



## A new genus of leaf litter inhabiting Neotropical Monoplatina (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Galerucinae: Alticini)

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### Abstract

A new genus (*Andersonaltica*) containing five new species (*A. denticulata*, *A. elongata*, *A. pecki*—the type species of the genus, *A. tuberosa*, and *A. valens*) from Central America is described and illustrated. It is compared to *Aedmon* Clark, *Apleuraltica* Bechyne, *Distigmoptera* Blake, *Hypolampsis* Clark, and *Pseudolampsis* Horn and a key to identification of these genera is provided.

**Key words:** flea beetles, apterous, new genus, new species, leaf litter, Neotropical Region

### Introduction

The Monoplatina (Chrysomelidae, Galerucinae, Alticini) was established by Chapuis (1875) to group 42 genera described by Clark (1860). They can be relatively easily diagnosed within Alticini by the globose fourth metatarsomere (Fig. 6), the closed procoxal cavities, the elytra with rows of punctures placed in rows and by a very thick metafemur, usually as wide as long and most of the times longer than the metatibia. Currently Monoplatina contains 46 genera and over 400 species (Linzmeier and Konstantinov 2009) being mainly distributed in the Neotropical Region, mostly in South America. Recent collecting of leaf litter inhabiting beetles in Central America (Anderson 2010) revealed a previously unknown genus of Monoplatina. It bears an affinity to a group of genera containing relatively small (about 1.5–3 mm long) monoplatines: *Aedmon* Clark (38 species in the Caribbean), *Apleuraltica* Bechyne (1 species in the Caribbean), *Distigmoptera* Blake (15 species in the Caribbean, North and Central America), *Hypolampsis* Clark (52 species in the Caribbean, Central and South America) and *Pseudolampsis* Horn (1 species in North America). In addition to relatively small body size, representatives of these genera are similar in the shape of the head with a very deep, short and wide suprafrontal sulcus and metatarsus inserted slightly above the tibial apex. *Andersonaltica* can be differentiated from these genera with help of the key following the generic description.

### Material and methods

Dissecting techniques, measurements, and terminology follow Konstantinov (1998). SEM images were taken with a Hitachi TM 3000 Tabletop Microscope. Observations were made with a Zeiss Discovery V20 microscope and digital images were taken with an AxioCam HRC digital camera attached to it. Specimens are deposited in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, USA (USNM) and Collection of the Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Canada (CMNC).