

The beetle family Carabidae of Costa Rica: The genus *Epikastea* Liebke of the Plochionida Group, with new Neotropical species and notes on their way of life (Insecta: Coleoptera, Lebiini, Agrina)

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Abstract

Genus *Epikastea* Liebke 1936, of the Plochionida Group of Subtribe Agrina, Lebiini, with six species is revised. Subtribe Agrina consists of those species formerly included in the Subtribe Calleidina. The species of *Epikastea* Liebke 1936 are diagnosed, described, and illustrated. One species occurs in Costa Rica; five are new South American species and are here assigned to this genus. The five new species described are: *Epikastea biolat* Erwin, **n. sp.** (PERÚ, MADRE DE DIOS, Rio Manu, BIOLAT Biodiversity Station, Pakitza Guard Station, 356m, 11° 56' 47" S, 071° 17' 00" W), *Epikastea grace* Erwin, **n. sp.** (PERÚ, LORETO, Samiria River, Camp Manco Capac, 04° 43' 0 S, 074° 18' 0 W), *Epikastea mancopac* Erwin, **n. sp.** (PERÚ, LORETO, Samiria River, Camp Manco Capac, 04° 43' 0 S, 074° 18' 0 W), *Epikastea piranha* Erwin, **n. sp.** (ECUADOR, ORELLANA, Haurani Territory, Camp Piraña, 0° 39' 25.685" S, 76° 27' 10.813" W), *Epikastea poguei* Erwin, **n. sp.** (PERÚ, MADRE DE DIOS, Rio Manu, BIOLAT Biodiversity Station, Pakitza Guard Station, 356m, 11° 56' 47" S, 071° 17' 00" W). A definition of the Plochionida Group and an identification key to the Western Hemisphere genera included are provided. A key to the known species of *Epikastea* Liebke is given. Distribution data are provided for all species and a map is provided for the Costa Rican taxon. Adults of *Epikastea* Liebke have been found on rotting logs in rainforests and fogged from the canopy of tropical trees and palms.

Key words: Costa Rica, Perú, Ecuador, INBio, Carabidae, Lebiini, *Epikastea* Liebke

Resumen

El género, *Epikastea* Liebke 1936, del Grupo Plochionida de la Subtribu Agrina, Lebiini, con seis especies es revizado. La Subtribu Agrina consiste en aquellas especies formalmente incluidas en la Subtribu Calleidina. Las especies de *Epikastea* 1936 son diagnosticadas, descritas e ilustradas. Una especie ocurre en Costa Rica ; cinco son nuevas especies sudamericanas, asignadas aquí a este gen-