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ON NEOTROPICAL CARABIDAE (COLEOPTERA): NEW SPECIES AND NOTES

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ABSTRACT

Eurycoleus fofus (type-locality, Colombia, Amazonas, Leticia) and *Galerita balli* (type-locality, Mexico, Oaxaca, 4.9 mi E of Santa Catarina Juquilla), are described as new. Comments are also made on *Galerita laevithorax* Reichardt, 1967, a species previously unknown from Mexico.

Eurycoleus fofus, sp. n.

(Fig. 1)

Holotype ♀. COLOMBIA. Amazonas: Leticia, 700 ft., 11.VII. 1970 (H. & A. Howden; CNCI).

Yellowish-orange on head, pronotum, ventral parts, coxae, trochanters and femora; elytra yellowish-testaceous, with black spots as indicated in fig. 1. Antennal segments II-IV black; scape colored as head; apical segments brown. Apex of mandibles, palpi, tibiae and tarsi black. *Measurements*: total length, 11.3 mm; maximum elytral width, 5.3 mm.

Discussion. *Eurycoleus fofus* belongs in the *tredecimpunctatus*-group (as defined by Reichardt, 1972: 239), and within it is closely related to *tredecimpunctatus* Chaudoir, 1869, a species which probably also occurs in Colombia. The two species are, however, easily distinguished by the different elytral pattern (compare with fig. 14 in Reichardt, 1972). The systematic position of *Eurycoleus* within the Pericaline Lebiini was recently discussed by Ball (1975).

Galerita balli, sp. n.

(Figs. 2-4)

Types. Holotype ♂. MEXICO. Oaxaca: 4.9 mi E of Sta. Catarina Juquilla, 13.VII.1972 (P. A. Meyer & G. E. Ball; USNM). Paratypes.

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Same data as holotype (2♂, USNM; 1♀, MZSP); Rte. 131, 13.1 mi N of Juchatengo, 4,400 ft., cypress creek, 7.VII.1972 (B. S. Heming & G. E. Ball; 1♂, 1♀, UASM; 1♂, MZSP); 20 mi S of Juchatengo, 6,000 ft., 28-30.V.1971 (S. Peck; 1♂, 2♀, CNCI; 2♀, MZSP).

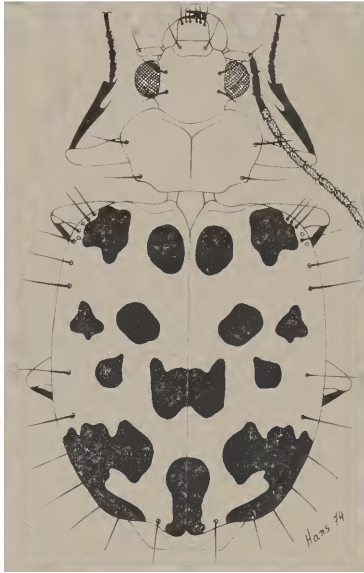


Fig. 1, *Eurycoleus fofus*, holotype ♀

Black, except for reddish-brown mouthparts, antennae and legs. *Head* shiny and very finely microrugose; surface irregular, with median carina very weak and restricted to interocular area; frons with scattered and irregular setiferous punctures. Eyes little bulging, postocular area large, about as long as eyes. *Pronotum* wider than head, longer than wide, widest in front of middle; front and hind angles rounded, the latter projected behind basal margin; surface flat, with slightly raised lateral margins; median line fine but visible; surface finely microrugose, with large setiferous punctures irregularly scattered over whole surface. *Scutellum* relatively large, triangular, densely punctate and pubescent. *Elytra* with obsolete humeri; widest in posterior third; outer apical angles marked, but rounded; sutural angles sharp; without apical transparent membrane; carinae raised and well developed; carinulae only faintly indicated in some interstices or specimens; each interstice with two rows of setiferous punctures next to carinae. Hind wings atrophied. Prosternum, meso-, metathorax and abdomen densely punctate and pubescent; proepisternum impunctate and glabrous. Last abdominal sternite of male with median indentation. *Measurements*: total length, 16.5-17 mm; maximum elytral width, 5.8-6.4 mm.

Discussion. *Galerita balli* belongs in the *striata*-group (Reichardt, 1967: 109), and is most closely related to the Mexican *Galerita*

boucardi Chaudoir, 1869 and *Galerita azteca* Reichardt, 1967. *Galerita balli* is readily distinguished from these (as well as from the remaining species of the group) by the vestigial carinulae, and by the reddish-brown appendages. Some specimens of *Galerita boucardi* (described as *Galerita ovalipennis* Bates, 1891, but considered a synonym by myself, Reichardt, 1967: 111, 112), also have reddish-brown appendages, but are distinguished by the presence of elytral carinulae, and the much denser and confluent pronotal punctuation in the latter. The aedeagus of *Galerita balli* (figs. 3, 4) is more similar to that of *Galerita azteca* (Reichardt, 1967, fig. 106) than to that of *Galerita boucardi* (Reichardt, 1967, fig. 104).

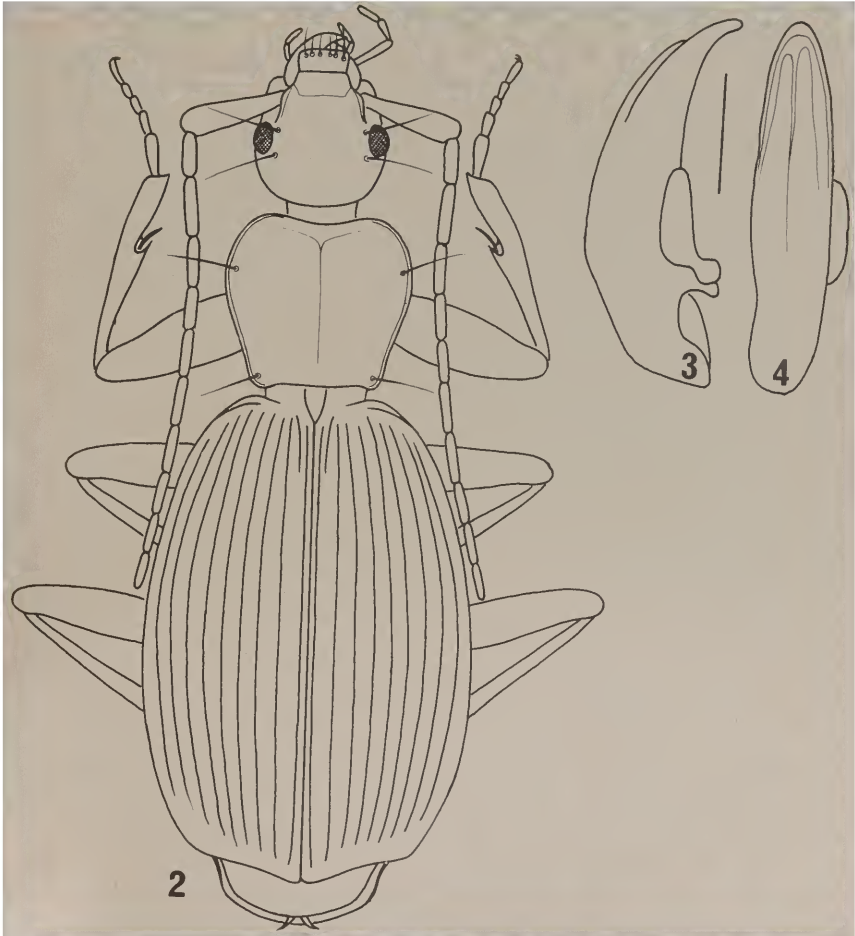


Fig. 2, ♀ paratype of *Galerita balli* from type-locality. Figs. 3, 4, aedeagus of paratype from type-locality (scale = 1 mm).

The new species is named after its collector, George E. Ball, who was kind enough to let me study this interesting species. Ronald B. Madge was very helpful in examining the types of *Galerita ovalipennis*, and compared them with the new species.

Key to species of the *striata*-group

1. Carinae and carinulae vestigial, elytra punctate-striate. Pronotum very sparsely and irregularly punctate. 17.5 mm. Mexico *sulcipennis* Reichardt, 1967
 Carinae always, carinulae usually well developed. Elytra carinate. Pronotum punctate 2
2. Black species with orange-yellow appendages. Carinulae vestigial, only visible as faint traces, from certain angles. 16.5 - 17 mm. Mexico *balli*, sp. n.
 Completely black species, if appendages orange-yellow, carinulae always well developed 3
3. Occiput short and angulate. Carinulae interstices not punctate; carinae-carinulae interstices glabrous and impunctate. Posterior constriction of pronotum non-existent. Scutellar carina joining the first carina 16.6 - 17.3 mm. Mexico *azteca* Reichardt, 1967
 Occiput well rounded, not angulate. Carinulae interstices punctate or not; carinae-carinulae interstices pubescent. Posterior constriction of pronotum usually slightly indicated. Scutellar carina usually not joining the first carina 4
4. Pronotum wider than long. Elytra more ovate. Carinular interstices impunctate. Appendages always black as body. 14.5 - 17 mm. Haiti. *striata* Klug, 1834
 Pronotum longer than wide. Elytra less ovate. Carinulae interstices punctate. Appendages sometimes orange-yellow (*ovalipennis* Bates, 1891). 16.9 - 18.8 mm. *boucardi* Chaudoir, 1869

Galerita laevithorax Reichardt, 1967

Material examined. MEXICO. Chiapas: Union Juarez, Barranca Providencia, 5,000 ft., tropical forest, 30.VII.1972 (G. E. Ball; 1♂, 1♀, UASM); *idem*: Pico Gallo, NW Union Juarez, 5,000 - 6,000 ft., tropical forest, 31.VII.1972 (G. E. Ball; 1♀, MZSP).

Discussion. The first Mexican specimens of this species (up to now only known from neighboring El Salvador and Guatemala), only differ in having less punctate and less rugose pronotum. As this wingless species is only known from few specimens, the present series has to be considered as within the variation range of *Galerita laevithorax*.

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