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urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:F74F62A5-4398-4D55-B5AE-751020A3CFFA

Delgadobius amazonensis—a new genus and species of the subtribe Philonthina from Amazonia (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Staphylininae)

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Abstract

Delgadobius amazonensis Chani-Posse & Couturier, **gen. et sp. nov.**, a new genus and species of the subtribe Philonthina (tribe Staphylinini) from Amazonia, is described and illustrated. The potential phylogenetic relationships of *Delgadobius* with other Neotropical genera of Philonthina are discussed. Distributional and bionomic data are also provided. *Delgadobius amazonensis* is reported in association with four species of palm trees (Arecaceae).

Key words: Staphylinini, Philonthina, *Delgadobius*, new genus, systematics, Amazonia, Arecaceae

Introduction

Philonthina is the largest of the nine subtribes in the tribe Staphylinini (Bouchard *et al.*, 2011). Philonthina has been characterized as broadly distributed in all zoogeographical regions and particularly speciose in tropical areas (Herman, 2001; Newton and Thayer, 2005). Among the 65 genera of Philonthina, 28 genera are known to occur in the Neotropical Region (Newton and Thayer, 2005), with 18 of them recognized as probably endemic to this area (Chani-Posse, in press). Members of Philonthina are considered generalist predators as both larvae and adults (Smetana, 1995).

The examination of material collected several years ago in the Amazonian rainforest, led the second author to the discovery of *Delgadobius*, a new genus of Philonthina, probably endemic to the Neotropical Region. Additional material was studied from a more recent collecting trip in northeastern Peru.

The objectives of this study are to describe *Delgadobius* using characters from external morphology and genitalia, to describe the new species, to make a preliminary assessment of the phylogenetic relationships between this genus and the other Neotropical genera of Philonthina and to provide information about its distribution and association with palm trees in Amazonia. The phylogenetic hypotheses discussed herein are part of a major revisionary study of the Neotropical genera of Philonthina (Chani-Posse, in press), in which the first author studied the type species of all relevant genera.

Material and methods

Material on which this paper is based is or will be deposited in the following institutions:

FMNH	Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, USA.
IADIZA	Instituto Argentino de Investigaciones de las Zonas Áridas, Mendoza, Argentina.
INPA	Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, Manaus, Brazil.
MNHN	Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France.
MNHUB	Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany.