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# Correspondence



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## Two new remarkable *Callimicra* Deyrolle, 1864 (Coleoptera: Buprestidae: Agrilinae) from Central America

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### Abstract

Collections from Panamá and the recent Arthropods of La Selva biodiversity inventory project in Costa Rica yielded specimens of two unusual species of the genus *Callimicra* Deyrolle, both of which exhibit striking color patterns. A brief review of the history of treatment of the genus is presented and the two new species are described and illustrated: *Callimicra timmonsae* **sp.n.** species, and *C. prenai* **sp.n.** 

Key words: Buprestidae, Callimicra, Coleoptera, Costa Rica, new species, Panamá

#### Introduction

*Callimicra* is a moderately large Neotropical genus (Bellamy 2008) whose variability and taxonomic treatments cause and reflect difficulty in its definition (e.g., Cobos 1978, Hołyński 1993). At present, there are nine named species known from Mexico and Central America, but there is perhaps as many as twice that number of additional undescribed species from the region in extant collections. As I have discussed earlier (Hespenheide 1979), the boundary between the genus Callimicra and the very large and somewhat less variable leaf-mining genus Leiopleura Deyrolle is difficult to define. Although, to my knowledge, no species of *Callimicra* have been reared, their usually more elongate and robust body form suggests they are borers in stems or wood rather than miners in leaves. Several species have been collected on plants in several genera of the family Euphorbiaceae (see below), and there may be an association of the genus with that family. Coloration of members of the genus *Callimicra* tends to be rather simple and uniform dorsally, typically either monochromatic blue, or with monochromatic blue elytra and a red, green or golden pronotum. The two species described here are unusual in having the blue or purple elytra with transverse bands either of bright green or bright red. A single South American specimen of another undescribed species with similar coloration has been seen in the collection of the Natural History Museum in London, and a species with less strikingly dichromatic elytra was described earlier from Brazil (Hespenheide 1980). These two species were collected either at La Selva Biological station in Costa Rica or as part of the Arthropods of La Selva (ALAS) biodiversity survey on the Volcan Barva Transect above the station. A total of 11 Callimicra species are known from La Selva or the Barva transect, only two of which have been described until now.

#### Materials and methods

Specimens were measured to the nearest 0.5 mm.

The following collection codens are used throughout the text:

BMNH	The Natural History Museum, London, England;
BYU	Monte L. Bean Life Science Museum, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, U.S.A.;
CHAH	Henry A. Hespenheide, University of California, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.;
CMNC	Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Canada;