



A new species of *Aegidium* Arrow (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae) from the Atlantic forest ecoregion in South America

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The New World genus *Aegidium* Arrow (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Orphninae) comprises mid-sized to rather large beetles belonging to 12 species (Paulian 1984). The species of this genus were known from the northern Amazon Basin and the Caribbean including some of the Lesser Antilles islands. Distribution records suggest that the primary habitat of *Aegidium* are Neotropical rain forests. The genus is distributed up to southern Mexico in the north (Morón 1991) and *A. cribratum chileanum* Paulian was described from Chile (Paulian 1984), but *Aegidium* has not been recorded southeast of the Amazonia. An interesting discovery was made by one of us (P.C.G.) who collected one male *Aegidium* specimen in the Atlantic forest patch near Nova Friburgo (Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil)—the area separated from the yet known range of the genus by vast territories occupied by the Cerrado biome. Examination of this specimen showed that it belongs to an undescribed species and differs sharply from the other congeners in the shape of its aedeagus. This new species is described and illustrated below.

Photographs were taken with a Canon D100 camera equipped with a EF-S 60 macro lens. Partially focused serial images were combined in Helicon Focus software (Helicon Soft Ltd.) to produce completely focused image. Locality map was generated with ArcGIS software (ESRI Ltd.).

Aegidium atlanticum Frolov, Grossi, & Vaz-de-Mello, new species

Figs. 1–3.

Type material. Holotype, male: “BRAZIL: RJ 1500 m Nova Friburgo Macaé de Cima [22.375291°S, 42.493974°W] 13.II.2000 P.Grossi” (Insect Collection, Federal University of Mato Grosso, Cuiaba, Brazil).

Holotype description. Male (Fig. 1). Body length 13.5 mm, width of elytra 6.5 mm, width of pronotum 6.0 mm. Upper side of body shiny, color uniform dark brown.

Clypeus symmetrical, with straight anterior margin and rounded anterior angles. Head surface densely punctate with round punctures separated by 1–2 puncture diameters on clypeus becoming denser and coarser on frons near eyes. Head without traces of medial horn or tubercle. Mandibles symmetrical, protruding past anterior margin of clypeus. Labrum rounded, small, slightly protruding past clypeus (in dorsal view).

Pronotum 1.25 times wider than long, widest at middle. Anterior margin with a border interrupted medially by a tubercle. Lateral margins crenulate. Base not bordered. Disc of pronotum excavated in middle. Surface irregularly punctate: with rather sparse, round punctures anterolaterally, somewhat coarser round punctures posterolaterally, irregular coarse punctures on disc and a row of longitudinally elongate punctures along base.

Scutellum elongate, rounded apically, about 1/12 length of elytra, smooth.

Elytra of typical *Aegidium* shape—moderately convex on disc with maximum width approximately at middle. Humeral and apical humps distinct. Elytra with 2 longitudinal ridges (smooth elevated areas) on disc between suture and humeral hump. First (sutural) elytral interval somewhat elevated on disc similar to longitudinal ridges. Striae almost indistinct. Elytra densely punctate with coarse, irregularly shaped punctures arranged in longitudinal rows on disc. Base of elytra not bordered.

Wings fully developed.