

***Acanthaphodius bruchi* A. SCHMIDT, 1909,
femina nondum cognita
(Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Aphodiinae)**

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Abstract. The hitherto unknown female of *Acanthaphodius bruchi* A. SCHMIDT is described, new data on distribution are given, pertinent morphological details are illustrated.

Key words: Coleoptera, Aphodiinae, *Acanthaphodius bruchi* female, new records, Neotropics.

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Among unidentified Aphodiinae material preserved in the collection of the Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa (Canada) we had the chance to find several specimens of *Acanthaphodius bruchi* A. SCHMIDT, 1909 (Fig. 1), represented by both sexes. As far as we know the female is still unknown, so we take the opportunity to check up its dimorphic characters.

The genus *Acanthaphodius* (type species: *Acanthaphodius bruchi* A. SCHMIDT, 1909, by monotypy) is easily distinguishable from the other Aphodiinae genera by the following characters found in both sexes:

– fore tibia with two distal teeth at outer margin and third tooth perpendicular to front margin; terminal spur lacking, tarsus located at inner angle of tibia

– metasternum relatively long; fourth abdominal sternite strongly narrowed at middle, 2-3 times narrower than fifth sternite

– pronotal sides with slight oblique swellings

The sexual dimorphism is exceptionally accentuate. The sexes show the following peculiar characters:

M a 1 e: head and pronotum relatively more sparsely and less coarsely punctured than in female, pronotum transverse, less convex, feebly explanate near anterior angles; metasternal plate deeply excavate and rather sparsely punctured; posterior margin of hind femur with horn-shaped, elongate, apically globose process (Fig. 2).

F e m a l e: head and pronotum relatively more densely and more coarsely punctured than in male; pronotum subquadrate, strongly convex, not explanate near anterior angles; metasternal plate nearly flat, rather densely punctured; posterior margin of hind femur without horn-shaped process (Fig. 3).

Material examined

Argentina

1 male: Río Negro (type) (Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, Buenos Aires)

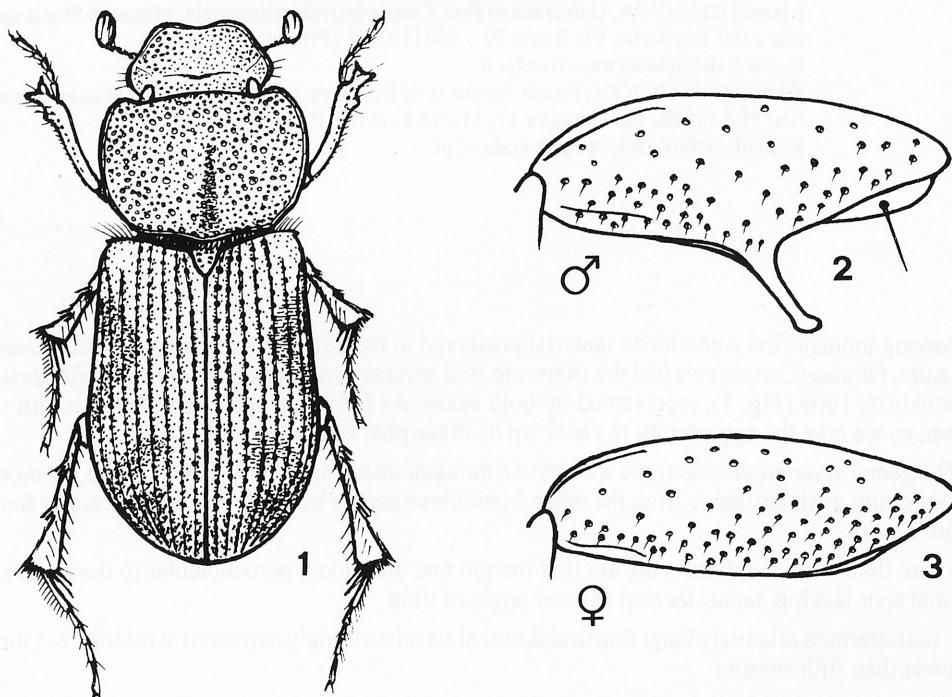
1 male: Lago Lacar [San Martín de los Andes, Prov. Neuquén], 21. XII. 1987 (National Museum of Natural History, Washington)

Chile

1 male, 1 female: 2,5 km SSW of Pto Fui, L. Pirehueico, 670 m, 39° 54' S, 71° 54' W, 28. XI. 1987, leg. Ashworth & Fuglseth & Maliske (Dellacasa Collection, Genoa)

1 male: Quirada La Plata, Prov. Santiago, 1963, leg. H. Franz (Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Geneva)

4 males, 4 females: Cautín, 21 km NE Pucon, Lago Caburga, 600 ft, 15. XII. 1984 – 10. II. 1985, S. & J. Peck (Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa; Dellacasa Collection, Genoa; Institute of Systematics & Evolution of Animals PAS, Kraków)



Figs 1-3. *Acanthaphodius bruchi* A. SCHMIDT: 1 – habitus of male (length 4 mm; Chile: Cautín, 21 km NE Puchón, Lago Caburga); 2 – right hind femur of male (ventral view); 3 – *idem*, female.

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