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A revision of the genus *Aphengium* Harold, 1868 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae: Ateuchini)

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Abstract

Aphengium Harold, a dung beetle genus endemic to the Atlantic forests of Brazil, comprises four valid species: *A. sordidum* Harold, 1868, *A. cupreum* Shipp, 1897, *A. ibateguara* sp. nov., *A. curtum* sp. nov.. In this revision of the genus each species is analyzed as follows: a detailed literature review, a diagnosis, illustrations of key morphological characters, a listing of material examined and geographic distribution. A **lectotype** is designated for *A. sordidum*, and a **neotype** for *A. cupreum*.

Key words: taxonomy, dung beetles, Ateuchina, new species, Atlantic Forest

Resumo

Aphengium Harold, um gênero de rola-bosta endêmico da Mata Atlântica do Brasil, compreende quatro espécies válidas: *A. sordidum* Harold 1868, *A. cupreum* Shipp, 1897, *A. ibateguara* sp. nov., *A. curtum* sp. nov.. Nesta revisão do gênero a seguinte informação é apresentada para cada espécie: uma revisão da literatura detalhada, uma diagnose, ilustração de caracteres morfológicos chave, dados do material examinado e distribuição geográfica. Um **lectótipo** é designado para *A. sordidum*, e um **neótipo** para *A. cupreum*.

Palavras-chave: taxonomia, rola-bosta, Ateuchina, novas espécies, Mata Atlântica

Introduction

This paper aims to review the taxonomy of the genus *Aphengium*, providing information on species identities, identification and geographical distributions.

Aphengium Harold (1868) is a small group of Ateuchini scarab beetles cited from Brazil and Uruguay [doubtful locality] (Harold 1868; Gillet 1911). The main diagnostic characters of the genus are an expanded last abdominal sternite that crowds out other sternites along the midline (other sternites are visible only laterally), and the pilose elytra and pronotum (Vaz-de-Mello 2007; Vaz-de-Mello *et al.* 2011).

The genus was based on single species, *Aphengium sordidum* from specimens labeled “Montevideo” (Harold 1868). Bates (1887) described *A. seminudum* from Panama. Waterhouse (1890) placed *A. seminudum* Bates in the genus *Bdelyrus* upon concluding that it had been placed in *Aphengium* in error. Later, Shipp (1897) described *A. cupreum* from Espírito Santo, Brazil. Since Shipp's work, no additional species have been described until now.