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NOTES ON THE TERMITOPHILOUS SUBTRIBE ABROTELINA. THE GENUS *ABROTELES* (COLEOPTERA, STAPHYLINIDAE COROTOCINI)

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ABSTRACT

A. setulosus, sp. n., from Minas Gerais, Brazil, is described; a key for the species is presented; new morphological data on some species are included in the key and drawings of *A. setulosus*, *A. lobatus* and *A. rurrenabaquensis* are provided.

Abroteles Casey, 1890

Abroteles Casey, 1890: 190; Fenyés, 1918: 61; Borgmeier, 1950: 653; Seevers, 1957: 122; Kistner & Jacobson, 1976: 29-32.

Termitothymus Silvestri, 1901: 1; 1903: 187; Fenyés, 1918: 65; Borgmeier, 1950: 638.

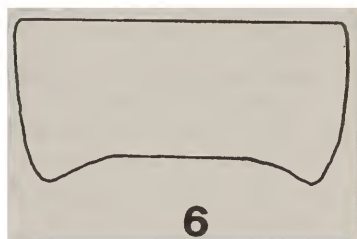
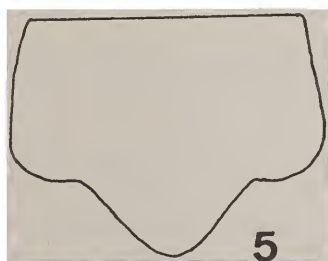
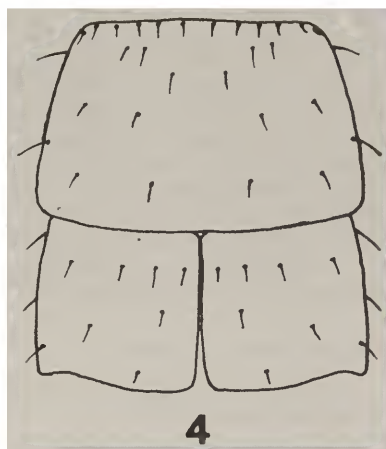
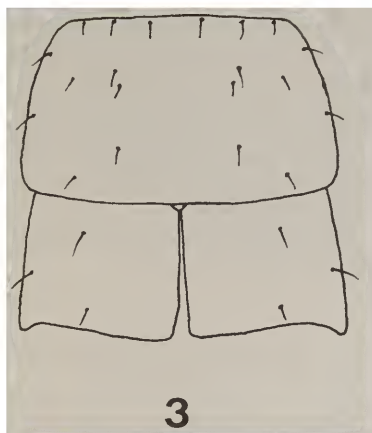
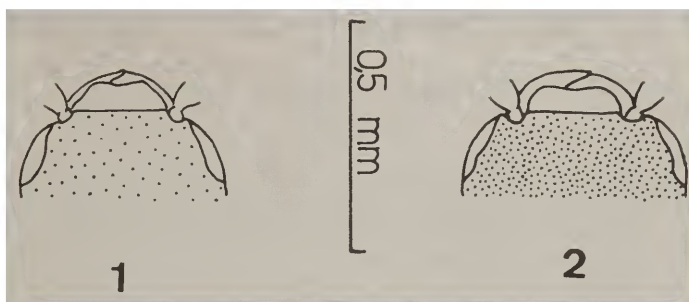
Except for the glandular histology, ultrastructural details and behavioral notes on *A. beaumonti*, presented by Kistner & Jacobson (1976), only descriptions of new species have contributed to enlarge our knowledge on this genus, since its description. But for *A. philetaerus* (Silvestri) (which is unrecognized), *A. pubicollis* Seevers (not available for study) and *A. beaumonti* Casey, type specimens of all other species were examined; the first is not included in my provisional key for the species. All the material studied is in the Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil.

Key for the species of *Abroteles*

1. Sternites without erect bristles, except for the apical row, and uniformly pubescent; head fine but distinctly punctured, vertex uniformly convex; body usually dark reddish-brown; Brazil 2

Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo. Bolsista, Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (Proc. Biol. n° 77/168).

- Sternites with erect bristles in addition to the apical row or with a strong, subglabrous median area; body light-brown to yellowish 4
- 2(1). Pronotum without erect bristles; body yellowish-brown *badius* Seevers
 Pronotum with several erect bristles (figs. 3, 4); body dark reddish-brown 3
- 3(2). Sternite VII as in fig. 5; pronotal chaetotaxy (fig. 3): two erect bristles on each lateral margin, six on anterior margin, and ten on disc; elytron (fig. 3) with two or three erect bristles; head very shining, vertex (fig. 1) sparsely punctured *lobatus* Seevers
 Sternite VII unmodified; pronotal chaetotaxy (fig. 4): two erect bristles on each lateral margin, twelve on anterior margin, and fourteen on disc; elytron (fig. 4) with ten erect bristles; vertex (fig. 2) densely punctured *steulosus*, sp. n.
- 4(1). Apical border of sternite VII not emarginate; Brazil .. 5
 Apical border of sternite VII emarginate (fig. 6); head flattened on vertex 6
- 5(4). Sternites without erect bristles other than the apical row; pronotum broadest midway between base and apex, with one erect bristle on each lateral margin and one near each apical angle; vertex fine but distinctly punctured *compacticornis* Borgmeier
 Sternites with one pair of erect bristles in addition to the apical row; pronotum broadest near base, with one erect bristle on each lateral margin, one near each apical angle and four on anterior margin *pubicollis* Seevers
- 6(4). Sternites V-VI with two rows of erect bristles in addition to the apical row 7
 Sternites V-VI without erect bristles other than the apical row; this restricted to the sides of sternites III-VI; sternite III with one pair of erect bristles in addition to the apical row; Ecuador *bisetosus* Seevers
- 7(6). Pronotum very shining, with a circular median area dense and finely punctate and pubescent; sternite III with one basal pair and one subapical row of six erect bristles, in addition to the apical row; sternite V with one basal and one subapical row of erect bristles, in addition to the apical row; Bolivia *rurrenabaquensis* Seevers
 Pronotum not very shining, middle two-thirds with very short pubescence; sternite III with one basal and one subapical pair of erect bristles in addition to the apical row; sternite V with one basal pair and one



A. lobatus: 1, puncturation of head; 3, elytra and pronotum; 5, sternite VII. *A. rurrenabaquensis*: 6, sternite VII. *A. setulosus*: 2, puncturation of head; 4, elytra and pronotum.

subapical row of erect bristles, in addition to the apical row; Panama *beaumonti* Casey

Abroteles setulosus, sp. n.

(Figs. 2, 4)

♂: Dark reddish-brown; scape, article II, apical half of article XI, apex of elytra near outer apical angles, and tarsi, lighter. Body fine and densely punctured (sparser between antennal fossae), covered with very fine and short, dense pubescence; this, obvious in dried specimens, is almost indistinct when observed in alcohol. Vertex convex. Pronotum one-third broader than long, broadest near base, sides converging in front, angles rounded; posterior margin arcuate, anterior margin almost straight and about two-thirds the maximum width of pronotum; pronotal chaetotaxy (fig. 4): two erect dark bristles on each lateral margin, twelve on anterior margin and fourteen on disc; surface arcuate from sides through disc. Elytra about one-third shorter than pronotum, apex slightly sinuate; elytral chaetotaxy (fig. 4): two erect dark bristles on each lateral margin, four in a transverse row near base, one on median region near suture, one near outer apical angle and two on apical third near posterior margin. Sternites III-VI with no erect bristles other than the apical row of eight dark erect bristles; sternite VII not emarginate.

A. setulosus, sp. n., is related to *A. lobatus* SeEVERS, but is readily distinguished by the characters given in the key.

Measurements, in mm

Length, 1.9; length of pronotum, 0.45; width of pronotum, 0.71; length of elytra, 0.37.

Material. BRAZIL. *Minas Gerais*: Bocaiuva, holotype ♂, 24. VII. 1975, R. L. Araujo; with *Nasutitermes kemneri* Snyder & Emerson, 1949 (n.º 6187; determined by R. L. Araujo and L. R. Fontes).

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