



New species of *Ateuchus* and *Canthidium* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Scarabaeinae) from Costa Rica

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Abstract

The following new species of dung beetles (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae) from Costa Rica are described: *Ateuchus earthorum* **sp. nov.** (Ateuchini) and *Canthidium (Eucanthidium) darwini* **sp. nov.** (Coprini). Illustrations of the dorsal habitus of the new species and a distribution map are provided, as well as a drawing of the internal sac of *Ateuchus earthorum* **sp. nov.**

Key words: Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, *Ateuchus*, *Canthidium*, new species, Costa Rica

Introduction

Dung beetles are not only important elements in the recycling process of wastes, but are also significant in the control of dung flies and as environmental bioindicators (Kohlmann *et al.* 2007, *accepted*; Nichols *et al.* 2007, 2008). The description of the present species is part of an attempt to survey and inventory the dung beetles of Costa Rica in addition to defining biodiversity hotspots for this country in order to establish conservation priority life zones.

The previous study on the genus *Ateuchus* (Ateuchini) of Costa Rica (Kohlmann 1997) reported 10 species; we herein increase the number to 11. Ratcliffe (2002) cites only five recorded species of *Ateuchus* for neighboring Panama (there are likely several more), whereas Kohlmann (2003) lists 12 species for Mexico.

Regarding *Canthidium* (Coprini), Solís and Kohlmann (2004) report 24 species for Costa Rica; the new species described here increases this number to 25. Ratcliffe (2002) lists 19 species in neighboring Panama and Kohlmann and Solís (2006) report 14 for Mexico.

In the descriptions below, measurements were made to the nearest 0.1 mm using an ocular micrometer. All holotypes, allotypes, and paratypes of the new species are deposited in the National Biodiversity Institute (INBio) in Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica.

Ateuchus earthorum Kohlmann & Solís, **sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1–2, 4)

Diagnosis: This species is distinguished from other Costa Rican species by the following combination of characters: head disc finely punctured with coarse punctures at anterior margin; pronotum finely punctured with coarse punctures at the base of the pronotal midline; anterior pronotal margin incomplete; eyes viewed from above 3 times longer than wide; head and pronotum with coppery red reflections; body oval; profemur coarsely punctured; proepimeron without punctures; elytra not shagreened; pygidium very convex; last abdominal segment broad; internal sac with three hooks.