



Article

Two new tiger beetle (Coleoptera, Carabidae, Cicindelitae) species from the Tucuman-Bolivian forest in the National Tariquia Reserve, Bolivia

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Abstract

Two new tiger beetle species from subhumid Tucuman-Bolivian forest in the National Tariquia Reserve in Tarija, Bolivia, are described and illustrated. *Cylindera* (*Plectographa*) *yaguaree* **n. sp.** is the first described Neotropical species in this genus that has setae over the complete elytral surface. *Pseudoxycheila tucumana* **n. sp.** closely resembles *Pseudoxycheila andina* Cassola, but is readily distinguished by spots on elytra longer than elytra width. These two new species are likely endemic to Tucuman-Bolivian forest and bring the known endemic forest tiger beetle fauna of this ecoregion to three species.

Key words: *Cylindera*, *Plectographa*, *Pseudoxycheila*, Neotropical region, new species

Resumen

Dos nuevas especies de escarabajos tigre del bosque Tucumano-Boliviano de la Reserva Nacional Tariquia en Tarija, Bolivia son descritas e ilustradas. *Cylindera* (*Plectographa*) *yaguaree* **n.sp.** es la primera especie neotropical descrita en este género, posee setas distintivas sobre toda la superficie de los élitros. *Pseudoxycheila tucumana* **n. sp. es** similar a *Pseudoxycheila andina* Cassola, pero puede ser fácilmente separada de ésta por las manchas en los élitros que además son más largas que el ancho de los mismos. Las nuevas especies descritas son probablemente endémicas del bosque Tucumano-Boliviano e incrementa el conocimiento de la fauna endémica de los escarabajos tigre de esta ecoregión a tres especies.

Introduction

The Tucuman-Bolivian forest or Southern Andean Yungas is one of the least known ecoregions in Bolivia (Ibisch & Mérida 2003; Martínez 2005). It replaces the Bolivian Yungas in the south west part of the Department of Santa Cruz, a transition area also called “the elbow of the Andes”, and extends over isolated north-south oriented mountain chains in the departments of Chuquisaca and Tarija to northern Argentina (Churchill & Lozano 2009). Because of a pronounced and prolonged dry season and less annual precipitation and humidity, the Tucuman-Bolivian forest is less diverse than the Bolivian Yungas (Churchill & Lozano 2009).

The elbow of the Andes is also recognized as the southern distributional limit of the tiger beetle genus *Pseudoxycheila* (Cassola 1997; Pearson *et al.* 1999) and many tiger beetle species collected in the Bolivian Yungas have not been reported from Tucuman Bolivian forest (e.g. *Tetracha* (*Tetracha*) *spixii*, *Oxygonia prodiga*) or are restricted to the transition zone (*Brasiella* (*Brasiella*) *brullei* and *Tetracha* (*Neotetracha*) *huedepohli*) (Pearson *et al.* 1999).

The only forest species known so far in the Tucuman-Bolivian area is *Odontocheila yunga* Huber (Pearson *et al.* 1999, Erwin & Pearson 2008).