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An annotated checklist of the oryctine rhinoceros beetles (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Oryctini) of the Neotropical and Nearctic realms

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Abstract

A brief review of the taxonomy and natural history of the New World Oryctini is provided. An updated and annotated checklist of the Oryctini of the Neotropical and Nearctic realms is included. This now includes 14 genera, 133 extant species, and two extinct species. *Tehuacania porioni* Dechambre, 2009 (Oryctini) is reduced to synonymy with *Barutus hartmanni* Ratcliffe, 2003 (Pentodontini).

Key words: species catalog

Introduction

The tribe Oryctini is one of the most species rich groups of Dynastinae, and more than half the species occur in the Neotropical and Nearctic regions where there is considerable endemism (Mizinuma 1999). Species of Oryctini are characterized by mostly brown to black coloration (rarely pale yellow); a large, robust, elongate body; clypeus emarginate, acuminate, or with two teeth; mentum narrow; mandibles exposed and broad; antenna with 9–10 antennomeres, the club short or prolonged; protibia tridentate or quadridentate; prosternal process either long or short; elytra smooth, densely punctate, or with striae or rows of punctures; apex of metatibia usually with teeth, sometimes with lobes or crenulations; and coxal cavities broad. The larvae are scarabaeiform with the cranium densely punctate and dark to reddish brown, the maxillary stridulatory teeth are truncate, and the antenna have 2–14 dorsal sensory spots on the last antennomere (Gasca *et al*. 2008).

Sexual dimorphism in the Oryctini is usually pronounced with the males possessing prominent tubercles or horns on the head and/or pronotum. In males, the sides of the pronotum may have a rugose area (*areola apposita*), and some species of *Heterogomphus* Burmeister have tubercles or small prominences above the lateral margin. Some species of Oryctini exhibit allometric growth of their horns where the form and size of the horns in males of the same species may vary considerably. Males with large horns are called "major males", and males with small horns are called "minor males". The body size and development of horns seems to be determined primarily by nutritional conditions of the larvae during periods of growth and development (Ratcliffe 2003).

Natural history

Adults are nocturnal and are often attracted to lights at night. During the day, they seek shelter and hide. Adults of some species feed on rotting fruit or decaying vegetation, while other species make tunnels in the stems of living plants, such as sugar cane and several species of palms (Ratcliffe 2003). Some larvae live in the soil and feed on decaying organic matter, while others live in accumulations of compost in rotting tree trunks or roots, in the large stems of palms, or in the nests of ants (Morón *et al*. 1997).

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