



### A new genus and species of Eumolpinae (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) from the western dry forest of Ecuador

R. WILLS FLOWERS

Center for Biological Control, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL 32307 USA.

E-mail: rflowers7@earthlink.net

#### Abstract

*Australotymnes jipijapa* new genus, new species (type locality: Ecuador) is described. Adults were collected from vegetation during the rainy season in disturbed and converted dry forest in western Ecuador.

**Key words:** Australotymnes, Eumolpinae, Ecuador

#### Resumen

Se describen adultos de *Australotymnes jipijapa*, un género nuevo y una especie nueva (localidad tipo: Ecuador). Esta especie fue encontrado en vegetación en bosque seco alterado en el oeste de Ecuador, durante la época lluviosa.

#### Introduction

During a visit to dry forest in Ecuador's Manabí Province, in the vicinity of the town of Jipijapa, a species of Eumolpinae was encountered that appeared to be a species of *Tymnes* Chapuis, a genus known only from North and northern Central America. Further study showed that although there was a strong resemblance, the Ecuadorian species was not *Tymnes* but an undescribed genus of uncertain affinities, described below. Specimens are deposited in the following institutions: FSCA, Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville, Florida, USA; MECN, Museo Ecuatoriano de Ciencias Naturales, Quito, Ecuador.

#### *Australotymnes* new genus (Figs. 1–8)

**Type species.** *Australotymnes jipijapa* n. sp., here designated.

Body elongate oval, dorsally convex (Figs. 1–2). Head with frons and clypeus coarsely punctate. Eyes oval, shallowly and broadly emarginate at antennal insertion; ocular sulci absent. Antenna with scape elongate oval, pedicel subglobose, shorter than scape, distinctly shorter than antennomere 1; flagellum filiform, each antennomere slightly wider at apex, elongate; antennomeres 3–6 with scattered appressed setae, antennomeres 7–11 densely pubescent, with whorl of long erect setae at apex of antennomeres 3–10; antennomere spindle-shaped. Mandibles with outer margin with sharp bend, lateral surface rugose and setose, apical teeth broad, pointed. Maxillary palpi with apical segment tapered. Prothorax distinctly wider than long; pronotum moderately convex, with posterior margin subequal to anterior margin, anterior angles almost square, posterior angles subacute; all angles with a seta-bearing puncture; basal marginal bead present; lateral margin narrow and evenly rounded, with widest part of pronotum just behind middle. Prosternum longitudinally slightly inclined behind coxae, transversely flat; with anterior margin recessed for reception of gular area of head; posterior margin of intercoxal process truncate. Lateral wings of prosternum recessed for reception of gular area of head, with anterior margin weakly convex. Hypomeron weakly concave. Mesosternum subequal in width to prosternum, flat between coxae; metasternum convex, swollen anterior to hind coxae; metepisternum gradually narrowed posteriorly. Legs sparsely covered with short prostrate setae; all surfaces alutaceous. Femora strongly swollen in middle;