



Catalog of the types of Staphylinidae (Insecta, Coleoptera) deposited at Museo de La Plata (Argentina)

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Abstract

The types of species of Staphylinidae (Coleoptera) housed in the collection of the Entomology Department of Museo de La Plata were examined and listed. These types belong to 46 species assigned to the following subfamilies: Aleocharinae (6 species, 17 types), Megalopsidiinae (1, 4), Osoriinae (4, 19), Oxytelinae (5, 19), Paederinae (12, 32), Proteininae (1, 1), Pselaphinae (9, 17), Staphylininae (5, 15), Steninae (2, 4) and Tachyporinae (1, 20). Types herein treated belong to 34 species described by Bernhauer, eight by Raffray and four by Bruch. Complete information is given for each type, including reference to original description, label data, and preservation condition. Two lists were added in order to support future research: one for specimens labelled with manuscript names, and another for specimens labelled as types but not included in the type series in the original publications.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, types, Museo de La Plata, Bernhauer, Bruch, Raffray

Introduction

Staphylinidae comprises over 47,000 species, and is one of the most numerous families of Coleoptera. It includes nearly 5% of the currently known animal species, which are placed in approximately 3,400 genera grouped in 31 subfamilies (Newton & Thayer 2003). In spite of their ecological importance and dominance in many ecosystems, only the European fauna of Staphylinidae is taxonomically and ecologically well-known. In the rest of the world, particularly tropical and austral temperate areas the family is poorly known (Newton 1985, Newton *et al.* 2000). The most recent world catalogue for the family was published in seven parts by Herman (2001) and includes 27 of the 31 subfamilies currently known. Aleocharinae, Paederinae, Scaphidiinae, and Pselaphinae were not included in this work, although the last two subfamilies are treated by Löbl (1997) and Newton and Chandler (1989; only genera and higher levels), respectively.

In Argentina, 19 subfamilies are represented, 10 of which have world-wide distribution, and two other are widespread. Among those subfamilies with world-wide distribution, Aleocharinae, Pselaphinae, Paederinae and Staphylininae account for 83% of the 301 genera currently cited for Argentina (Herman 2001, Newton, pers.com.) followed by Osoriinae (5%), Omaliinae, Oxytelinae and Tachyporinae (2–3%), Scaphidiinae and Proteininae (about 1%). Each of the nine remaining subfamilies is represented by a single genus in Argentina (Chani Posse & Thayer, in press). Although the first contributions to the local knowledge of Staphylinidae were mainly made during the second half of the 19th century (i.e., Fairmaire & Germain 1861; Lynch-Arribálzaga 1884), most significant progress was made in the first half of the 20th century by Bernhauer