

Papéis Avulsos de Zoologia

PAPÉIS AVULSOS ZOOL., S. PAULO, 26 (20): 247-251

26.II.1973

NEW AND LITTLE KNOWN NEOTROPICAL COLEOPTERA II. THE REDISCOVERY OF *GEORYSSUS HUMERALIS* PIC, 1923 (GEORYSSIDAE)

HANS REICHARDT

ABSTRACT

Based on the study of a few specimens collected at light in Cáceres and Xingu, Mato Grosso, Brazil, as well as on the type-series from Corumbá, in the same state, Georyssus humeralis Pic, 1923, the only Brazilian species of the genus is figured and redescribed.

This paper is concerned with the small, monotypic family Georyssidae, a family of worldwide distribution, but of which only 2 species have thus far been discovered in the Neotropics: *Georyssus minor* Sharp, 1882 (known from Mexico and Guatemala) and *Georyssus humeralis* Pic, 1923 (described from Corumbá, Brazil). A third species referred to the family, *Georyssus plaumanni* (from Nova Teutônia, Brazil), has recently been shown to actually belong into the Hydrophilid genus *Epimetopus* (Rocha, 1969: 130).

As is common with species described by Pic, *Georyssus humeralis* is not identifiable by its short description. Fortunately I was able to borrow the type-series of *Georyssus humeralis* Pic, 1923, from the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. Of the 19 specimens received only 11 really belong to the species, the others representing a single specimen of an European *Georyssus*, and 7 specimens of a species of an undetermined family, collected at the type-locality of *Georyssus humeralis*. It is impossible to say whether this confusion was made by Pic himself, or if it occurred later on, perhaps as the collection was transferred to the Paris Museum. In any event, of the 11 specimens of *Georyssus humeralis* one is selected as lectotype, and the other 10 are paralectotypes. The specimens have been accordingly labelled.

I am specially grateful to Mrs. A. Bons, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, who made the types available for this study, and who also arranged for a paralectotype of Pic's species to be deposited in the Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo.

The study of Pic's types was necessary because of the recent discovery of 4 specimens of a species of *Georyssus* in the collection of the Museu de Zoologia. Since the reference to Georyssidae in Costa Lima (1953: 90) is based on Epimetopinae, and since the species in question, which turned out to be *Georyssus humeralis* Pic, had never been found again after the original description, it seemed necessary to study it in more detail.

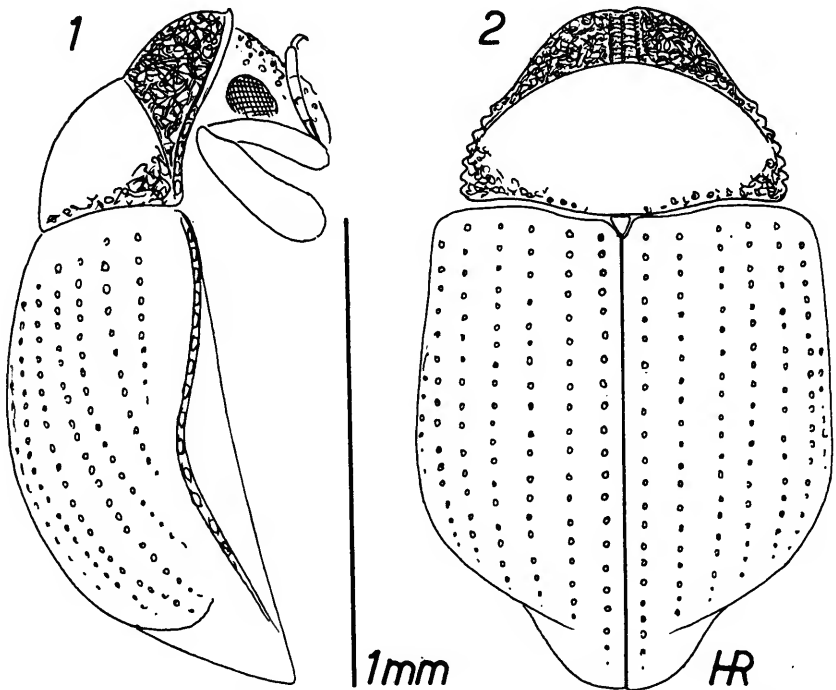
Before I redescribe the species, mention should be made to the present systematic position of the group. According to Crowson (1955: 23) the family shows very clear characters of the Hydrophiloidea. Based on larval characters, van Emden (1956) reduced the group to subfamilial status within the Hydrophilidae. I do not mean to challenge this view, but think it is better to consider the Georyssidae at familial level, at least for the moment.

Georyssus humeralis Pic, 1923

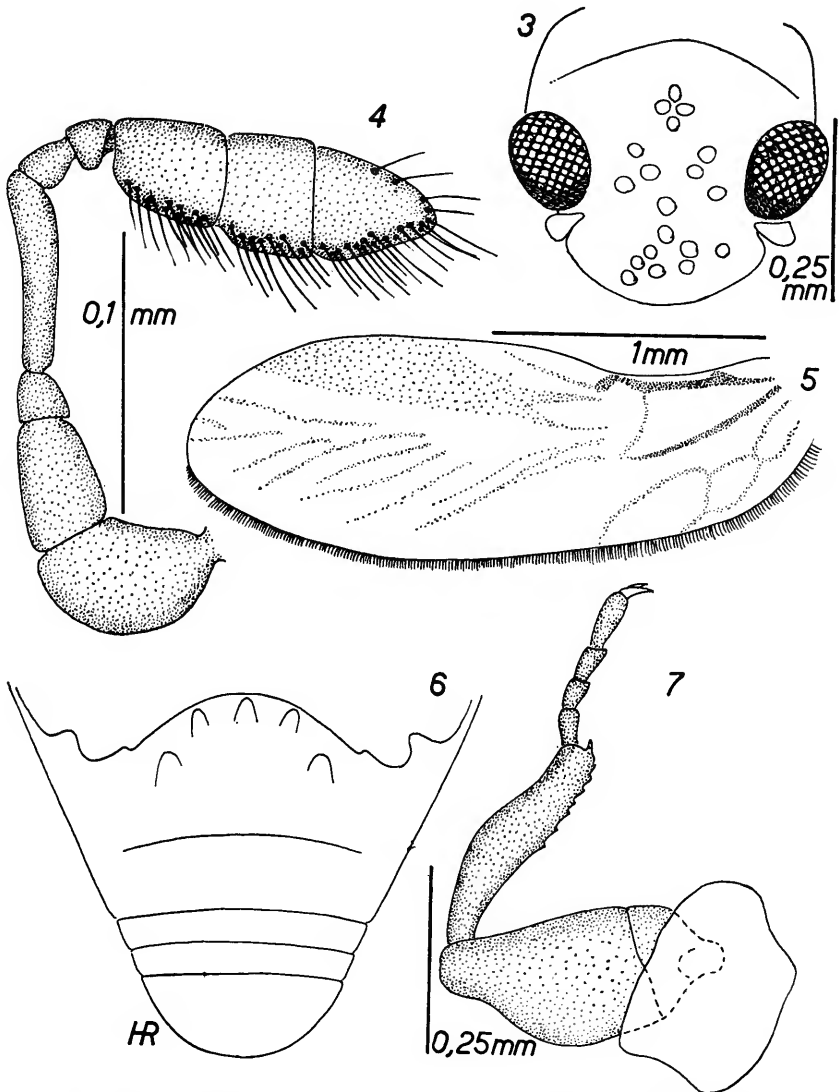
(Figs. 1-7)

Georyssus humeralis Pic, 1923: 4 (lectotype, present designation, Brazil, Mato Grosso, Corumbá; MNHN, examined); Hinton, 1934: 160; Blackwelder, 1944: 274; Costa Lima, 1954: 177.

Head completely hidden under the pronotum, in resting position more or less buried in the pronotum. Surface of frons, especially between the eyes, and clypeus, covered with sparse and very coarse, shiny granules (fig. 3). Antennae inserted below the eyes (figs. 3, 4), with large scape, pedicel globose, and only slightly



Figs. 1, 2, lateral and dorsal views of paralectotype of *Georyssus humeralis* Pic, 1923.



Georyssus humeralis Pic, 1923, specimen from Xingu: 3, front view of head; 4, antenna; 5, hind wing; 6, abdomen; 7, front leg.

smaller than scape; III segment small, about as long as wide; IV segment over 4 times as long as wide; V and VI segments small, about as long as wide, the VI only very slightly cupuliform; VII-IX forming a large and densely pilose club. Eyes finely granulate. *Pronotum* widest at base and about as long as wide; surface with a deep sulcus which runs in a semi-circle from the basal angle to about the middle of the pronotum, and from here to the opposite basal angle (figs. 1, 2); this sulcus divides the pronotum in 2 halves, each somewhat convex, the anterior half with irregular sculpture, going from somewhat punctate on sides to more or less granulate in front; here the granulation forms 2 longitudinal, parallel ridges; the posterior half is unsculptured but microrugose, except in the basal angles and near the basal margin, where it is somewhat granulate. Lateral and front margins sharp, behind the middle clearly crenulate; the front margin forming a slight angle in the middle. *Scutellum* very small and apparently triangular. *Elytra* wider than pronotum at base, with very salient humeri, and slightly widened behind the middle; very convex, especially in the posterior declivity (figs. 1, 2); each elytron with 9 coarsely and sparsely punctate striae (the discal ones clearly marked and running parallel to each other; the lateral striae somewhat confused, especially near the humeral callus); after the 9th stria a longitudinal sulcus, and the 10th stria keeled and finely crenulate. Apex of elytra narrowed and jointly curved. *Ventrally* very irregularly and sparsely granulate (granulations more or less as on frons); *abdomen* (fig. 6) with sternites I and II partially fused, and sternites III to V with very clear sutures. *Hind wings* (fig. 5). Measurements: total length (apex of pronotum to apex of elytra), 1.3 mm; humeral width, 0.7 mm.

Material examined

BRÁZIL. *Mato Grosso*: Corumbá (Lectotype and 9 paralectotypes, MNHN; 1 paralectotype, MZSP); Cáceres, XII.1955 (M. Alvarenga; 1 ex., MZSP); Xingu, XI.1961 (M. Alvarenga & W. Bokermann; 3 exs., MZSP, one on slide).

REFERENCES

BLACKWELDER, R. E.

1944. Checklist of the Coleopterous Insects of Mexico, Central America, the West Indies, and South America. *Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus.* 185 (2): 189-341.

COSTA LIMA, A. DA

1953. *Coleópteros 2. In Insetos do Brasil* 8, 323 pp., 259 figs., Escola Nacional de Agronomia, Rio de Janeiro.
1954. Notas Coleopterológicas. *Rev. brasil. Ent.* 1: 177-180, 6 figs.

CROWSON, R. A.

1955. *The Natural Classification of the Families of Coleoptera.* 187 pp., 212 figs., Nathaniel Lloyd & Co., London.

VAN EMDEN, F.

1956. The *Georyssus* larva — a Hydrophilid. *Proc. R. Ent. Soc. London (A)* 31: 20-24, figs.

HINTON, H. E.

1934. Two coleopterous families new to Mexico. *Pan-Pac. Ent.* 9: 160-162 (1933).

PIC, M.

1923. *Mélanges Exotico-Entomologiques* 40: 4.

ROCHA, A. A.

1969. Sobre o gênero *Epimetopus* (Col., Hydrophilidae). *Papéis Avulsos Zool.*, S. Paulo, 22 (17): 175-189, 28 figs.

