

## A new species of *Philonthus* (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) from Sonora, México

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### Abstract

*Philonthus yaqui* sp. nov. is described based on 51 specimens collected in Yécora, Sonora, México. A key for recognition of this species and those close related from México and the United States is provided.

**Key words:** Beetles, Staphylinidae, *Philonthus*, key, México, USA

### Introduction

The genus *Philonthus* Stephens, 1829 is the second largest genus of the Staphylinidae after *Stenus* Latreille, 1797 (Steninae) with 1255 species (Herman 2001). They are recorded from all zoogeographical regions (Herman 2001; Smetana 1995). For North America north of México, 112 species are recorded, whereas 87 are known from México (Navarrete-Heredia 1995; Navarrete-Heredia *et al.* 2002; Smetana 1991, 1995).

The taxonomy of the Mexican species is not well known. Smetana (1991) reviewed *Philonthus furvus* Nordmann and its allies in México and Central America and Navarrete-Heredia (1995) redescribed two species (now placed in *Belonuchus*) providing biological notes. Smetana (1995), in his revision of the subtribe Philonthina of America north of Mexico (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae), provided an excellent taxonomic treatment of the genus *Philonthus* recognizing and defining several species groups. Most of the Mexican species can be placed readily in Smetana's species groups, but the species are in need of revision.

A recent field trip to Sonora provided the opportunity to collect a variety of several staphylinid species. A new species of the *Philonthus furvus* group (*sensu* Smetana 1995) is described herein to update the knowledge of the single Mexican group treated recently.