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(Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Cyclocephalini) from Peru
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Brett C. Ratcliffe

STEPHANE LE TIRANT

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Brett Ratcliffe,, Stéphane Le Tirant. Description of a new species of *Stenocrates* Burmeister (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Cyclocephalini) from Peru and a revised catalog of the species of *Stenocrates*.. *Faunitaxys*, 2023, 11 (21), pp.1-5. hal-04048629

HAL Id: hal-04048629

<https://hal.science/hal-04048629>

Submitted on 28 Mar 2023

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Faunitaxys

*Revue de Faunistique, Taxonomie et Systématique
morphologique et moléculaire*



Volume 11
Numéro 21

Mars 2023

ISSN : 2269 - 6016
Dépôt légal : Mars 2023

Faunitaxys

*Revue de Faunistique, Taxonomie et Systématique
morphologique et moléculaire*

ZooBank : <http://zoobank.org/79A36B2E-F645-4F9A-AE2B-ED32CE6771CC>

Directeur de la publication, rédacteur, conception graphique et PAO:

Lionel Delaunay

Cette revue ne peut pas être vendue

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AFCFF (Association française de Cartographie de la Faune et de la Flore)

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Elle est disponible librement au téléchargement à partir du site:

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La parution de *Faunitaxys* est apériodique

Faunitaxys est indexé dans / *Faunitaxys* is indexed in:

- **Zoological Record**

Articles and nomenclatural novelties are referenced by:

- **ZooBank** (<http://zoobank.org>)

Online Archives:

- **HAL** (<https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr>)

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Imprimée sur les presses de SPEED COPIE, 6, rue Tréfilerie, F- 42100 Saint-Etienne

Imprimé le 26 mars 2023

Description of a new species of *Stenocrates* Burmeister (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Cyclocephalini) from Peru and a revised catalog of the species of *Stenocrates*

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Keywords:

Coleoptera;
Scarabaeidae;
Dynastinae;
Stenocrates;
theryi;
taxonomy;
new species;
description;
Peru.

Abstract. – A new species of the South American genus *Stenocrates* Burmeister, 1847 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Cyclocephalini) is described: *Stenocrates theryi* Ratcliffe & Le Tirant from western Peru. A description, diagnosis, distribution, and illustrations are provided for the new species. A revised catalog of the species of *Stenocrates* is presented.

Ratcliffe B.C. & Le Tirant S., 2023. – Description of a new species of *Stenocrates* Burmeister (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Cyclocephalini) from Peru and a revised catalog of the species of *Stenocrates*. *Faunitaxys*, 11(21): 1 – 5.

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.57800/faunitaxys-11\(21\)](https://doi.org/10.57800/faunitaxys-11(21))

ZooBank: <http://zoobank.org/7B761915-A85B-4CBA-8D59-AACA80DB378E>

Received: 28/02/2023 – Revised: 19/03/2023 – Accepted: 20/03/2023

It is only through creating a permanent record of biodiversity in the form of collections, species descriptions, and phylogenetic classifications augmented by as many sources of data as we can gather, that we assure science will continue to refine our knowledge of the history of life.

——— Q. Wheeler 2013

Introduction

The genus *Stenocrates* was established by Burmeister (1847) and now has 55 species as of March 2023 (Endrödi 1966, 1985; Ratcliffe 1977, 1978, 2014; Dechambre 1979, 1985, 2006; Delgado 1991; Dupuis and Dechambre 1995; Ponchel and Dechambre 2003; Dechambre and Hardy 2004; Dupuis 2017; Giraldo-Mendoza 2018; Moore *et al.* 2018; Ratcliffe and Figueroa 2018; this paper). *Stenocrates* species are widely distributed from Mexico to Argentina, with most occurring in South America, and one species is known from the West Indies. Most species are externally similar and difficult to nearly impossible to distinguish from one another based upon only external characteristics, and so great reliance is made on the form of the parameres for identification. Great care should be taken when extracting the genitalia because they are fragile (less sclerotized) and can tear easily. Most females not associated with males cannot usually be identified with reliability, even by being taken in the same collecting event since some species are sympatric. This is one of the most difficult genera of Dynastinae in the Americas to identify because of the external similarity of the species and often subtle differences among the parameres. Because of the high number of cryptic species in *Stenocrates*, new species continue

to be discovered and described from specimens newly collected in the field and residing in museum collections.

Unlike most other species in the tribe Cyclocephalini, male *Stenocrates* do not have enlarged protarsal claws. Species in the genus are also characterized by the pronotal lateral margins having a thick marginal bead and the base lacking a marginal bead; female epipleuron (ventral view) simple and gradually tapering from its base; a relatively short, subtrapezoidal clypeus that is apically truncate and sharp to slightly emarginate and thick; a usually distinct frontoclypeal suture (with or without an anterior carinula); antenna with ten antennomeres and a small club; three pairs of punctate striae on the elytra; strongly flattened meso- and metafemora; and metatarsus shorter than the metatibia. The immature stages for only *Stenocrates agricola* Dechambre and Hardy are described (Ibarra-Polese *et al.* 2020). Life history information is also lacking except that adults are attracted to lights.

Endrödi (1966, 1985) provided the last synopsis of the genus (then 34 species), but 20 new species have been described since that time. These remain unincorporated in any key (a difficult task when emphasis must be placed on the parameres), and so a new key to species is needed. The most recent comprehensive checklist is by Ratcliffe (2015).

Reviewer :

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Material and methods

In the process of identifying material received from collectors in Peru, we encountered a *Stenocrates* species that is not conspecific with any other, and it is described here as new. The species description below is based on the following characteristics: length from front of the head to the apex of the pygidium; width across the humeri; interocular width (number of transverse eye diameters across the frons between the eyes); form and sculpturing of the head, pronotum, elytra, and pygidium; and forms of the protibiae, prosternal process, and parameres. Punctures are considered simple unless otherwise noted. Minute punctures are generally not seen with 12.5X magnification but are easily seen with 50X magnification. Small punctures are easily seen with 12.5X magnification and can be seen with the naked eye. Large punctures are easily seen without the aid of instruments. Sparse punctures are characterized by numerous puncture diameters between them. Punctures moderate in density have 3–5 puncture diameters between them. Dense punctures have only 1–2 puncture diameters between them or less. Label data is quoted verbatim, and a single slash (/) indicates a break between lines on the same label. Digital images were taken at the University of Nebraska with a Canon EOS T5i 18MP camera mounted on a Leica stereomicroscope. The image files were subsequently focus-stacked using Quickphoto (PROMICRA s.r.o., Prague, Czech Republic), and edited on a desktop computer. Adobe Photoshop was used to process and clean the images. We use the phylogenetic species concept as outlined by Wheeler and Platnick (2000). This concept defines species as the smallest aggregation of (sexual) populations diagnosable by a unique combination of character states.

Taxonomy

Superfamily **Scarabaeoidea** Latreille, 1802
 Family **Scarabaeidae** Latreille, 1802
 Subfamily **Dynastinae** MacLeay, 1819
 Tribe **Cyclocephalini** Laporte, 1840
 Genus ***Stenocrates*** Burmeister, 1847

Description of New Species

Stenocrates theryi Ratcliffe & Le Tirant, **sp. nov.**

(Fig. 1–4, 7)

ZooBank: <http://zoobank.org/9D13839D-BFD9-417C-A0E5-5ACF8F7A9412>

Type Material

- **Holotype** labeled “PERU: Ancash / Huaraz, V.2017 / Light Trap / R. Marx leg.” and with our red holotype label (Fig. 2).

- **Allotype**, ♀, with the same data and our red allotype label.

- **Paratype**, ♀, with the same data and our yellow paratype label.

Holotype and allotype deposited at the University of Nebraska State Museum, Lincoln, NE, USA (UNSM). Paratype deposited at the Museo de Historia Natural de la Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima, Peru (MUSM).

Holotype, ♂ (Fig. 1).

Length 17.6 mm; width 7.6 mm. Color black, shiny.

Head. – Frons smooth, with a few rugae behind frontoclypeal suture. Frontoclypeal suture weakly impressed, biarcuate, anterior margin rounded, lacking carinula. Clypeus (Fig. 7) transversely rugopunctate; apex truncate, anterior face not thickened, lacking subrectangular tooth. Interocular width equals 3.0 transverse eye diameters. Antenna with 10 antennomeres, club subequal in length to antennomeres 2–7.

Pronotum. – Surface completely smooth. Lateral margins with thick marginal bead, base without marginal bead.)

Elytra. – Surface with punctate sutural stria and 2 pairs of distinct, furrowed discal striae and 1 pair of furrowed striae behind humerus; each stria comprised of moderately large, umbilicate, closely adjacent punctures. First broad interval with single, irregular row of similar punctures, 2nd broad interval impunctate.

Pygidium. – Surface convex, with large, dense, umbilicate, glabrous punctures.

Legs. – Protibiae tridentate, basal tooth distinctly separated from others.

Venter. – Prosternal process long, stout, conical, apex narrowly rounded.

Parameres. – In caudal view (Fig. 3), form subtriangularly widest at about the middle, shaft narrowing to below middle, and then expanding to a broad, truncate apex.

Allotype, ♀. Length 19.9 mm; width 8.0 mm. The allotype does not differ significantly from the holotype.

Paratype, ♀ (n=1). Length 17.5 mm; width 7.7 mm. The female paratype does not differ from the female allotype except in size.

Etymology. – The specific epithet is dedicated to Dr. Thomas Théry of the Montreal (Canada) Insectarium for his collaboration and many professional courtesies.

Distribution. – *Stenocrates theryi* **sp. nov.** is known only from the Department of Ancash in western Peru. Ancash is bordered by the departments of Lima on the south, Huánuco and Pasco on the east, La Libertad on the north, and the Pacific Ocean on the west.

Locality Record (Fig. 4). – PERU (3): ANCASH (3): Huaraz.

Temporal Distribution. – May (3).

Diagnosis. – *Stenocrates theryi* **sp. nov.** is characterized by a truncate clypeal apex, frontoclypeal suture lacking a carinula on the anterior face, completely smooth pronotum, pygidium with large, dense punctures, and the unique form of the parameres. The form of the parameres is essential for distinguishing species of *Stenocrates* because their external body morphology is, with few exceptions, similar. The form of the parameres of *S. theryi* **sp. nov.** (Fig. 3) resembles somewhat those of *S. laborator* (Fabricius) (Fig. 5) and *S. bolivianus* Dechambre (Fig. 6) in that the parameres are widest at about the middle and with slender apices that diverge from one another. However, in *S. theryi* **sp. nov.**, the clypeal apex lacks a distinct, subrectangular tooth in the center (Fig. 7) (present in *S. latus*) (Fig. 8), the frontoclypeal suture is carinulate on its anterior margin (rounded in *S. theryi* **sp. nov.**), and the pronotum has large punctures on the lateral thirds (smooth in *S. theryi* **sp. nov.**).

Natural History. – Nothing is known of the life history of *S. theryi* **sp. nov.** Adults are attracted to lights.

Catalog of *Stenocrates* species

Ratcliffe (2015) provided the last catalog of *Stenocrates* species in which were listed 50 species. The revised catalog below contains 55 species, including the two new species proposed in this paper. The country distributions listed are gleaned from the literature that describe new species and from specimens in several research collections.

Stenocrates agricola Dechambre & Hardy, 2004. Argentina, Paraguay.
Stenocrates amazonicus Ratcliffe, 1978. Suriname, Brazil.
Stenocrates ariasi Ratcliffe, 1978. Bolivia, Brazil.
Stenocrates batesi Dechambre, 1979. Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil.
Stenocrates beckeri Howden, 1970. Jamaica.
Syn.: *Stenocrates davisorum* Endrödi, 1979.
Stenocrates bicarinatus Robinson, 1947. Southern Mexico to Colombia.
Syn.: *Stenocrates difficilis* Endrödi 1966.
Stenocrates bolivianus Dechambre, 1979. Bolivia, Brazil, Argentina.

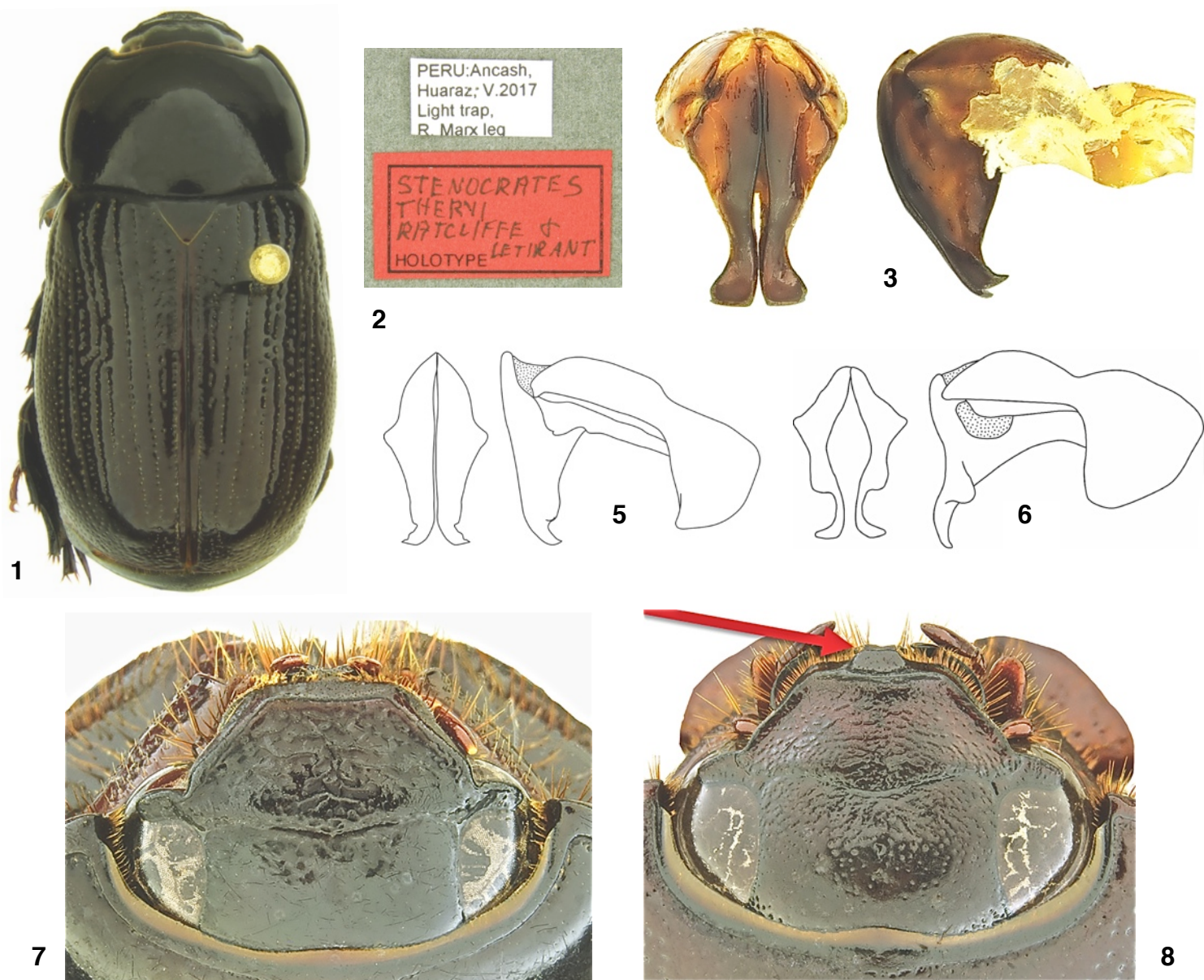


Fig. 1-4. *Stenocrates theryi* sp. nov.

Fig. 1. Holotype habitus.

Fig. 2. Holotype labels.

Fig. 3. Parameres, caudal and lateral views.

Fig. 4. Distributions (yellow circle). Map courtesy of Stefan Fischerlaender / Mapswire.com.

Fig. 5-6. Parameres, caudal and lateral views.

5. *Stenocrates laborator* (Fabricius).

6. *Stenocrates bolivianus* Dechambre.

Fig. 7-8. Head, dorsal view.

7. *Stenocrates theryi* sp. nov. holotype.

8. *Stenocrates latus* Dechambre.



Stenocrates bollei Dechambre, 1985. Venezuela, Brazil.
Stenocrates caiporae Ratcliffe, 2014. Brazil.
Stenocrates canuli Delgado, 1991 Mexico to Nicaragua.
Stenocrates carbo Prell, 1937. French Guiana, Brazil.
Stenocrates carinatus Endrödi, 1966. Bolivia, Brazil.
Stenocrates celatus Prell, 1937. French Guiana, Peru, Brazil.
Stenocrates clipeatus Endrödi, 1966. French Guiana, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina.
Stenocrates cognatus Endrödi, 1966. Colombia.
Stenocrates cultor cultor Burmeister, 1847. Brazil, Argentina.
Stenocrates cultor inelegans Arrow, 1913. French Guiana, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Brazil.
Syn.: *Stenocrates carbunculus* Prell, 1937.
Stenocrates dubius Endrödi, 1966. Bolivia.
Stenocrates duplicatus Endrödi, 1967. Guatemala, Mexico, Ecuador.
Syn.: *Stenocrates frater* Dechambre, 2006.
Stenocrates eniocanoi Ratcliffe and Cave, 2013. Mexico, Guatemala.
Stenocrates haackae Ratcliffe, 1977. Ecuador, Brazil.
Stenocrates hardyi Dechambre, 1985. Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama.
Stenocrates hastatus Ratcliffe, 2015. Brazil.
Stenocrates hiekei Endrödi, 1967. Venezuela.
Stenocrates holomelanus Germar, 1824. South America east of the Andes.
Syn.: *Stenocrates parensis* Casey, 1915
Stenocrates howdeni Dechambre and Hardy, 2004. Uruguay.
Stenocrates impeditus Dechambre and Hardy, 2004. Brazil.
Stenocrates laborator (Fabricius, 1775). Colombia, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina.
Syn.: *Geotrupes thoracicus* var. *globator* Thunberg, 1814.
Syn.: *Geotrupes thoracicus* Eschscholtz, 1818.
Syn.: *Stenocrate australis* Endrödi, 1973.
Stenocrates laceyi Ratcliffe, 1978. Brazil.
Stenocrates lachaumei Dechambre, 1985. Bolivia.
Stenocrates laevicollis Kirsch, 1871. Mexico to Ecuador.
Stenocrates latus Dechambre, 1979. Ecuador, Brazil.
Stenocrates lecourti Dechambre, 2006. Panama.
Stenocrates lichyi Dechambre, 1979. Venezuela, Brazil.
Stenocrates ligneus Arrow, 1911. Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, Paraguay.
Stenocrates lissothorax Ratcliffe and Figueroa, 2018. Peru.
Stenocrates mahunkai Endrödi, 1973. Ecuador, Bolivia.
Stenocrates mimeomus Ratcliffe, 2015. Peru.
Stenocrates minutus Endrödi, 1966. Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil.
Syn.: *Stenocrates rabbanii* Ratcliffe, 1977.
Stenocrates mollis Endrödi, 1966. French Guiana, Brazil.
Stenocrates nasutus Dechambre, 1979. Ecuador, Peru.
Stenocrates omissus Endrödi, 1966. French Guiana, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, Brazil.
Stenocrates pereirai Endrödi, 1969. Brazil.
Stenocrates popei Endrödi, 1971. Panama, French Guiana, Guyana, Suriname, Brazil.
Syn.: *Stenocrates inpai* Ratcliffe, 1978.
Stenocrates porioni Dechambre, 1985. Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina.
Stenocrates pseudoligneus Dechambre and Hardy, 2004. Bolivia.
Stenocrates rionegroensis Ratcliffe, 1978. Ecuador, Brazil.
Stenocrates rufipennis (Fabricius, 1801). French Guiana, Guyana, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Argentina, Paraguay.
Syn.: *Stenocrates saucicus* Burmeister, 1847.
Stenocrates rugulosus Endrödi, 1966. Venezuela.
Stenocrates seag Dupuis, 2017. French Guiana.
Stenocrates serendipitus Ratcliffe, 2015. Peru.
Stenocrates silviacastroae Giraldo, 2018. Peru.
Stenocrates spinosus Ponchel and Dechambre, 2003. French Guiana, Brazil.
Stenocrates theryi Ratcliffe and Letirant, **sp. nov.** Peru.
Stenocrates varzeaensis Ratcliffe, 1978. Brazil.

Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge reviewer Fabien Dupuis who provided valuable commentary to help improve this paper.

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Résumé

Ratcliffe B.C. & Le Tirant S., 2023. – Description d'une nouvelle espèce du genre *Stenocrates* Burmeister (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Cyclocephalini) du Pérou, avec le catalogue révisé du genre *Stenocrates*. *Faunitaxys*, 11(21): 1 – 5.

Une nouvelle espèce d'Amérique du Sud du genre *Stenocrates* Burmeister, 1847 (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae: Cyclocephalini) est décrite: *Stenocrates theryi* n. sp. du Pérou. La description, la diagnose, la distribution et des illustrations de cette nouvelle espèce sont fournis.

Mots-clés. – Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae, Dynastinae, *Stenocrates*, *theryi*, taxonomie, espèce nouvelle, description, Pérou.

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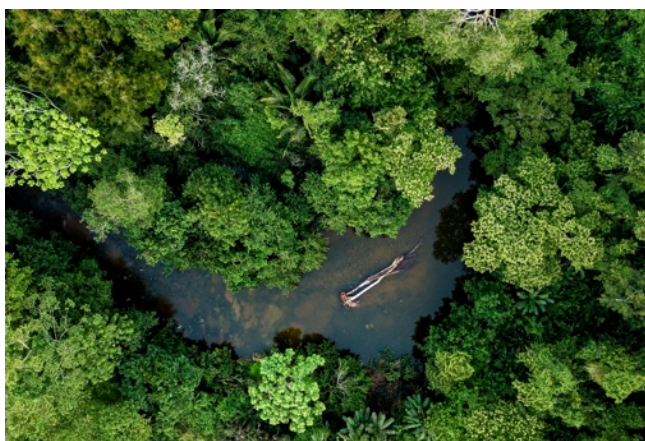


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