

NOTE

Beetles (Coleoptera) Associated with the External Debris of *Atta mexicana* (F. Smith) (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) from Ojuelos, Jalisco, México

Beetles are closely associated with several species of social insects, especially with ants of the genera *Atta* Fabricius, 1804, and *Acromyrmex* Mayr, 1865 (Navarrete-Heredia 2001 recorded 411 beetle species of 25 families). In México, there are a few faunistic studies on *Atta*-beetle associations. These were done in localities from Estado de México, Morelos, and Querétaro (Hinton and Ancona 1934, 1935; Deloya 1988; Rojas 1989; Márquez-Luna 1994).

In this paper, we provide additional information on beetles associated with the external debris of *Atta mexicana* (F. Smith, 1858) in a "matorral xerófilo" plant association ("chaparral" *sensu* Leopold 1950), from Presa el Cuarenta, Ojuelos, Jalisco. Specimens were collected from debris of a single ant mound and are deposited in the Entomological Collection of the Centro de Estudios en Zoología with the following label data: MÉXICO: JAL, Ojuelos, Presa El Cuarenta, matorral xerófilo, 27.VII.2003, J. Cortés-Aguilar y C. I. Hermosillo cols., *ex* detrito de *Atta mexicana*.

In this locality, the following species were collected: *Morion lafertei* Guérin-Méneville, 1844, and one unidentified carabid (Carabidae); *Oosternum atacomis* Spangler, 1962 (Hydrophilidae); *Epiglyptus costatus* (LeConte, 1852), *Pseudister rufulus* (Lewis, 1888), *Xestipyge multistriatum* Lewis, 1888, *Hister* sp., and two unidentified histerid species (Histeridae); one unidentified Aleocharinae; *Philonthus alius* Bernhauer and Schubert, 1914, *Platydracus fulvomaculatus* (Normann, 1837) (Staphylinidae); *Ptichopus angulatus* (Percheron, 1835) (Passalidae); *Onthophagus rufescens* Bates, 1887, *Ataenius holopubescens* Hinton, 1938, *Diapterna dugesi* (Bates, 1887), *Euparixia mexicana* Gordon and McCleve,

2003 (Fig. 1) (Scarabaeidae); one unidentified scydmenid (Scydmaenidae); *Lapethus* sp. (Cerylonidae); one unidentified anthicid (Anthicidae); and *Bycraea villosa* Pascoe, 1868 (Tenebrionidae).

*Euparixia mexicana* was recently described as a cryptic species similar to *E. duncani* Brown. Actually some specimens were confused with *E. duncani* by Woodruff and Cartwright (1967). It is now known from the Mexican states of Sonora, Sinaloa, and Jalisco. This species is recognized easily by the shape of the pronotum that is con-



Fig. 1. Dorsal view of *Euparixia mexicana*.

stricted only in the posterior one-third, with the posterior angles prominent and acute, and by the pronotal disc with shallow punctures separated by a flat pronotal surface (Fig. 1). Label data lacks specific host records, but *A. mexicana* was presumed to be the host. In this note, we record for the first time an accurate host record for this species.

One question remains on the identity of the specimens cited as *E. duncani* by Woodruff and Cartwright (1967) from México. Gordon and McCleve (2003) stated that *E. duncani* is not known from México, so do the specimens cited from Durango and Puebla belong to *E. mexicana* or to a new cryptic species?

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