



Synopsis of the genus *Meridiotroctes* Martins & Galileo (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)

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Martins & Galileo (2007) proposed the genus *Meridiotroctes* to accommodate *Meridiotroctes meridionale* Martins & Galileo, 2007. They considered the new genus near *Ozotroctes* Bates, 1861 and to all the other genera recently described by Tavakilian & Néouze (2007): *Formozotroctes*, *Psapharoctes*, *Punctozotroctes*, and *Spinozotroctes*. All of these genera have in common the truncated apical segment of the labial palps (Tavakilian & Néouze, 2007: 20, figs. 21-33). *Meridiotroctes meridionale*, the only species of the genus, occurs in the states of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, and Santa Catarina, Brazil.

In this contribution we add some characters to the description of *Meridiotroctes*, compare it with other related genera, and describe a new species from Brazil (Bahia and Rio de Janeiro).

Abbreviation cited in the text: MNRJ, Museu Nacional, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Meridiotroctes Martins & Galileo, 2007

Meridiotroctes Martins & Galileo, 2007: 188; Monné & Bezark, 2009: 218.

Type species: *Meridiotroctes meridionale* Martins & Galileo, 2007 (original designation).

The original description was based only on males. Here we add the following characters: Antennae in females do not exceed the elytral apices. Frons vertical, with a row of brown hairs near the inner margin of the lower ocular lobe. Clypeus with a few long brown hairs. Genae short, rounded. Antennal tubercles feebly prominent. Prothorax transverse, lateral tubercles with some coarse punctures ornamented with brown hairs. Pronotum with a row of coarse punctures on anterior and posterior margins. Humeri rounded and slightly prominent. Elytra with narrow longitudinal sulcus, near suture, in the apical half. Hind legs slightly longer than forelegs. Pro- and mesocoxae rounded. Femora pedunculate-clavate. Fifth urosternite in females with a longitudinal median sulcus on basal third, and long, erect setae near apical margin.

Remarks. *Meridiotroctes* is similar to *Formozotroctes*, *Ozotroctes*, *Psapharoctes*, *Punctozotroctes*, and *Spinozotroctes* in the truncated apical segment of the labial palps. *Ozotroctes* (*O. punctatissimus* Bates, 1861, Fig. 3) differs from *Meridiotroctes* by the coarse punctures on the pronotum, the elytra similar in size, and the elytra with a regular surface covered by pubescence, except in the punctuation. In *Meridiotroctes* the pronotum punctures are smaller than on the elytra, and the elytral surface is irregular and completely covered by pubescence.

Martins & Galileo (2007) distinguished *Psapharoctes* from *Meridiotroctes* by the unarmed elytral apex. However, only in *Psapharoctes hermierei* Tavakilian & Néouze, 2007 (Fig. 4) is the elytral apex unarmed, whereas *P. fanchonae* Tavakilian & Néouze, 2007 (the type species) has a small apical spine. *Psapharoctes* differs from *Meridiotroctes* by the pronotum with a longitudinal median carina and the elytra with a narrow sulcus near the epipleura, in the apical half. In *Meridiotroctes* the median region of the pronotum is planar and lacks a sulcus near the epipleura.

Meridiotroctes differs from *Punctozotroctes* by the lateral tubercles of the prothorax towards sides and the elytra with a median crista near its base. In *Punctozotroctes* (*P. guianensis* Tavakilian & Néouze, 2007, Fig. 5), the lateral tubercles on the prothorax are directed posteriorly and the elytra has only a slight elevation, without a crista.