

## A second species of *Euparixoides* HINTON from Brazil (Coleoptera: Scarabaeoidea: Eupariini)

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Abstract. *Euparixoides johnsoni* sp. nov. from Brazil (Amazonas) is described and illustrated. Notes on the generic and specific affinities are added.

Key words: Coleoptera, Scarabaeoidea, Eupariini, new species, Brazil.

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Among some Western Hemisphere beetles submitted for identification was one specimen of a new species belonging to the monotypic genus *Euparixoides*. This genus was erected by HINTON (1936) for his species *E. cribratus* collected at Rio Chinillo, Panama. Since that time no species and no additional data on distribution of the genus have been reported.

Unique features of *Euparixoides* which mark it as distinct from the Eupariini include the following: 1/ clypeal and pronotal margins with characteristic crenations; 2/ pronotum with basally impressed midline; 3/ elytra inflexed; 4/ mesocoxae widely separated, coxal cavities parallel, flattened; 5/ a single terminal spur on meso- and metatibiae; 6/ tarsi tapering, short, about half the length of the tibiae. The finely serrate anterior clypeal margin in *Euparixoides* is similar only to that of *Saprositellus denticulatus* BALTHASAR (1967).

The genus is most closely related to *Euparixia* BROWN (1927) containing five myrmecophilous species (WOODRUFF & CARTWRIGHT 1967) associated with leaf-cutting ants of the genus *Atta*. Although nothing is known on the bionomy of *Euparixoides*, I should also expect it to occur in the nests of leaf-cutting ants because of its similarity to the species of *Euparixia* and its apparently restricted and secretive habits.

*Euparixoides johnsoni* sp. nov.

(Figs 1-3)

H o l o t y p e female, labelled "Brazil, Amazonas, Manaos, xii. 1975, leg. W. HAMILTON"; "*Euparixoides* sp.n.? det. C. JOHNSON"; "*Euparia* sp. prob. new det. R. GORDON '81", in Manchester Museum, The University (MMU).

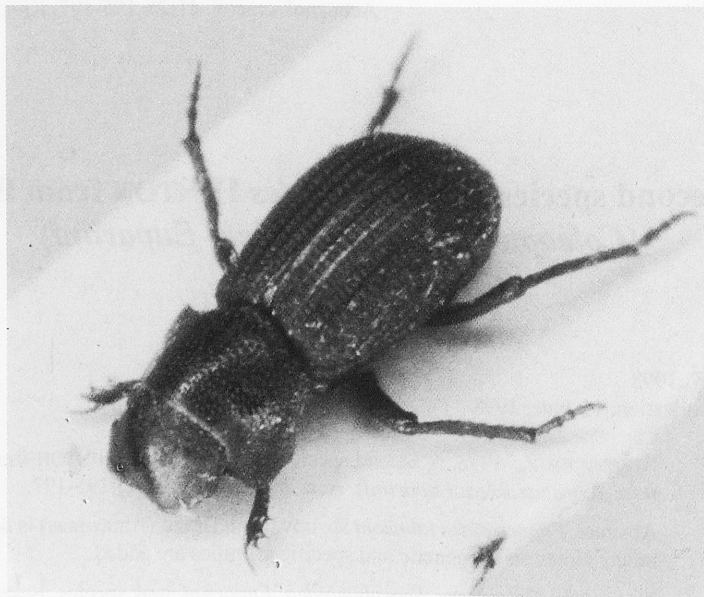
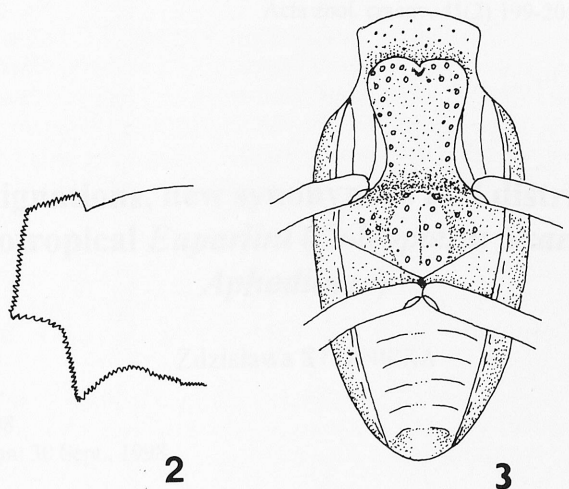


Fig. 1. *Euparixoides johnsoni* sp. nov.: habitus.

**Description.** Length 4.3 mm, greatest width 2.1 mm. Body (Fig. 1) elongate, convex, subopaque; colour very dark brown with margins of clypeus and pronotum reddish brown, legs and ventral surface similarly dark brown. Head small, slightly convex medially; eyes invisible when viewed from directly above. Clypeus widely, shallowly emarginate, edge inflexed ventrally at middle and limited above by fine carina continuous with lateral margin; clypeal sides rounded on each side of median emargination and very finely serrate toward small, right-angled gena; clypeal surface alutaceous over anterior of median convexity and outward to gena with posterior band of coarse, slightly rugose punctures separated by less than 1 diameter. Pronotum (Fig. 2) strongly transverse, disc convex, lateral and basal margin distinctly serrate; anterior angles broadly rounded and explanate, sides suddenly constricted a half from base, angle formed by constriction obtusely rounded, posterior angles acutely produced, base lobed at middle, strongly excavate laterally; pronotal sides with small tumosity and shallow elongate depression paralleling the base, disc with shallowly impressed midline above scutellum; surface punctures evenly distributed, separated by about 1 diameter or less, moderate punctures along anterior margin gradually increase in size toward base, a few scattered short, pale setae show in glancing light over the flattened, scabrous area of anterior angles. Scutellum narrowly triangular, shining. Elytra elongate oval, convex, widest behind the middle, humeri rounded, not dentate; sides of elytra inflexed, embracing body, sides and apical declivity with upright, yellowish setae; epipleura poorly defined; elytral striae wider than intervals, each with regular row of transverse, close punctures not crenating margins of intervals; intervals about 1/3 narrower than striae, surface microreticulate, smooth. Wings brachypterous. Ventral surface (Fig. 3) glabrous. Prosternum more convex than mesosternum, angulate posteriorly at middle, surface shining, finely punctate, prosternal process wide; mesocoxae widely separated, coxal cavities parallel, flattened; mesosternum between mesocoxae with depressed, scabrous and sharply margined area, a few coarse punctures along margin; metasternum elevated, short, midline weakly marked, surface punctures separated by 1 diameter, lateral metasternal triangle absent; abdominal sternites finely fluted along sutures, surface alutaceous and finely punctate, pygidium scabrous punctate in apical half. Profemora moderate in width, perimarginal groove fine, surface alutaceous;



Figs 2-3. *Euparixoides johnsoni* sp. nov.: 2 – pronotum; 3 – ventral surface.

meso- and metafemora long, slender, slightly arcuately curved down and enlarged apically, mesofemora shorter than metafemora; protibia tridentate, slender; meso- and metatibiae long, slender, slightly sinuate with a single, small apical spur; tarsi two times shorter than tibiae, segments thick, tapering, claws hair-like; basal segment of metatarsus twice as long as apical tibial spur and subequal to following 2 tarsal segments combined.

**A f f i n i t y.** *Euparixoides johnsoni* is very closely related to *E. cribratus* HINTON. It differs from *cribratus* by having the posterior angles of pronotum acutely produced, the base strongly sinuate, the pronotal sculpture finer than in *cribratus* and the elytra with wide, transversely crenate striae.

**E t y m o l o g y.** I am pleased to dedicate this species to COLIN JOHNSON (MMU) who recognized the peculiar generic characters of the specimen.

## REFERENCES

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