

A new milliped of the genus *Abacion* Rafinesque, 1820 from Arkansas, U. S. A. (Callipodida: Abacionidae)

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Abstract

Abacion wilhelminae, the fifth species in the genus and the first discovered in 60 years, is described from two males collected on Rich Mountain, Polk County, Arkansas. Diagnostic features include a spiniform branch "A" of the postfemur that diverges from branch "B," a broad lobe near midlength of the tibiotarsus, and a distally reflexed tibiotarsus that narrows but does not taper and is apically broad. The setal migration pattern on the first six pleurotergites, which is shared by the east-Nearctic Abacionidae and the southwestern and south coastal Texas subfamily Tynommatinae (Schizopetalidae), is detailed.

Key words: *Abacion*, *A. wilhelminae*, Abacionidae, setal migration, Arkansas

Introduction

Sixty years have elapsed since Loomis (1943) described the last valid species of *Abacion* Rafinesque, 1820, *A. magnum* (proposed in *Spirostrephon* Brandt, 1841), from Madison County, Alabama, which supplemented his previous work on North American callipodids in general (Loomis 1937). Hoffman (1950) subsequently proposed *S. highlandense* for a form from Macon County, North Carolina, but this name was placed in synonymy under *A. magnum* by Shelley (1984). *Abacion* thus comprises four widespread species in the United States east of the Central Plains (Shelley 1984, Hoffman 1999) -- *A. tessellatum* Rafinesque, 1820, the type species; *A. lactarium* (Say, 1821); *A. texense* (Loomis, 1937); and *A. magnum* -- with *A. texense* ranging southward through Texas to Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico. Hundreds of preserved samples of *Abacion* are available in American repositories, all exclusively containing one of these species, and if diplopodologists were