

Article



The West Indian Peridinetini (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Baridinae)

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Abstract

Two genera and nine species of Peridinetini are recognised in the West Indies; four of the species are newly described. *Peridinetus* Schönherr is represented in the Greater Antilles by *P. concentricus* (Olivier), *P. decipiens* Prena **sp. n.**, *P. fuscosignum* Prena **sp. n.**, *P. poeyi* Jacquelin du Val **stat. res.**, *P. roeselii* (Boheman) and *P. sexguttatus* (Fabricius) **comb. n.** and *Palliolatrix* Prena in the Lesser Antilles by *P. insignis* (Chevrolat), *P. lateropicta* Prena **sp. n.** and *P. silacea* Prena **sp. n.** Ephimerus Schönherr is synonymised with *Peridinetus* (**syn. n.**). The overlooked synonymy of *Peridinetus signatus* Rosenschöld with *P. concentricus* is reinstated. Habitus images, distribution maps and a key for identification are provided.

Key words: weevils, taxonomy, new species, Piperaceae, West Indies

Introduction

Although baridine weevils are common and diverse on Piperaceae elsewhere in the Neotropics (*e.g.*, Prena 2005), only a few species are associated with these plants in the West Indies. Those, however, were among the first-described species from tropical America. Their charismatic colour patterns lured more than one entomologist into erroneous judgments, and some of these misconceptions were perpetuated in the literature and need to be clarified. All described larger species are currently placed in the Peridinetini, a tribe defined by the presence of a prosternal channel, separate fore coxae and laterally descending scrobes (Lacordaire 1866). This paper reviews the West Indian Peridinetini in the above sense. Not included herein are the smaller (<4 mm) species with the same host-range, which currently are assigned to the Cyrionychini.

Material and methods

Approximately 250 specimens, including types, were examined from the following collections (contact persons in brackets): AMNH, American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA (L. Herman, Jr.); CASC, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, USA (long-term repository of CWOB); CMNC, Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Canada (R. Anderson); CNCI, Canadian National Collection of Insects, Ottawa, Canada (P. Bouchard, H. Howden); CWOB, Charles W. O'Brien personal collection, Green Valley, Arizona, USA; DEI, Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Müncheberg, Germany (L. Behne); HMUG, Hunterian Museum, Glasgow, Scotland (G. Hancock); JPPC, Jens Prena personal collection, Berlin, Germany; MCZ, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA (C. Farnum); MNHUB, Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt Universität Berlin, Germany (J. Frisch); NHRS, Naturhistoriska riksmuseet, Stockholm, Sweden (B. Viklund); UPRM, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguëz, USA (N. Franz, J. Cardona Duque); USNM, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, USA (S. Lingafelter). The species are arranged in alphabetical order in the text. In the lists of synonymy, the names are