



Revision of the Neotropical ladybird genus *Parinesa* Gordon (Coleoptera, Coccinellidae)

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Abstract

The genus *Parinesa* Gordon is revised, differentiated from the genera *Argentipilosa* Gordon & Almeida and *Glomerella* Gordon and placed in Argentipilosini (Coccinellinae), the genus was previously known by one species from The Greater Antilles. Ten species are recognized in *Parinesa*: *P. whiteheadi* Gordon, 1991 (type species), *P. gnoma* (Gordon, 1977) **n. comb.** transferred from *Glomerella* and the new species *P. bechynorum* **sp. nov.** and *P. carioca* **sp. nov.** from Brazil; *P. minuta* **sp. nov.** from Panama and *P. ariasi* **sp. nov.**, *P. jolyi* **sp. nov.**, *P. lemae* **sp. nov.**, *P. savinae* **sp. nov.** and *P. anae* **sp. nov.** from Venezuela.

Key words: *Argentipilosa*, *Glomerella*, ladybug, New World, Sticholotidini, taxonomy.

Introduction

The genera *Parinesa*, *Argentipilosa* and *Glomerella* comprise minute, about less than 2.0 mm, compact and uniform looking beetles. Gordon (1991) in his revision of the West Indian Sticholotidini (Coccinellidae, Sticholotidinae), described the monotypic genus *Parinesa* from Hispaniola Island (Dominican Republic), based on a single specimen, reporting similarities and differences with *Glomerella* Gordon, 1977 known from Brazil (*G. perconvexa* Gordon, 1977) and Colombia (*G. gnoma* Gordon, 1977).

Gordon & Almeida (1991) erected Argentipilosini (Sticholotidinae) for the new genus *Argentipilosa*, and described two species from Brazil. Kovář (1996) in his scheme of Coccinellidae phylogeny postulated close relationships between Argentipilosini and Sticholotidini, this position was followed by Duverger (2003). More recently, Vandenberg & Pérez–Gelabert (2007) stated “Argentipilosini belongs in Cryptognathini, Cryptognathinae (Vandenberg in prep.)” providing no detailed arguments. The current most comprehensive molecular and morphological based research on Coccinellidae phylogeny (Seago *et al.* 2011) does not support the monophyly of several major traditional groups, including Sticholotidini, placing *Parinesa* (as *Glomerella*) as sister group of *Argentipilosa* in a distant clade from *Sticholotis* Crotch, admittedly support of many branches on that phylogeny tree is weak, requiring further research. Before a workable system of Coccinellidae subfamilies and tribes based on phylogeny is available, we recognize the traditional Sticholotidini and Argentipilosini.

Our main goal was to diagnose and redescribe the genus *Parinesa* and illustrate its morphology, pointing to significant similarities with *Glomerella* and *Argentipilosa*. Using material from a wide range of sources, we were also able to show how morphologically diverse *Parinesa* is. This study is part of a world generic revision of the heterogeneous Sticholotidini (Ślipiński 2004, 2007; Escalona & Ślipiński in prep.).

Despite the wide geographical distribution of *Parinesa* in the Neotropical Region, we have found relatively few specimens in museum collections. Our own field work in Venezuela (HE) has shown that with appropriate collecting techniques, like pyrethrum knockdown on logs in forest, specimens are commonly collected.