

## Taxonomic revision of the monotypic genus *Acyphus* Heller (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) with comments on infraspecific variation

ANALIA A. LANTERI<sup>1</sup> & M. GUADALUPE DEL RIO<sup>2</sup>

*División Entomología, Museo de La Plata, Paseo del Bosque s/n, 1900 La Plata, Argentina.*

### Abstract

*Acyphus* Heller, 1921 is a monotypic genus of Entiminae, Naupactini, ranging in north-central Argentina, southern Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. Its single species is mainly associated to trees of the genus *Prosopis* (Leguminosae), with several species ranging throughout the xerophytic forests of the Chacoan subregion. The genus is easily recognized by the presence of 20 elytral striae and the robust antennae, with strongly dilated scape, compressed from near base onwards. *Acyphus renggeri* (Labram & Imhoff) -senior synonym of *Acyphus funicularis* Heller- shows variation in the distribution and density of the scaly vestiture of the elytra. There is a morphotype devoid of distinct scales and two squamose morphotypes with different irregular nebulous pattern. The paper includes descriptions of the genus and its only species, habitus photographs, line drawings of genitalia and mouth parts, and a map of distribution.

**Keywords:** Taxonomy, weevils, Naupactini, *Acyphus renggeri*

### Introduction

*Acyphus* is a monotypic genus described by Heller (1921) based on the species *A. funicularis* Heller, a junior synonym of *A. renggeri* (Labram & Imhoff), according to Kuschel (in Wibmer & O'Brien 1986). It belongs to the subfamily Entiminae, tribe Naupactini, and is distributed in South America (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay), throughout the Chacoan subregion of the Neotropics, mainly characterized by xerophyllous forests and savannas (Morrone 2002, 2006).

Heller (1921) included *Acyphus* in a dichotomous key of Naupactini from Argentina, where it keys out along with *Cyphus* Germar (current junior synonym of *Cyrtomon* Schoenherr) based on the presence of extra-numeral elytral striae. The genus was also