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A new species of *Acroleptus* Bourgeois (Coleoptera: Lycidae) from the Brazilian Amazonian rainforest, with a note on its homonymy with *Acroleptus* Cabanis (Aves)

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Abstract

Acroleptus costae sp. nov. is described from the Brazilian Amazonian rainforest, raising the diversity of the formerly monotypic genus to two known species. The validity of *Acroleptus* Bourgeois, 1886 (Insecta) is maintained while *Acroleptus* Cabanis, 1861 (Aves) is considered to be an incorrect subsequent spelling.

Key words: taxonomy, Lycinae, Calopterini, Neotropical Region, Amazonian forest

Resumo

Acroleptus costae sp. nov. é descrito para a Floresta Amazônica Brasileira, elevando a diversidade do anteriormente monotípico gênero para duas espécies conhecidas. A validade de *Acroleptus* Bourgeois, 1886 (Insecta) é mantida enquanto que *Acroleptus* Cabanis, 1861 (Aves) é considerado uma grafia subsequente incorreta.

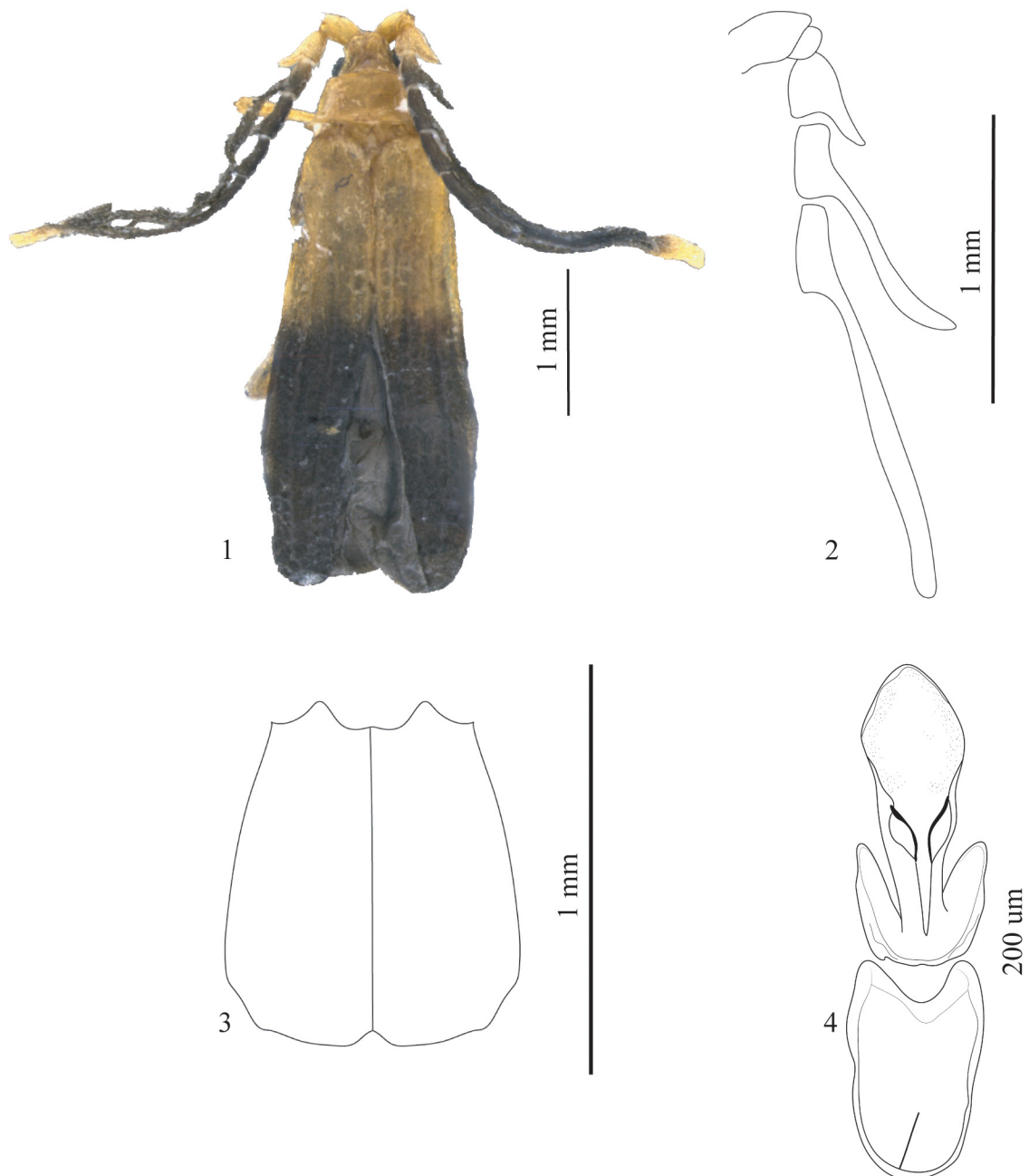
Palavras-chave: Taxonomia, Lycinae, Calopterini, Região Neotropical, Floresta Amazônica

Introduction

The monotypic genus *Acroleptus* Bourgeois, 1886, belongs to the subtribe Acroleptina of the Calopterini. It is closely related to *Lycomorphon* Pic, 1922, *Lycinella* Gorham, 1884 and *Ceratopriomorphus* Pic, 1922 (Bocakova 2005). The genus was redescribed and treated in a phylogenetic analysis of the tribe by Bocakova (2003, 2005). *Acroleptus chevrolati* Bourgeois, 1886 is a rare species and since its description has only been mentioned in two catalogues (Kleine 1933; Blackwelder 1945).

Acroleptus can be easily distinguished from other Calopterini by the flabellate antennae, with branches 2–3 times longer than the stem of antennomere and by the median longitudinal carinae on the pronotum weakened (Bocakova 2003). While examining material from Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia (INPA) a single specimen of a new species of *Acroleptus* Bourgeois, 1886 was found. I take this opportunity to describe this species and thereby widen the concept of the genus.

The genus *Acroleptus* Bourgeois, 1886 (Insecta) is not threatened by the fact that Cabanis (1861: 90) wrote a footnote stating that *Acroleptus* would be the grammatically correct spelling of *Acroleptes* Bonaparte, 1854 (Aves). However, previously on the same page, Cabanis correctly used Bonaparte's spelling with the description of a species that validated *Acroleptes*. Subsequently, no one, not even Cabanis (1861, 1865) ever used the spelling *Acroleptus* as a valid binomen, for a bird or other animal. In spite of the incorrect *Acroleptus* being listed in various catalogs (Gray 1870:78, McGregor 1920:8, Hellmayr 1936: 14), *Acroleptus* Cabanis is invalid and should be treated as a misspelling. Modern electronic searches will return the name *Acroleptus* Cabanis, 1861, but this is a continuation of a misspelling and does not endanger *Acroleptus* Bourgeois, 1886.



FIGURES 1–4. *Acroleptus costae* sp. n., holotype. 1. Dorsal view. 2. Antennomeres I–V. 3. Metaventrite. 4. Ventral view of male genitalia.

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