



## Review of the Argentinean species of *Pseudomicrocara* Armstrong (Coleoptera: Scirtidae)

MARÍA LAURA LIBONATTI<sup>1</sup> & RAFAL RUTA<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>CONICET - Laboratorio de Entomología, Departamento de Biodiversidad y Biología Experimental, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Av. Int. Güiraldes s/n, Ciudad Universitaria, 1428 Buenos Aires, Argentina.

E-mail: [libonatti.marialaura@gmail.com](mailto:libonatti.marialaura@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup>Department of Biodiversity and Evolutionary Taxonomy, University of Wrocław, Przybyszewskiego 63/77, 51-148 Wrocław, Poland.

E-mail: [scirtes@biol.uni.wroc.pl](mailto:scirtes@biol.uni.wroc.pl)

### Abstract

The *Pseudomicrocara* Armstrong from Argentina are reviewed. In total, seven species are present: *Pseudomicrocara angusta* **sp. nov.**, *P. antarctica* (Fairmaire) **comb. nov.**, *P. hieroglyphica* **sp. nov.**, *P. inflexipenis* **sp. nov.**, *P. livida* (Fabricius), *P. obliquata* (Solier) **comb. nov.**, and *P. patagonica* (Curtis) **comb. nov.** New provincial records are provided for several species. *Pseudomicrocara obliquata*, previously known only from Chile, is recorded from Argentina for the first time. Illustrations of habitus and genitalia as well as distributional data for all Argentinean species of *Pseudomicrocara* are provided.

**Key words:** marsh beetles, new species, new combinations, new records, Neotropical

### Introduction

The genus *Pseudomicrocara* Armstrong, 1953 was erected to accommodate six species of Australian Scirtidae previously placed in the Palaearctic genus *Elodes* Latreille as well as 11 new species. Watts (2007) revised the genus and currently 40 species are recognized from Australia.

During the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century several Chilean and Argentinean scirtid species were described in the European genera *Cyphon* Paykull, *Elodes* Latreille and *Microcara* Thomson (Fabricius 1775; Curtis 1838; Solier 1849; Fairmaire 1883; Bourgeois 1900; Pic 1918). Recently, Ruta (2011) stated that most of these species are in fact closely related to *Pseudomicrocara*.

The purpose of the present study is to review the Argentinean species of *Pseudomicrocara* (including three new species), to provide detailed descriptions and illustrations of habitus and genitalia, and to update the distribution ranges of the species.

Chilean members of *Pseudomicrocara* will be revised in a separate paper (in preparation).

### Material and methods

The type specimens of previously described species were examined and almost 500 additional unidentified specimens were studied. Numerous specimens were collected in Nahuel Huapi National Park (Neuquén and Río Negro Provinces) using a Malaise trap, and in Aldea Escolar (Chubut Province) using a light trap, and are deposited in MLP, NHM and PCML. Numerous specimens collected by A. Kovacs (deposited in NHM) and during Danish expeditions to Argentina (deposited in ZMUC) were also studied. It shall be noted that Argentinean localities were mistakenly ascribed to Chile by Kovacs.