

New ant records for Colombia and South America (Hymenoptera: Formicidae)

Nuevos registros de hormigas para Colombia y Sudamérica

FERNANDO FERNÁNDEZ C.¹

Revista Colombiana de Entomología 28 (2): 215 (2002)

Summary. The myrmicine ant genera *Tatuidris* Brown and Kempf, *Talaridris* Weber, *Carebara* Westwood and *Oxyepocus* Santschi are registered for the first time in Colombia, including the species *Tatuidris tatusia* Brown and Kempf, *Talaridris mandibularis* Weber and *Camponotus traili* Mayr. The genus *Tatuidris* is the first record for South America.

Resumen. Las hormigas Myrmicinae de los géneros *Tatuidris* Brown y Kempf, *Talaridris* Weber, *Carebara* Westwood y *Oxyepocus* Santschi se registran por primera vez en Colombia, incluyendo las especies *Tatuidris tatusia* Brown y Kempf y *Talaridris mandibularis* Weber y *Camponotus traili* Mayr. El género *Tatuidris* se registra por primera vez para América del Sur.

The Winkler bag has shown to be very effective to sample litter arthropods, particularly ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). Thanks to the use of these traps in the insect surveys of the Institute Humboldt in Colombia, I have sampled rich soil fauna of ants and other arthropods, some of them with high taxonomic and biogeographic relevance.

Here I offer the first records for the ant genera *Tatuidris*, *Talaridris*, *Carebara* and *Oxyepocus* for Colombia. *Tatuidris* also is a new record for South America.

The material is deposited in the insect collection of Institute Humboldt, Villa de Leyva, Colombia (IAvH). This is the tenth contribution in the series "Hormigas de Colombia".

Carebara Westwood (Myrmicinae: Pheidologetonini)

Material examined: *Carebara* sp. 1. 2 workers. COLOMBIA. **Quindío.** Filandia, Barbas River. 4°42'59"N 75°38'59"W. 1655 m. Winkler trap. 5-feb-2000. *J. Sossa leg.* (IAvH). *Carebara* sp. 2. 1 worker. COLOMBIA. **Magdalena.** Tayrona National Park, Zaíno Section. 11°12'01"N 74°02'01"W. 50 m. Malaise trap. 30-aug-2000. *R. Henríquez leg.* M 264 (IAvH).

Carebara is known in America with five species from Brazil, Paraguay and French Guyana (Kempf 1972). This is the first record for the genus in Colombia, and the first one for the Andean region. The workers of Quindío belong to a new species whose mandibular teeth is unusual for the genus (as described by Ettershank 1966) and reminds the mandibular configuration of *Oligomyrmex*. The genus has been not revised and some species are known only from scattered females or males, not associated with workers.

Oxyepocus Santschi (Myrmicinae: Solenopsidini)

Material examined: *Oxyepocus* sp. 1 worker. COLOMBIA. **Meta.** Puerto López, Finca San-

tana, in savanna and morichal. 22-jun-2001. *Aguilera, E. et al. leg.* (IAvH).

Oxyepocus is known only in the Neotropics, with 11 species limited to Brazil, Bolivia and Argentina (Kempf 1974). This is the first record of the genus for Colombia, and the first one for northern South America. The worker examined is very close to *O. inquilinus* (Kusnezov), although their specific status awaits more study.

Talaridris mandibularis Weber (Myrmicinae: Basicerotini)

Material examined: *Talaridris mandibularis*. 1 worker. COLOMBIA. **Caquetá.** RNN Chiribiquete, Puerto Abeja. 0°4'16"N 72°26'48"W. 310 m. Sitio 2, Winkler 22. 30-jan-2000. *F. Quevedo leg.* (IAvH).

Talaridris is a monotypic genus known from Trinidad and Guyana (Kempf 1972). This is the first record of the genus and species for Colombia.

Tatuidris tatusia Brown and Kempf (Myrmicinae: Agroecomyrmecini)

Material examined: *Tatuidris tatusia*. 1 worker. COLOMBIA. **Caquetá.** RNN Chiribiquete, Puerto Abeja. 0°4'16"N 72°26'48"W. 310 m. Sitio 5, "Bosque Verde Azuloso", Winkler 61. 11-feb-2000 (IAvH).

Tatuidris is the only alive member of the tribe Agroecomyrmecini, otherwise known from Miocene. In several aspects of their morphology it is considered a primitive and basal group in Myrmicinae (Brown and Kempf 1968). *T. tatusia* is known from a couple of workers from Quetzaltepec, El Salvador, in Central America and few workers from Veracruz, Mexico (Rojas-Fernández 1996). This is the first record for the genus and species to Colombia and South America.

The distribution of this taxon is probably wider, although its nests should be very rare.

Camponotus traili (Mayr) (Formicinae: Camponotini)

Material examined: *Camponotus traili*. 1 worker. COLOMBIA. **Putumayo.** PNN La Paya, Viviano Mamangano. Manual collection. 23-sep-2001. *D. Campos leg.* (IAvH).

C. traili is known from Panama, Venezuela and Brazil (Fernández 2001). This is the first record for the species in Colombia.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Fernando Gast (Instituto Humboldt), Patricio von Hildebrand (Fundación Puerto Rastrojo) and the people of National Parks Office of Ministerio del Medio Ambiente de Colombia and NSF Grant DEB No. 9972024 to M. Sharkey and B. Brown.

Literature cited

- BROWN, W. L.; KEMPF, W. W. 1968. *Tatuidris*, a remarkable new genus of Formicidae Psyche 74: 183-190.
- ETTERS HANK, G. 1966. A generic revision of the World Myrmicinae related to *Solenopsis* and *Pheidologeton*. Australian Journal of Zoology 14: 73-171.
- FERNÁNDEZ, F. 2001. Revisión de las hormigas *Camponotus* subgénero *Dendromyrmex* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). Papeis Avulsos de Zoologia 42 (4): 47-100.
- KEMPF, W. W. 1972. Catálogo abreviado das formigas da Região Neotropical. Studia Entomologica (N.S) 15: 3-344.
- ROJAS-FERNÁNDEZ, P. 1996. 29. Formicidae (Hymenoptera) p. 483-500. En: J. Lorente, A.N. García-Aldrete y E. González-Soriano (eds.) Biodiversidad, taxonomía y biogeografía de artrópodos de México: Hacia una síntesis de su conocimiento. Ibanam, México, 660 p.

Recibido: May. 28 / 2002

Aceptado: Jun. 15 / 2002