



A new species of *Neobaryssinus* Monné & Martins, and two new species of *Baryssiniella* new genus (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae), reared from trees in the Brazil nut family (Lecythidaceae)

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Abstract

Neobaryssinus altissimus **new species** is described from central French Guiana; a key to the four species of the genus is given. *Baryssiniella* **new genus** is described, including two new species: *B. hieroglyphica* **new species** from southeastern Peru, and *B. tavakiliani* **new species** from central French Guiana. Comparisons among *Neobaryssinus*, *Baryssiniella*, and several other genera in the tribe Acanthocinini are presented. All three new species were reared from trees in the Brazil nut family (Lecythidaceae). Two of these species emerged preferentially from bait branches at canopy stratum.

Key words: Acanthocinini, canopy, *Couratari*, DNA, genitalia, host specificity, Lamiinae, *Lecythis*, sulfur compounds

Introduction

Acanthocinini is a large cosmopolitan tribe of (relatively) small brown beetles including 2,149 species (Roguet, 2004–2010). It is particularly well represented in the Neotropics, where it accounts for 10% of the described cerambycid species (Monné, M. A. pers. comm.). Several acanthocinine genera routinely use trees in the Brazil nut family (Lecythidaceae) as larval host plants, including *Neobaryssinus* Monné & Martins, 1976, *Neoetrypanus* Monné, 1977, *Palame* Bates, 1864 and *Xylergates* Bates, 1864 (Tavakilian *et al.* 1997; Berkov *et al.* 2000; Monné 2001). These genera have elytra with erect long hairs, and are most easily distinguished from each other (and from other similar genera) by the size and position of lateral tubercles on the pronotum, elytra with central basal cristae present or absent, and various sexual dimorphisms. In this paper we describe three new acanthocinines reared from Lecythidaceae: *Neobaryssinus altissimus* new species, and two species in a new genus, *Baryssiniella hieroglyphica* new species and *B. tavakiliani* new species.

Methods

Specimens were collected during cerambycid rearing experiments in central French Guiana (1995–96; 2007–8) and the Department of Madre de Dios, Peru (2003–5). In the course of these projects we cut bait branches from ten species in seven genera of Lecythidaceae (*Allantoma decandra*, *Bertholletia excelsa*, *Corythophora amapaensis*, *Couratari macrosperma*, *C. stellata*, *Eschweilera coriacea*, *E. tessmannii*, *Gustavia augusta*, *G. hexapetala*, and *Lecythis poiteaui*). We exposed the bait branches to beetles at both canopy and ground stratum, during both the dry and rainy seasons (see Berkov & Tavakilian 1999 for a complete description of the rearing protocol). For this study the reared specimens were compared to specimens of morphologically similar species at MNRJ and AMNH. Most photographs and genitalia measurements were taken with a Spot Insight camera and software (v. 3.5) and a Nikon SMZ 1500 stereo microscope; other measurements were