyletic divergence required of a good species. In my earlier work (op. cit.), I complained that the systematics and taxonomy of *Enoclerus* were made difficult by the presence of polymorphic species, and considerable geographic variation. Unfortunately, despite nearly a decade of subsequent collection and study, I remain confounded by many of these species and species groups. It is frustrating to admit, for example, that I cannot with confidence put a name on some of the more commonly collected reddish and black Costa Rican *Enoclerus* species, because interpopulational variation is so great. I do not know whether I am looking at a superspecies complex, subspecific divergence or polymorphism within a single species. *Enoclerus crabronarius* (Spinola) is also illustrative of the situation: southern Mexico is home to several populations that while distinct, all agree broadly with our concept of this species. In Costa Rica, the puzzle grows even more complex: it sometimes seems as though every peak in the Cordillera de Guanacaste is populated by its own singular expression of *E. crabronarius*, each with the sort of slight but consistent differences that compels taxonomic fence sitting rather than a confident decision to lump or split. Among other problematic species are *E. venator* (Chevrolat) and members of the broadly distributed *E. laetus* (Klug) group. In both instances, the shape of the midelytral fascia and the absence or presence of subbasal maculae — characters upon which many *Enoclerus* species are based — are so varied and plastic (both within and between populations) as to cast doubt on their reliable use for diagnosis. As if this were not treacherous enough systematic terrain, with *E. laetus*, there is the further complication of widespread and seemingly random color polymorphism.

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