Two new species of *Emmalodera* Blanchard, 1842 (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) from western Argentina

VIOLETA A. SILVESTRO¹ & GUSTAVO E. FLORES², ³
¹Laboratorio de Entomología, Dpto. de Biodiversidad y Biología Experimental, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina. E-mail: ayesensilvestro@hotmail.com
²CONICET, Laboratorio de Entomología, Instituto Argentino de Investigaciones de las Zonas Áridas (IADIZA, CCT CONICET Mendoza), Casilla de correos 507, 5500 Mendoza, Argentina
³Corresponding author. E-mail: gflores@mendoza-conicet.gov.ar

Abstract

Two new species of the genus *Emmalodera* Blanchard (Tenebrioninae: Scotobiini) from western Argentina are described, *Emmalodera rugosa* sp. nov. from the Patagonian steppe and *Emmalodera telteca* sp. nov. from lowlands in the Mendoza province. Distributional data, habitat records, and photographs of habitus and pronota for these two new species are included, with comparisons to other known species of the genus.

Key words: Tenebrionidae, Scotobiini, *Emmalodera*, new species

Introduction

The genus *Emmalodera* Blanchard, 1842 belongs to the Scotobiini, a Neotropical tribe of Tenebrioninae, with five genera endemic to arid and semiarid lands of South America (Kulzer 1955). According to the last revision (Kulzer 1955) and subsequent descriptions (Kasza 1964; Peña 1974), *Emmalodera* comprises 11 species and four subspecies prior to this study. They are distributed from northwestern Argentina to the southern part of Patagonia in Argentina and Chile, with two species inhabiting Tierra del Fuego island (Kulzer 1955). Species of *Emmalodera* inhabit the biogeographic provinces Patagonia and Monte (Morrone 2006).

*Emmalodera* species are characterized by having one spine on the profemur, the last antennomere pointed, and the tarsomeres loosely articulated to each other, with the last tarsomere more prominent (Kulzer 1955).

As part of recent research projects in central-western Argentina, several sampling explorations with pitfall traps partly filled with water, propylene glycol and detergent (Flores et al. 2004; Sackmann & Flores 2009) were conducted and specimens belonging to two new species of *Emmalodera* were found. The objectives of this paper are to describe and illustrate these two new species of *Emmalodera* from Argentina.

Material and methods

Type material housed until now in IADIZA will be deposited in the following collections:

ENTCNP Colección Entomológica, Centro Nacional Patagónico (CENPAT), Puerto Madryn, Argentina,
FMNH Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, United States of America,
HNHM Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary,
IADIZA Instituto Argentino de Investigaciones de las Zonas Áridas, Mendoza, Argentina,
IMCN Instituto y Museo de Ciencias Naturales de la Universidad Nacional de San Juan, Argentina,
IFML Fundación e Instituto Miguel Lillo, San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina,