

## ***Neolyrium* gen. n., first South American genus of net-winged beetles with 10-segmented antennae (Coleoptera: Lycidae)**

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### **Abstract**

New genus *Neolyrium* **gen. n.** with 10-segmented antennae is described from South America, its two species, *N. duidae* **sp. n.** and *N. carltoni* **sp. n.**, discovered in Amazonian Venezuela and Ecuador. In spite of the apparent affinities with the tribe Lyropaeini that include all other taxa with 10-segmented antennae, *Neolyrium* is classified in Leptolycini. The potential relationships of the new genus are discussed.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Lycidae, Leptolycini, new genus, new species, South America

### **Introduction**

The tribe Lyropaeini has so far been the only higher taxon of Lycidae to include forms with a 10-segmented antenna. Such antennae are characteristic of *Lampyrolycus* Burgeon, 1937, *Lybnopeus* Kazantsev, 1998, *Lyroneces* Kazantsev, 1998, *Lyropaeus* Waterhouse, 1878 and *Mimolibnetis* Pic, 1936 (the indication of a 10-segmented antenna for *Dexoris* Waterhouse by Kazantsev (2005) was due to a technical error). These genera are known only from the Oriental (*Lybnopeus*, *Lyroneces*, *Lyropaeus*—Kazantsev, 1998) and Ethiopian (*Lampyrolycus* and *Mimolibnetis*—Kazantsev, 1999) zoogeographic regions. In this respect, the discovery of a new genus with 10-segmented antennae from South America is of particular interest. However, upon examination and despite its apparent affinities with the Lyropaeini, *Neolyrium* gen. n. is placed in the tribe Leptolycini, which contains entirely Neotropical species.

### **Material and methods**

Specimens used as material for this study were dissected after being softened for several hours in water, with the male genitalia extracted and affixed with water-soluble glue on