



The Buprestidae (Coleoptera) of Morelos, Mexico, with description of six new species, and a partially annotated checklist

RICHARD L. WESTCOTT¹, HENRY A. HESPENHEIDE², JESÚS ROMERO N.³,
ARMANDO BURGOS SOLORIO⁴, C. L. BELLAMY⁵ & ARMANDO EQUIHUA M.³

¹Plant Division, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Salem, OR 97301, USA. E-mail rwestcot@oda.state.or.us

²Department of Organismic Biology, Ecology and Evolution, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA.
E-mail hahiii@ucla.edu

³Instituto de Fitosanidad, Colegio de Postgraduados, 56230 Montecillo, Edo. de México, MEXICO

⁴Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas, Universidad Autónoma de Morelos, 62210 Cuernavaca, MEXICO

⁵Plant Pest Diagnostics Branch, California Department of Food & Agriculture, Sacramento, CA 95832, USA

Abstract

Beetles of the family Buprestidae are treated for Morelos, the second smallest state in Mexico, in a partially annotated checklist, with the following new species being described: *Acmaeodera noguerai* Westcott, *A. tenuivittata* Westcott, *Agilus cyphothoracoides* Hespenseide, *A. pseudosallei* Hespenseide, *Brachys exquisitus* Hespenseide, and *Chrysobothris tessellatus* Westcott. Special emphasis is placed on the fauna of La Reserva de La Biosfera Sierra de Huautla. Twenty-six genera and 139 species from Morelos are recorded herein.

Key words: Buprestidae, Mexico, Morelos

Introduction

There has been much interest of late in the flora and fauna of Morelos, Mexico, mostly due to study in La Reserva de La Biosfera Sierra de Huautla (RBSH) by faculty and students of Universidad Autónoma de Morelos and others, including ourselves. Many of the collections that form the basis of this paper, and almost all from RBSH, have been made during the last decade. Although most of our collections have been from in and near the reserve, we have decided to incorporate that information into an overall review of the Buprestidae fauna of Morelos.

Located in south-central Mexico, Morelos is the second smallest state (~4942 km²); however, it contains diverse habitats across elevations ranging from about 700–3460 meters. The vegetation is mostly tropical deciduous forest, and second to that are pine-oak forests, but there are also other tropical and temperate vegetation types. Of course, much of this is disturbed, particularly by agriculture. For more detailed data on the state and its beetle fauna see Burgos-Solorio & Trejo-Loyo (2001).

In southern Morelos between 18°18'21"–18°46'26" N and between 98°20'35"–99°08'01" W is RBSH (Dorado, 1997; includes map), containing 59,310 hectares and ranging in altitude from 700–2200 meters. The climate of RBSH is defined as subhumid hot, with the median annual temperature 22°C and a precipitation range of 500–2500 mm. The rainy season normally is from June to October. The topography of RBSH is generally mountainous due to the presence of the Eje Neovolcánico to the south and the Sierra Madre del Sur in the west. These form a multitude of canyons and gorges that serve as refuges for a wide variety of organisms (Dorado *et al.*, 2005). The fauna is very diverse (Dorado, 1999; Noguera *et al.*, 2002), notable examples being