



Reexamination of the five species of Blaberidae deposited in the Entomological Collection of the Museu Nacional/UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

SONIA MARIA LOPES, EDIVAR HEEREN DE OLIVEIRA & ANDRÉA KHOURI

Museu Nacional, Departamento de Entomologia. Quinta da Boa Vista, São Cristóvão, 20940-040, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. IBAMA – 588078. E-mail: sonialfraga@gmail.com

The family Blaberidae is diverse, including large wingless, brachypterous, or fully winged species. Wings of the fully winged species have many-branched veins and reach beyond the apex of the abdomen. Some species are smaller and green in color. These cockroaches are more than 40mm long; species have front femora with 1 to 3 spines on the ventroposterior margin and 1 at the tip; and lack arolia. The females of Blaberidae possess a brood sac, wherein the ootheca or loose eggs are retained until the eggs hatch (ovoviviparity). The phylogeny of roach families was explored by McKittrick (1964), Grandcolas (1994, 1996), Kambhampati (1996) and Klass (1997, 1998, 2001) (Grimaldi & Engel, 2004). We update knowledge of five species of Blaberidae from Brazil, based on a literature review and examination of the Blattaria collection in the Department of Entomology at the Museu Nacional of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (MNRJ).

Brachycola tuberculata (Dalman, 1823)

Blatta tuberculata Dalman, 1823: 87; Princis, 1963: 113.

Brachycola tuberculata Rocha e Silva-Albuquerque, 1964: 4; McKittrick, 1964: 17; Vanschuytbroeck, 1969: 4; Rocha e Silva-Albuquerque & Lopes, 1977: 499; Rocha e Silva, 1982: 2.

Brachycola sexnotata (Thunberg, 1826) Roth, 1970b: 308, 334.

Hormetica tuberculata Beccaloni, 2007: electronic resource.

Geographical distribution. Colombia, Brazil (Bahia, Rio Grande do Norte, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro [Itatiaia, Mag, Petrópolis, Rio de Janeiro, Silva Jardim, Teresópolis]).

Comments. The holotype male is deposited in the Zoologische Staatssammlung, Munich (Bavarian State Collection of Zoology). Thirteen males and 10 females are deposited in MNRJ. We revalidate the status of *B. tuberculata* based on the habitus and male genitalia as described and illustrated in Roth (1970). We do not consider it a member of the genus *Hormetica*, nor synonymous with *Brachycola sexnotata* (Thunberg, 1826). In Brachycolini the L2d is distinguishable from the L2vm by one membrane and the spines in the prepuce having diverse forms, which can be very long (*Phoetalia*), small (*Brachycola* Saussure, 1864) or arising from one large sclerotized region. Likewise, the two species of *Brachycola* (*B. sexnotata* and *B. tuberculata*) also are distinguishable also by the habitus and the genital structures: *B. sexnotata* possesses pronotal caudal margins shaped like a hexagon, while in *B. tuberculata* the pronotal margins are straight; on the tegmina *B. sexnotata* has seven dark spots, while *B. tuberculata* has five spots. Also, in *B. sexnotata* the genital median sclerite possesses a thin L2d with a membrane full of tiny spines arranged horizontally and the right phallomere is apically straight, while in *B. tuberculata* the right phallomere is not straight, and the genital median sclerite is darker and possesses small spines surrounding the membrane that involves L2d.

Audreia coriacea Rocha e Silva-Albuquerque & Lopes, 1976

Audreia coriacea Rocha e Silva-Albuquerque & Lopes, 1976: 887.

Epilampra coriacea Beccaloni, 2007: electronic resource.

Geographical distribution. Brazil (Espírito Santo, Rio de Janeiro [Macaé, Itatiaia]).