

A new species of *Plectromerus* Haldeman (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) from Dominican amber with notes on the fossil *Plectromerus tertiarius* Vitali

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Abstract

A new species, *Plectromerus grimaldii* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: Cerambycinae: Curiini), from Dominican amber (Oligo-Miocene) is described. Features distinguishing the new species from its congeners are presented. A discussion of the comparison of this new species to another *Plectromerus* fossil, *P. tertiarius* Vitali, is also presented.

Resumen

Una nueva especie, *Plectromerus grimaldii* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: Cerambycinae: Curiini), de ámbar dominicano (Oligo-Miocene) se describe. Se incluyen características para diferenciar esta especie de otros miembros del género. También se presenta una discusión de la comparación de esta nueva especie a otro fósil de *Plectromerus*, *P. tertiarius* Vitali.

Key words: amber, Cerambycidae, Dominican Republic, fossil, Curiini, *Plectromerus*, new species

Introduction

Dominican amber is renowned for its well-preserved and highly diverse insect inclusions. These ancient resins formed from extinct *Hymenaea* trees from the mid-Miocene, approximately 17–20 MYO, and have yielded a rich fauna of over 400 families and 1,500 species of insects (Grimaldi, 1996; Grimaldi & Engel, 2005). However, specimens of the beetle family Cerambycidae are not especially common in Dominican amber. Linsley (1961) observed that although cerambycid fossils were known from various parts of the world, they were generally not well studied. Approximately two dozen species of