



Redescription of *Cis taurus* (Reitter, 1878) (Coleoptera: Ciidae)

ESTER H. OLIVEIRA^{1,3} & CRISTIANO LOPES-ANDRADE²

¹Programa de Pós-Graduação em Entomologia, Departamento de Entomologia, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, 36570-000, Viçosa, Minas Gerais, Brazil

²Departamento de Biologia Animal, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, 36570-000, Viçosa, Minas Gerais, Brazil

³Corresponding author. E-mail: estheloliveira@gmail.com

Abstract

Cis taurus (Reitter) is the type-species of *Macrocis* Reitter, a genus subsequently synonymized with *Cis* Latreille. It names a diversified but barely studied species-group of *Cis*, the *taurus* group. The objective of the present work is to redescribe *C. taurus*, designate a lectotype and provide the first description of male abdominal terminalia of the species. We also provide new data on its geographic distribution, restricted to three major Mexico mountain ranges: the Sierra Madre Oriental, the Sierra Madre de Chiapas and the Transmexican Volcanic Belt (Sierra Nevada). This is a first and important step in the ongoing revision of the *taurus* species-group.

Key words: Minute tree-fungus beetles, Ciinae, Mexico, Neotropical, Tenebrionoidea

Introduction

The genus *Macrocis* was described by Reitter (1878) based on three species. Lawrence (1971) synonymized the genus with *Cis* Latreille and designated *M. taurus* as the type-species. Most authors followed Lawrence's classification (e.g. Kawanabe 1997; Navarrete-Heredia & Burgos-Solorio 2000), so far ignored only by Abdullah (1973). All the species originally described in *Macrocis* were included in the *Cis taurus* species-group by Lawrence (1971), who also described an additional species. Therefore, the *taurus* group currently comprises nine species, as follows: *C. bison* (Reitter, 1878), *C. cornelli* Lawrence, 1971, *C. diabolicus* (Reitter, 1878), *C. grandicornis* (Pic, 1917), *C. kawanabei* Lopes-Andrade, 2002, *C. rufescens* (Pic, 1922), *C. setifer* (Gorham, 1883), *C. taurus* (Reitter, 1878) and *C. testaceimembris* (Pic, 1916). The group also includes several unnamed forms and other described *Cis* species not currently included in any species-group. The single Nearctic species and several Neotropical species of the *taurus* group differ from other *Cis* in the following features: (i) body plump and stocky, strongly convex; (ii) frontoclypeal ridge usually with a pair of lateral horns in males and two short projections in females; (iii) prosternum in front of coxae strongly tumid and carinate at the longitudinal midline; (iv) prosternal process comparatively narrower at base and enlarged at apex; (v) protibial apex with a row of spines and outer apical angle produced into a stout tooth.

We are currently revising the *taurus* group and, as a first step, it is necessary to clarify the morphological limits of the nominal species. The objective of the present work is to redescribe *C. taurus* proper, the species that names the *taurus* group, designate a lectotype, provide the first description of its male abdominal terminalia and present new data on its geographic distribution.

Materials and methods

The redescription of *C. taurus* is based on a plesiotype (a specimen used for a redescription, supplementary description, or illustration published subsequent to the original description; sensu Evenhuis 2008). A lectotype, here