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New species, combinations, synonymies, and records of Clytini (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)

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Abstract: Megacyllene (Megacyllene) cryptofrasiata n. sp. from Argentina is described and illustrated. M. quinquefasciata (Melzer, 1931), and Megacyllene rotundicollis Zajciw, 1963 are transferred from the subgenus Megacyllene Casey 1912 to Sierracyllene Tippmann, 1960. Megacyllene (Sierracyllene) tafivallensis n. sp. is described from northwestern Argentina. Dexithea spixii (Laporte & Gory, 1836), and Plagionotus latreillei (Laporte & Gory, 1836) are transferred to Megacyllene (sensu stricto), excluding Dexithea, and Plagionotus from the South American fauna of Clytini. Neoclytus lamellicus (Burmeister, 1865) is synonymized with N. ypsilon Chevrolat, 1861. Additional new records of Clytini from Argentina, Paraguay, and Ecuador are also presented here. A key for subgenera and species of Megacyllene is included, with distribution maps for Argentina and nearby countries.

Key Words: Clytini, Dexithea, Megacyllene, Neoclytus, Plagionotus, Sierracyllene, distributions, systematics.

Introduction

Of the Argentine fauna of Clytini (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae), 2 genera have been revised: Megacyllene Casey 1912 (Di Iorio, 1995a), and Neoclytus Thomson, 1864 (Di Iorio, 1995b). In the first paper, the species treated were included in the nominotypical subgenus, but doubt was expressed about the position of Megacyllene quinquefasciata Melzer, 1931. Tippmann (1960) described 2 species of Megacyllene from the Bolivian Andes in the subgenus Sierracyllene. Now, 3 species from Argentina are added to each of these subgenera:

Megacyllene (Sierracyllene): quinquefasciata Melzer, 1931; rotundicollis Zajciw, 1963; and tafivallensis New Species.

Dexithea spixii (Laporte & Gory, 1836), and Plagionotus latreillei (Laporte & Gory, 1836) are transferred to Megacyllene (Megacyllene); excluding the genera Dexithea, and Plagionotus from the South American clytine fauna.

Megacyllene (M.) cryptofrasiata new species from Argentina is described. A new synonym in Neoclytus is proposed. New localities for known species of Clytini are given.


Megacyllene (Megacyllene) castanea,
(Laporte & Gory, 1836)
(Fig. 4)


Megacyllene (Megacyllene) cryptofrasiata,
new species
(Fig. 1, 4)

Holotype (female) measurements (mm): pronotal length: 3.33; maximal width of pronotum: 4.41; humeral width: 5.08; elytral length: 11.66; total length: 17.08.

Whole body, dorsally and ventrally, covered with tufts of short, decumbent pale yellow hairs, except on clypeus, labrum, palp, and apical 2/3 of mandibles; hairs of same color, sparser on legs, and antennae. Sparse, very long, pale yellow hairs, extending out from ground pubescence on head, pronotum, legs, and ventral surface of body (except elytra). Integument light reddish brown. No banded pattern on pronotum; on elytra 4 darker bands appear in tangential view. On these bands pubescence slightly sparser than on rest of surface, exposing color of integument; they appear limited by 5 bands of general pubescence of pale yellow color.

Prothorax slightly excavate posteriorly, with posterior angles acute; lateral margins irregularly round...
Fig. 1. Megacyllene (Megacyllene) cryptofrasciara, new species (holotype).

ed, with maximum width about middle of length. Scutellum triangular, slightly acute posteriorly. Elytra little wider than pronotum at humeral region, gradually narrowing posteriorly; weak longitudinal carina on posterior half, not reaching apex, produced into short but distinct spine.

Antennae 11-segmented; antennomeres III to V with small inner apical tooth; antennomeres VI and VII with hardly noticeable tooth; antennomeres VIII, and IX without inner tooth, but outer angle produced; antennomere X not produced apically; antennomere XI nearly as long as X, distal third triangular, apex rounded, reaching middle of elytral length.

Allotype (male): slightly smaller than female. Antennae reaching slightly beyond middle of elytral length; antennomeres III to V with small, darkened inner apical tooth; antennomeres VI to VIII produced at outer angles; antennomere XI slightly longer than X, gradually narrowed apically, apex rounded. Prothorax with regularly rounded lateral margins; posterior angles rounded, not produced.


Geographic distribution (Fig. 4): the localities in Catamarca and Río Negro belong to the Monte phytogeographical province (Morello, 1958); the locality in Tucumán is situated in the "Tipa-Pacará forest" or "Cebil forest", a transitional community between the Subandean Piedmont Forest (Yungas Province), and the Occidental or Dry Chaco (Chaco Province) (Prado, 1993).

Megacyllene (Megacyllene) latreillei (Laporte & Gory, 1836) new combination (Fig. 4)

Clytus latreillei Laporte & Gory, 1836
Plagionotus latreillei: Aurivillius, 1912
Cyllene unicoloricollis Fuchs, 1961: Monné & Giesbert, 1992; Monné, 1993 (cat.).

Diagnosis: integument black; very narrow, yellow pubescent band on base of pronotum, another on middle portion reduced to pair of small lateral spots; 4 golden yellow bands on elytra (see taxonomic discussion).

Literature records: Brazil: Rio de Janeiro (Laporte & Gory, 1836); Rio Grande do Sul (Monné, 1993); Uruguay (Zajciw & Ruffinelli, 1962, Monné, 1993).


Taxonomic discussion: Clytus latreillei was described by Laporte & Gory (1836), and transferred to Plagionotus Mulsant, 1842 (type-species: P. detritus (L.)) by Aurivillius (1912). The species of Plagionotus have a Holartic distribution (Villiers, 1978; Monné, 1993). Villiers (1978) had already expressed doubts about the South American distribution. The principal characters defining the genus are: frons longitudinally carinate, prothorax strongly transverse, excavated at base, and at anterior margin, elytra distinctly wider than the base of prothorax, and...
Megacyllene (Megacyllene) neblinosa
Di Iorio, 1995
(Fig. 4)

Remarks: Very similar to Megacyllene (M. ?) megalosipilota Martins, 1974, described from Bolivia, Cochabamba (2600 m), but this last species has black integument color, 5 elytral bands, and yellowish white pubescence in pronotal, and elytral bands (from original description).

Megacyllene (Sierracyllene) quinquemasciata
(Melzer, 1931)
(Fig. 3)

New records: Argentina: Jujuy: El Aguilar (4700 m), 23-II-1988, Viana leg., 1 ex. (MV); Río Cincel (3600 m), 3-XI-1968, Peña leg., 1 ex. (ODI), a dead adult found under a stone; Salta: Abra Pampa (3484 m), II-1987, Viana leg., 1 ex. (ODI).

Taxonomic discussion: Tippmann (1960) named and defined the subgenus Sierracyllene, including M. abnormis Aurivillius 1920, M. horioni Tippmann, 1960 (both species with sparse or dense coarse punctation on the pronotal surface), and perhaps M. cleroides (Melzer, 1931). However, M. quinquemasciata remained in Megacyllene sensu stricto, together with M. cleroides (Monné, 1993). With respect to Tippmann's collection, its location is unknown (H. Strümpel pers. com.).

The examination of the pronotum in several species of Megacyllene (Megacyllene) after removing the pubescence revealed a double punctation, one type very fine, the other one coarser, both with a very regular distribution which, however, varies according to sex in the area it covers (the very fine punctation is adjacent to the anterior margin). In Sierracyllene, the coarser punctation is not restricted to a particular area, but spread on the pronotal surface, sparse or dense, sometimes mixed with the finer punctation, which is restricted to an area against the pronotal base. After the original description of M. quinquemasciata, Melzer (1931) notes that "a placa en forma de triangulo alondado na base do pronoto, a cual e caracterizada por uma punteaca fina e densa, apressenta na parte basal um sulco longitudinal relativamente fundo, e se extende em um dos ejemplares ate o melo, sendo u pouco menos comprida no segundo ejemplar. A placa referida no se encontra nas demais especies do genero ate hoje descriptas." The 2 type specimens were deposited in Hamburg (Melzer, 1931).
Megacyllene (Megacyllene) spixii (Laporte & Gory, 1836), new combination
(Fig. 3)

Clytus spixii Laporte & Gory, 1836
Cyllene spixii: Gounelle, 1911; Bruch, 1912

Diagnosis: Pronotum with 2 pubescent yellow bands, 1 narrow against the base, the other, wider, a little anteriorly, interrupted at the middle, forming 2 lateral triangles; elytra reddish brown at humerus, bearing 3 transverse yellow bands.

Literature records: Brazil: without locality (Laporte & Gory, 1836); Goiás (Gounelle, 1911); Rio Grande do Sul (Monné, 1993). PARAGUAY: Itapúa: Hohenau (Viana, 1972); Uruguay: Paysandú: arroyo Guaviyu (Zajciw & Ruffinelli, 1962); Rivera: Cuapa-pirú, Cerro Miriñaque (Monné & Zajciw, 1972); Argentina: Catamarca, Córdoba (Bruch, 1912); Buenos Aires (Llano, 1961).


Taxonomic discussion: The genus Dexithea was characterized by Thomson (1864), including D. klugii (Laporte & Gory, 1836) as the type species. This genus is near Trichoxys Chevrotain, 1860 (Thomson, 1864), which is endemic to Mexico (Monné, 1993). Clytus spixii Laporte & Gory, 1836 was transferred to Cyllene by Gounelle (later Megacyllene Casey, 1912). Bruch (1912) followed Gounelle, but Aurivillius (1912) transferred C. spixii to Dexithea.

The examination of specimens of D. klugii (Mexico: Morelos: Xochitepec, X-1974, 3 exs. (ODI), coll. A. Martínez), showed several characters that differ from D. spixii. They are as follows (the condition in the latter species is noted between parenthesis): pronotum globular, raised on center of disk (flat), strongly excavate at base (weakly excavate); prosternal process narrow, rounded on posterior margin (wide, truncate behind); mesosternal process tuberculate (smooth); metasternal episternum subparallel (semoival); scutellum lon-
gitudinal, nearly as wide as long (transverse, wider than long); external apical angle of elytra simple (with a very small, inconspicuous tooth).

Based on the above characters of pronotum, pro- and mesosternal processes, and metathoracic epister-
a, it is here proposed to return to the generic status before Aurivillius (1912), in the sense of Gounelle
(1911), under Megacyllene (Megacyllene).

*Megacyllene (Sierracyllene) tafivallensis*,
new species
(Figs. 2, 3)

**Holotype measurements (mm):** pronotal length: 3.3; maximal pronotal length: 4.2; humeral width: 4.8 mm; elytral length: 10.8; total length: 15.5.

**Male** (Fig. 2). Body more or less depressed, robust. Entirely black, except clypeus, labrum, inner face of antennal scapus reddish brown, and the femora of all legs which are reddish orange.

Frons bulging between the insertion of antennae, broad, approximately trapezoidal in shape, shining, with sparse, fine punctuation; on median line there is a fine groove which begins at a smooth, shining triangle against the clypeus, and which just reaches the posterior margin of the dorsal ocular lobes; outer angles of the antennal insertions acuminate. Anten-
nae shorter than total length; antennomere II pyri-
form; antennomeres I to IV, and basal portion of V, shining, and finely punctate; the rest of V, and antenномeres VI to XI dull, with surface very finely rugose; antenномeres III, and IV with inner apical tooth; antenномeres VI to X weakly produced at outer apical angle; antenномere XI a little longer than X, rounded at apex, which reaches the anterior margin of the apical transverse band on the elytra. Prothorax weakly excavate at base; lateral margins evenly rounded. Pronotum coarsely punctured, with rugose surface; at base with a more or less deep, medial groove, which does not quite reach the middle of the pronotal length; this groove surrounded by a very fine, dense punctuation covering a triangular area. Coarse punctuation of the pronotum extending to the sides, and ventral faces, were it is sparser, with smooth intervals, and some short transverse striae anteriorly. Prosternal process narrow, spatulate pos-
teriorly, slightly raised with respect to posterior margin of hind coxae; mesosternal process flat, widely triangular in shape, truncated posteriorly. Scutellum semicircular, finely and densely punctured, rather acute at apex. Elytra without apparent longitudinal carinae, except for a slight difference in level on the elytral surface parallel to the suture. Lateral margins of elytra parallel; outer, and inner apical angles simple; between these the apex obliquely, and shortly truncate. Fore, and middle femora flattened, some-
what broadened before apex, which is spine-less, and a little darkened; base of femora also darkened. Hind femora thin, somewhat curved; tibiae with 2 apical spurs, the inner one longer than the outer one, both reddish; claws simple, arched, reddish.

Long, very sparse yellow pubescence on the whole of the prosternum; all 3 pairs of femora with very short, decumbent yellow pubescence (which may be difficult to see), mixed with long, black, sub-erect

**Fig. 2. Megacyllene (Sierracyllene) tafivallensis,** new species (holotype).
sae. A dense, short, very apparent yellow pubescence on base and sides of the frons, around the eyes (except on apex of the ocular lobes), and on dorsum of head on a narrow line, parallel to posterior margin, and interrupted on median line. Pronotum with a narrow transverse latero-medial band of short yellow pubescence as on frons. Elytra with three transverse bands of short yellow pubescence; first band begins at suture, and does not quite reach lateral margin; second, and third arched, and reaching lateral margins from suture. Basal urosternites with short yellow pubescence as follows: on 1st a wide band which narrows gradually from lateral margin towards the median line, where it is interrupted; on 2nd a narrow band on posterior margin, interrupted as the first; on 3rd a few rows of hairs on posterior margin, against the lateral angle.

Female: very slightly different from male. The antennae reach the posterior margin of the second elytral band; antennomeres I to IV shining, finely punctate, and V to XI dull, very finely rugose; antennomeres VI to X produced at outer apical angle; XI antennomere short, similar to X, rounded at apex. Pronotum finely punctate, with superimposed coarse punctation, regular in distribution, absent only on an ill-defined, triangular area near base.

Material examined: Argentina: Tucumán: Tafi del Valle (2000 m), 9-IV-1983, "s/Baccharis tucuman-ensis" (handwritten on white), 1 male Holotype (ODI), "Megacyllene (Sierracyllene) tafivallensis sp. n. Di Iorio det. 95" (handwritten on reddish label); same locality, 18/20-IV-1980, 1 female Allotype (ODI); same data, 2 females, 1 male Paratypes (ODI); same locality, 1-V-1982, 2 males, 1 female Paratypes (ODI); Catamarca: Andalgalá, II-1987, Viana leg., 1 female Paratype (ODI); Jujuy: Santa Catalina (3802 m) [as "Sta. Catal.", II-1969, 1 female Paratype (ODI).

Variations: The pronotum may bear a pair of lateral elongate areas of fine, dense punctation, anteriorly reaching a point a little in front of the middle of the length, at base merging with the median triangular area; the basal groove may be absent, although the median line is depressed; the first yellow band on the elytra may be prolonged by a pale spot, placed a little in front of the band itself, which reaches the lateral margin of the elytron; the third elytral yellow band may be straight, descending from the suture towards the lateral margin; the apical spurs on the tibiae may be darkened, as well as the claws. The specimen from Catamarca has black femora.

Geographic distribution: M(S.) tafivallensis is distributed between 2000 meters (Prepuna), and 3800 meters (Puna) (Fig. 3) (Instituto Geográfico Militar, 1957).

Taxonomic discussion: By the elytral, and pronotal conformation, the new species belongs to the

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Fig. 3. Geographic distribution of species of Megacyllene: M. (M.) spixi (squares), M. (S.) quinquefasciata (stars), M. (S.) tafivallensis (triangles), and M. (S.) rotundicollis (circle).
subgenus Sierracyllene. It shares with M. (S.) quinququefasciata the characters shown in the key, and differs from it by the shape of the pronotum, and the elytral bands. From M. (S.) hortoni Tippmann 1960, of the Bolivian Andes, it can be distinguished by the pronotum dorsum, which in Tippmann’s species is smooth, “extremely finely shagreened and with very few coarse punctures, irregular in distribution” (translated from German), their smaller size, the shape slighter, and in the greyish pubescence covering the whole body.

**Neoclytus curvatus** (Germar, 1821)


**Neoclytus jekeli** (White, 1855)
Literature records: Chile, Perú (Monné & Giesbert, 1995).


Neoclytus pusillus (Laporte and Gory, 1836)


Neoclytus sobrinus (Laporte and Gory, 1836)


Neoclytus stillatus Aurivillius, 1908


Remarks: First record of the species for Paraguay; the specimen has black body integument, and reddish legs and antennae, as in the Bolivian specimens.

Neoclytusypsilon Chevrolat, 1861

Neoclytus famelicus (Burmeister, 1865), new synonym


This elytral pattern corresponds with that of *N. famelicus* (Di Iorio, 1995b: fig. 4), whose distribution in Argentina (Di Iorio, 1995b) agrees with Zajciw’s notes (1967) for *N. ypsilon*.

Key to subgenera, and species of *Megacyllene* found in Argentina

1. Pronotum with the whole surface finely, and densely punctate, or with coarse punctuation on well defined areas which differ in each sex. Elytra gradually narrowing posteriorly, the outer apical angle with a short spine which is a prolongation of the elytral carina, always more or less evident. Frons carinate in the shape of a V or a Y between the antennal insertions; prosternal process wide, truncate posteriorly. *Megacyllene (Megacyllene)*

2. Pronotum with a marked groove or cleft on the median line near the base (sometimes inconspicuous but in that case the base depressed); a triangular area of fine, dense punctuation in both sexes; the rest of the pronotal surface rugose by coarse, contiguous punctuation.

3. Pronotum with anterior half covered by a yellow pubescence; lateral margins straight, diverging posteriorly, with anterior, and posterior angles acute. Elytra with five transverse bands of yellow pubescence. Bolivia, northern Chile, and northwestern Argentina

4. See the Argentine species, couplets 1 to 13, in Di Iorio, 1995a.

13. Pronotum without glabrous spots on disk 

14
14. Pronotum covered with short pubescence ........... 15
14'. Pronotum glabrous. Elytra with 4 wide bands of greyish-brown pubescence (the same colour as the integument), separating 5 bands of pale yellow pubescence ......................... M. unicolor

15. Pronotum, and scutellum covered of a short, pale orange pubescence. Elytra with 4 wide bands of yellow pubescence, which spaced by 4 brownish bands, which are more apparent in a tangential view ....................... M. cryptofrasciata

References


