



A new species of the genus *Philothermus* Aubé (Coleoptera: Cerylonidae) from Great Smoky Mountains National Park, U.S.A.

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Abstract

A new species of cerylonid with reduced eyes from the Great Smoky Mountains, *Philothermus stephani* sp. n., is described and illustrated. A revised key to the North American species of *Philothermus* is presented.

Key words: Coleoptera, Cucujoidea, Cerylonidae, *Philothermus*, Nearctic, Great Smoky Mountains, All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory, new species, taxonomy, identification key

Introduction

Recent intensive collecting in Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP), Tennessee/North Carolina, as part of the Coleoptera inventory component of the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI), has resulted in the discovery of many new beetle species in several families (Konstantinov & Tishechkin 2004; Sokolov et al. 2004), many of which remain undescribed. Although the existence of the new species described herein was known prior to the ATBI, the number of available specimens has increased as a direct result of the project, prompting the current publication.

The genus *Philothermus* Aubé is the largest in the Cerylonidae with over 150 species, most of them undescribed. They are worldwide in distribution, the greatest concentration of species being in Central and South America. The genus was last reviewed for North America by Lawrence & Stephan (1975) who recognized three species. However, their concept of the genus was narrower than our present concept. *Philothermus floridensis* (Sen Gupta & Crowson) remained in the genus *Cerylautomus* Sen Gupta & Crowson, until that genus was synonymized with *Philothermus* by Ślipiński (1990:98). The present work brings the total number of described North American species to five. Among North American genera of Cerylonidae, *Philothermus* may be recognized by the following combination of characters: 1) frontoclypeal suture absent; 2) terminal segment of maxillary palpi aciculate, much smaller than penultimate segment; 3) apical margin of last abdominal ventrite strongly crenulate; 4) antennal grooves, if present, not on hypomera; 5) procoxal cavities open or narrowly closed behind; 6) lateral pronotal margins visible from above for entire length. A more complete description of the genus can be found in Ślipiński (1990:98).

Depositories

CNC Canadian National Collection, Ottawa (Y. Bousquet)

FMNH Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago (J. Boone)