



# Article

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## First record of the genus *Bordoniola* Osella, 1987 in Ecuador with description of five new species (Coleoptera: Curculionidae, Raymondionyminae)

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### Abstract

Five new species of the small blind weevil genus *Bordoniola* Osella, 1987 from Ecuador are described and illustrated: *B. ecuadorialis* sp. n., *B. minima* sp. n., *B. otongana* sp. n., *B. relictata* sp. n., *B. simillima* sp. n. Distributional and ecological data are provided for each of the new species. This is the first record of the genus outside Venezuela, from where only two species were known. A key to species and a checklist of all *Bordoniola* thus far known are given.

**Key words:** Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Raymondionyminae, *Bordoniola*, new species, Ecuador, blind weevils, soil fauna

### Riassunto

Vengono descritte ed illustrate cinque nuove specie di *Bordoniola* Osella, 1987 dell'Ecuador: *B. ecuadorialis* sp. n., *B. minima* sp. n., *B. otongana* sp. n., *B. relictata* sp. n., *B. simillima* sp. n. Per ciascuna delle nuove specie vengono fornite informazioni sulla distribuzione e sulla ecologia. Questa è la prima segnalazione del genere fuori del Venezuela di dove erano finora note altre due sole specie. Una chiave dicotomica, le foto dell'habitus di tutte le specie conosciute del genere, e una checklist vengono anche fornite.

### Introduction

The montane forests of the Ecuadorian Andes belong to the Tropical Andes, perhaps the most biodiverse area in the world (Rodríguez-Mahecha *et al.*, 2004). Since the rise of the Andean Cordillera is relatively recent and complex, a large amount of speciation events have taken place in this area, likely the result of numerous dispersals and vicariance events. One of the major consequences of this is that the fauna of Ecuador is particularly rich and interesting. Field research in this region always yields interesting results, not only with regard to taxonomy, but also with relation to evolution, speciation, biogeography and ecology (Buzzetti & Carotti, 2008). Entomological research in the Andean areas of Ecuador, organized or supported by the WBA (World Biodiversity Association) in 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, collected abundant material, particularly of Staphylinoidea and Curculionoidea. The ongoing study of these specimens has already led to the discovery of several new taxa. The first results (Giachino, 2008) have unequivocally confirmed both the exceptional richness of the Andean fauna, and the urgent need to extend field studies to all of South America before habitat destruction destroys this unique natural heritage.

### Material and methods

**Study area.** The research was carried out in the moist deciduous forests and montane forests of the Ecuadorian Andes of the Northern Sierra region from 1800 m to 4500 m a.s.l., particularly in the provinces of Cotopaxi and Pichincha.