



Two new species of the Neotropical genus *Philothalpus* Kraatz from Peru (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Xanthopygina)

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Abstract

Two new species of *Philothalpus* Kraatz, 1857 are described from Peru, *P. juanecoi* sp.n. (Cusco) and *P. lucieae* sp.n. (Junin). Photographs and drawings of the diagnostic characters are provided. Both species are included in the key to *Philothalpus* species.

Key words: Staphylinidae, *Philothalpus*, new species, identification key, Neotropical region, rove beetles, taxonomy

Introduction

Recently, the genus *Philothalpus* Kraatz, 1857 was revised by Chatzimanolis and Ashe (2005). In that work, the name *Allostenopsis* Bernhauer, 1921 was synonymized with *Philothalpus* and seventeen new species were described. Cladistic analysis recovered *Philothalpus* as monophyletic with support of thirteen unambiguous synapomorphies.

Currently, the genus includes 21 species distributed in the Neotropical region, from the north of Nicaragua to the south of Brazil. They are found in forest undergrowth at altitudes ranging from 40 to 1600 m. Seventeen species occur exclusively in South America. Four species were described from Peru: *P. mundus* (Sharp, 1876), *P. pecki* Chatzimanolis & Ashe, 2005, *P. loksos* Chatzimanolis & Ashe, 2005 and *P. stravos* Chatzimanolis & Ashe, 2005.

In the present paper, two new species are described, increasing the total number of *Philothalpus* species to 23; Peru has now a total of six species.

Material and methods

Specimens. To study characters, dried specimens were macerated in boiling water for five minutes and then cleared in 10% KOH overnight. Dissections were carried out under a stereoscopic microscope Carl Zeiss Stemi SV6 and drawings made with the same equipment. Photographs were taken using a stereoscopic microscope Carl Zeiss Stemi 2000-C with a Sony Cyber-shot DSC-S75 digital camera using the image processing software CombineZ5.3. Measurements were done using an ocular micrometer in the SV6 microscope.

For the type label data, quotation marks “ ” separate different labels and slash / separates different lines. Text within square brackets [] is explanatory and was not included in the original labels.

The following abbreviations are used: